



CITY of ALTOONA

1301 12th Street

Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601

FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan

*For Submission to HUD for the
Community Development Block Grant Program &
HOME Investment Partnership Program*

August 2025

Honorable Matthew A. Pacifico
Mayor, City of Altoona



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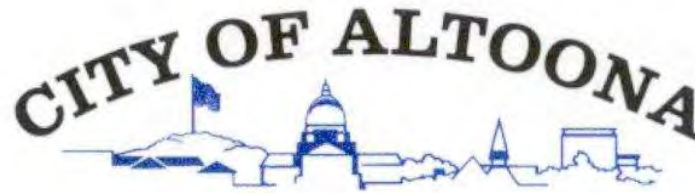
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Citizen Participation

- First Public Hearing
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- Resident Surveys
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- Agency/Organization Surveys



Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Altoona, Pennsylvania is an entitlement jurisdiction under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs. The City has prepared this Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the period of FY 2025, beginning July 1, 2025, through FY 2029, ending June 30, 2030. The Five-Year Consolidated Plan is a strategic community development plan to implement Federal programs for housing and community development activities within the City. The proposed activities will principally benefit low- and moderate-income residents of the City. The Five-Year Consolidated Plan is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and must be completed by the entitlement jurisdiction every five (5) years in conjunction with the first year Annual Action Plan of the five-year cycle.

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan establishes the priorities and goals the City of Altoona proposes for the next five (5) year period and outlines the specific initiatives the City will undertake to address these goals by encouraging the development of decent affordable housing, promoting a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities. The Five-Year Consolidated Plan is a collaborative planning process between the City, the community at large, social service agencies, housing providers, community development groups, and economic development agencies. The process was implemented through a series of public meetings, stakeholder roundtable discussions, community surveys, statistical data, and reviews of previous community development plans.

History:

The City of Altoona is the principal municipality of the Altoona Metropolitan Statistical Area. Altoona was founded by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1849 as a site for a repair and maintenance shop. It was incorporated as a borough on February 6, 1854, and became a city after legislation was passed on April 3, 1867, and February 8, 1868.

Altoona grew rapidly in the late 19th Century as the demand for locomotives during and after the Civil War stimulated much of its growth and became a very valuable city in the North. The “Horseshoe Curve” is a section of track built by the Pennsylvania Railroad which was used to help trains cross the Allegheny Ridge and stimulate trade. It is still in use as a major freight corridor and is a historic landmark.

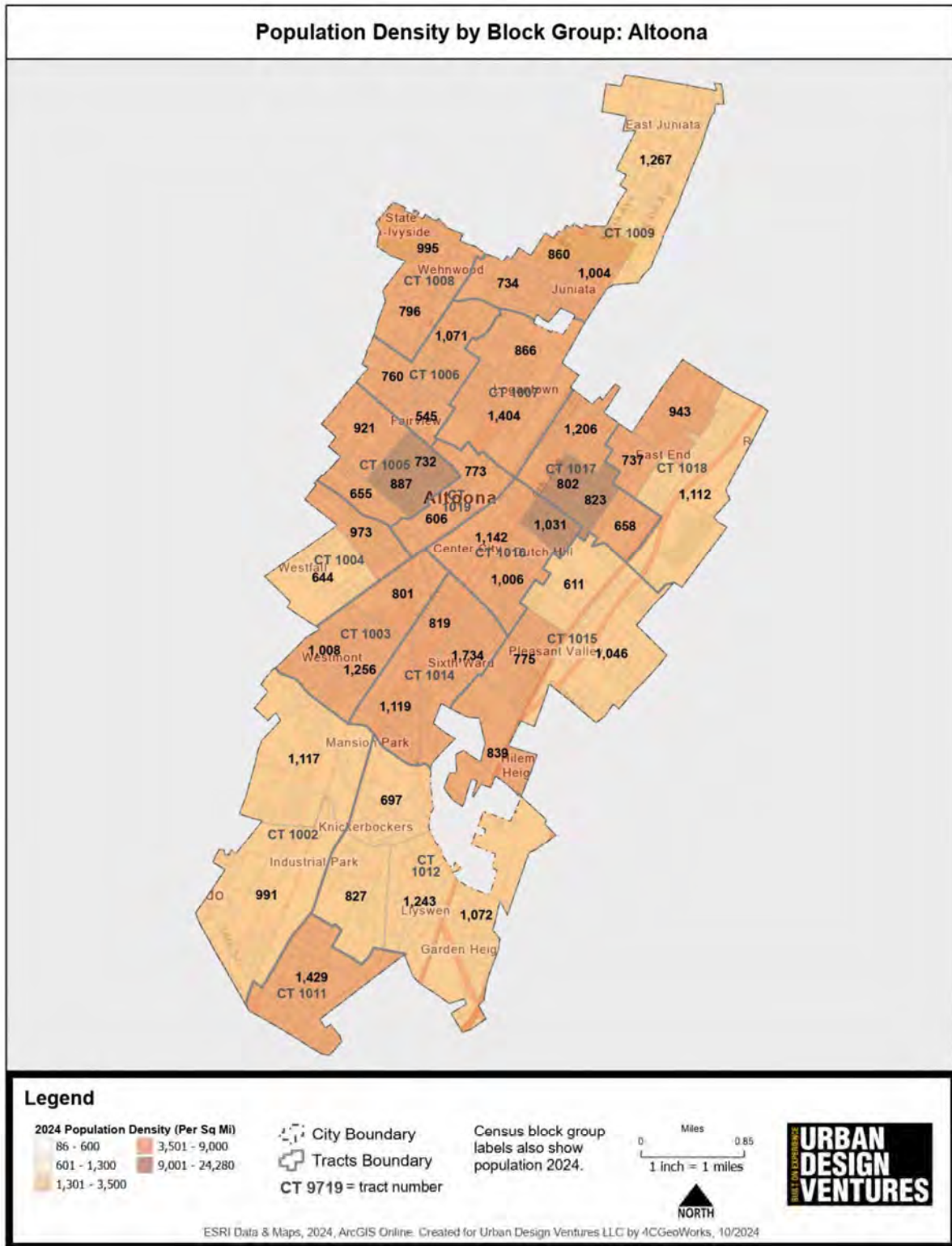
After World War II, the railroad industry began a slow decline which caused the City’s population and economy to suffer. Like many “rust belt” cities, Altoona has needed to fill the void from this single industry after it was no longer the main economic engine. While the railroad still helps drive the economy, the top field of employment in Altoona is now healthcare. Facilities of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital, the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center, and several nursing homes call the Altoona Area home.

The downtown area is the main focus for the City’s revitalization efforts. Penn State Altoona has purchased several downtown buildings, including the former Playhouse Theater Building, the Penn Furniture Building, and the former WRTA building. The Mansion Park Stadium, owned by the Altoona Area Schools District, is recognized as one of the finest athletic complexes in Pennsylvania and regularly serves as a space for a variety of events. Altoona is also home to the minor-league Altoona Curve baseball team, as well as the local “Altoona Mirror” newspaper.

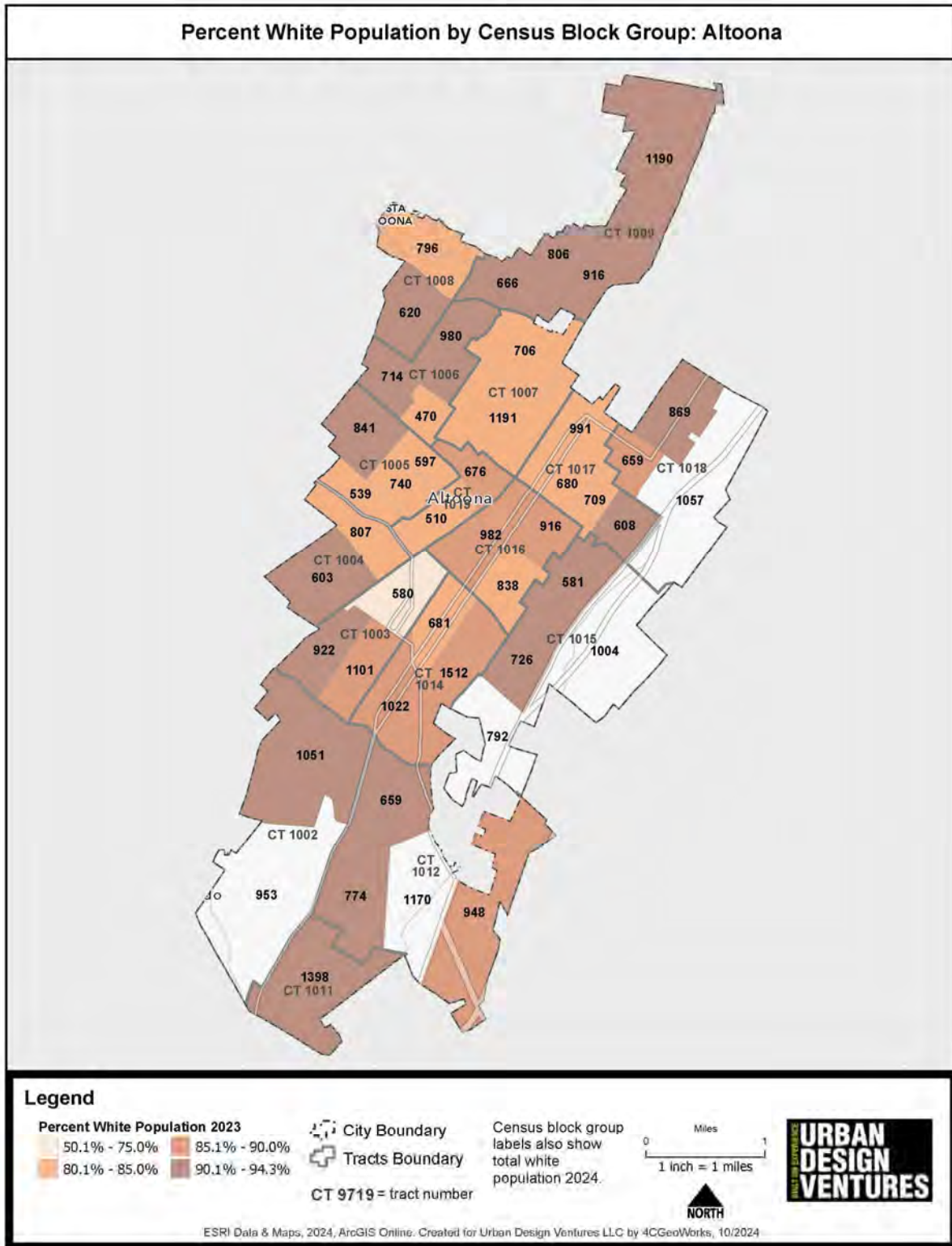
Maps:

Included in this Plan are the following maps illustrating the demographics of the City of Altoona:

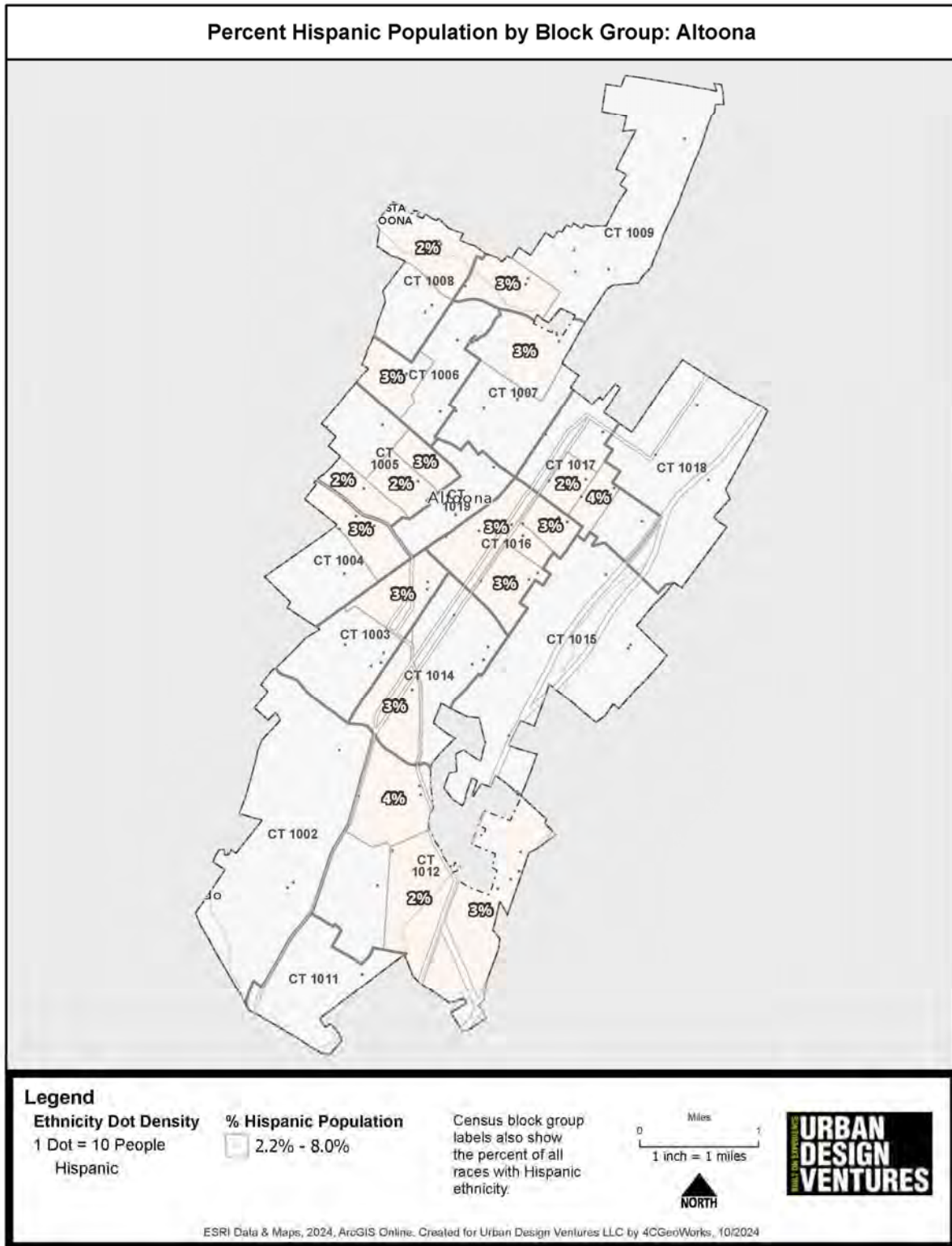
- Population Density by Block Group
- Percent White Population by Block Group
- Percent Hispanic Population by Block Group
- Percent Minority Population by Block Group
- Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group
- Housing Units by Block Points
- Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group
- Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group
- Low/Moderate Income Percentage w/Minority Overlay by Block Group
- Commercial Hot Spots
- Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicles by Block Group
- Poverty Rate by Block Group
- Public Housing with Low/Moderate Income Block Groups
- Housing Choice Voucher Concentration with Low/Moderate Income Block Groups
- City Zoning Map



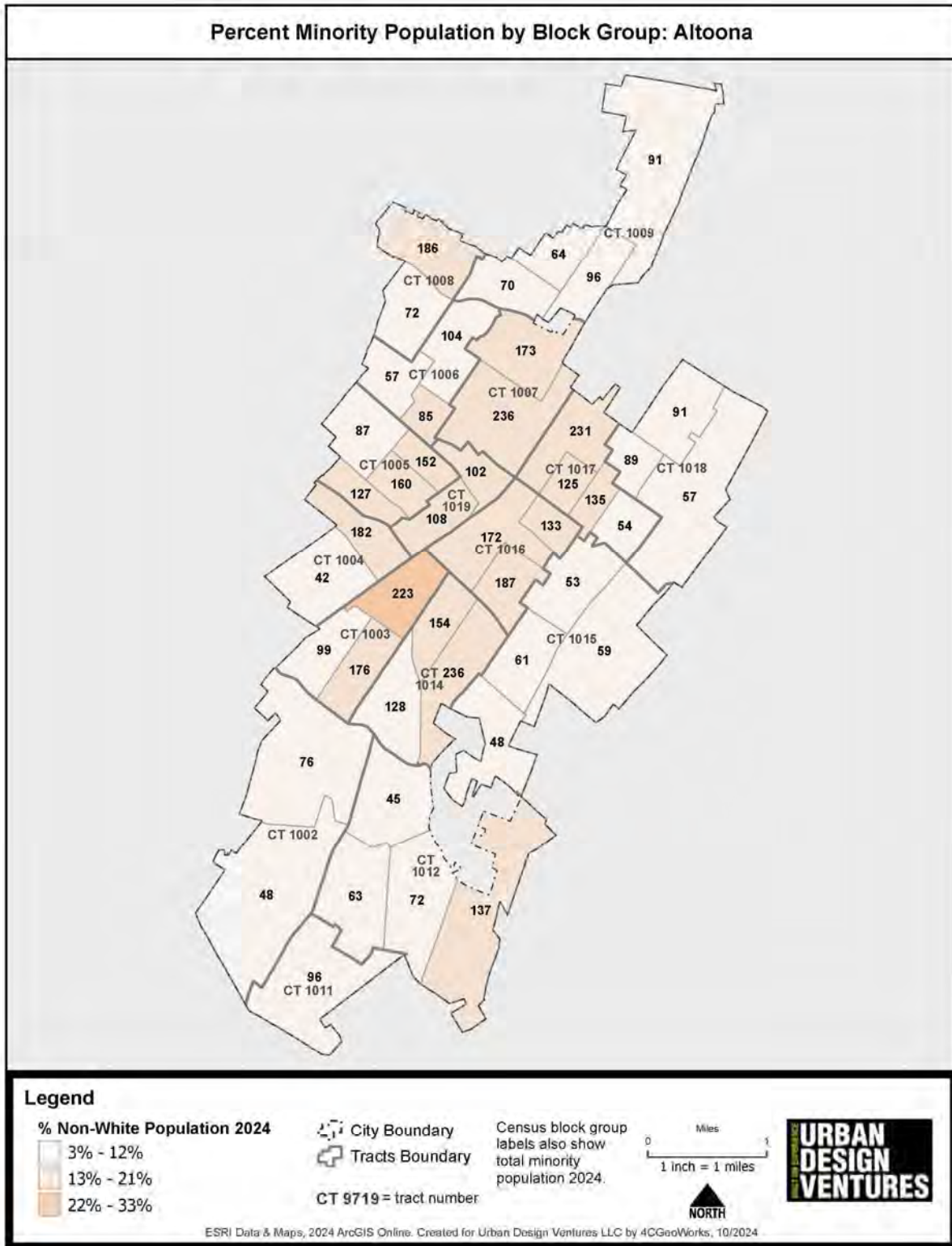
Population Density by Block Group



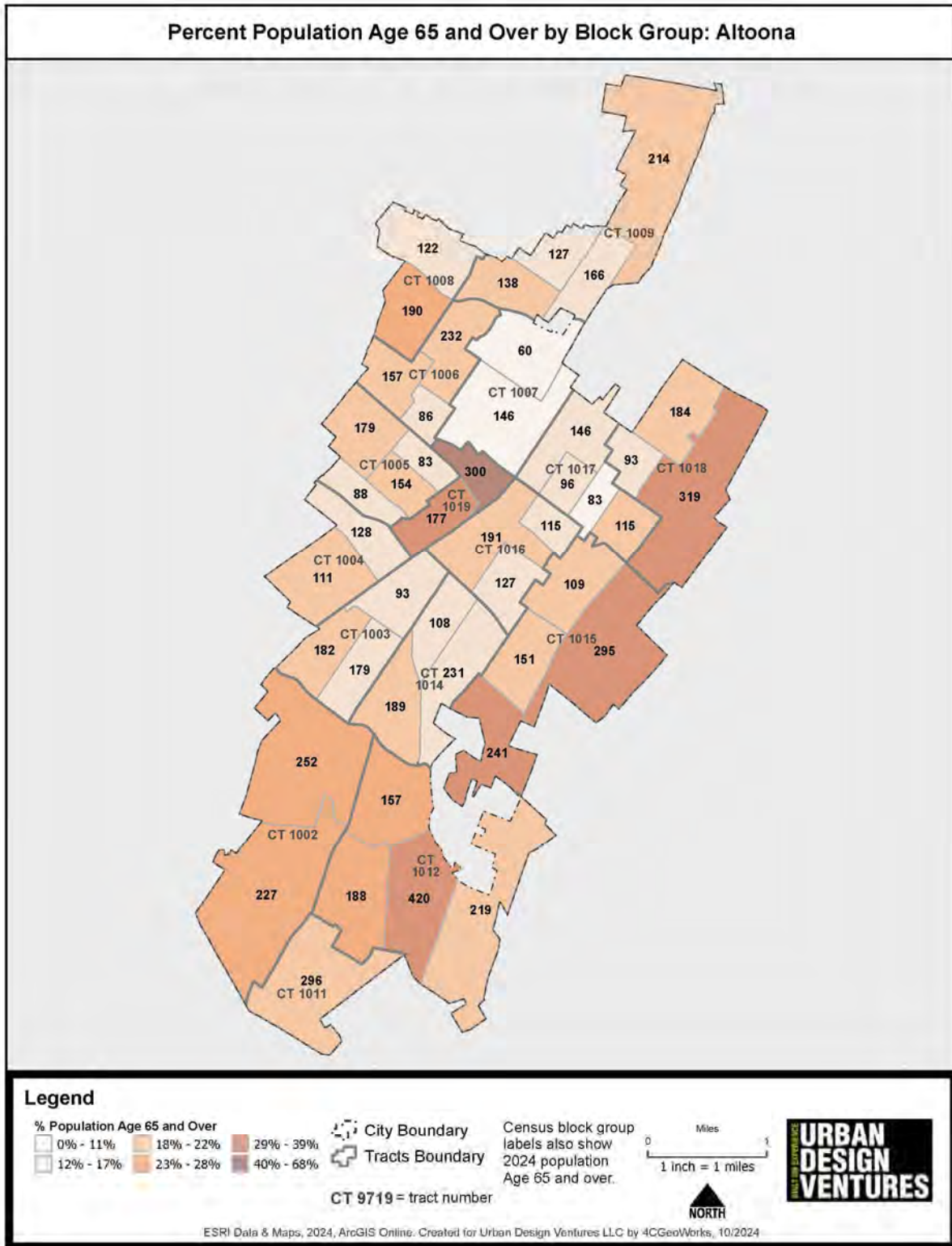
White Population by Block Group



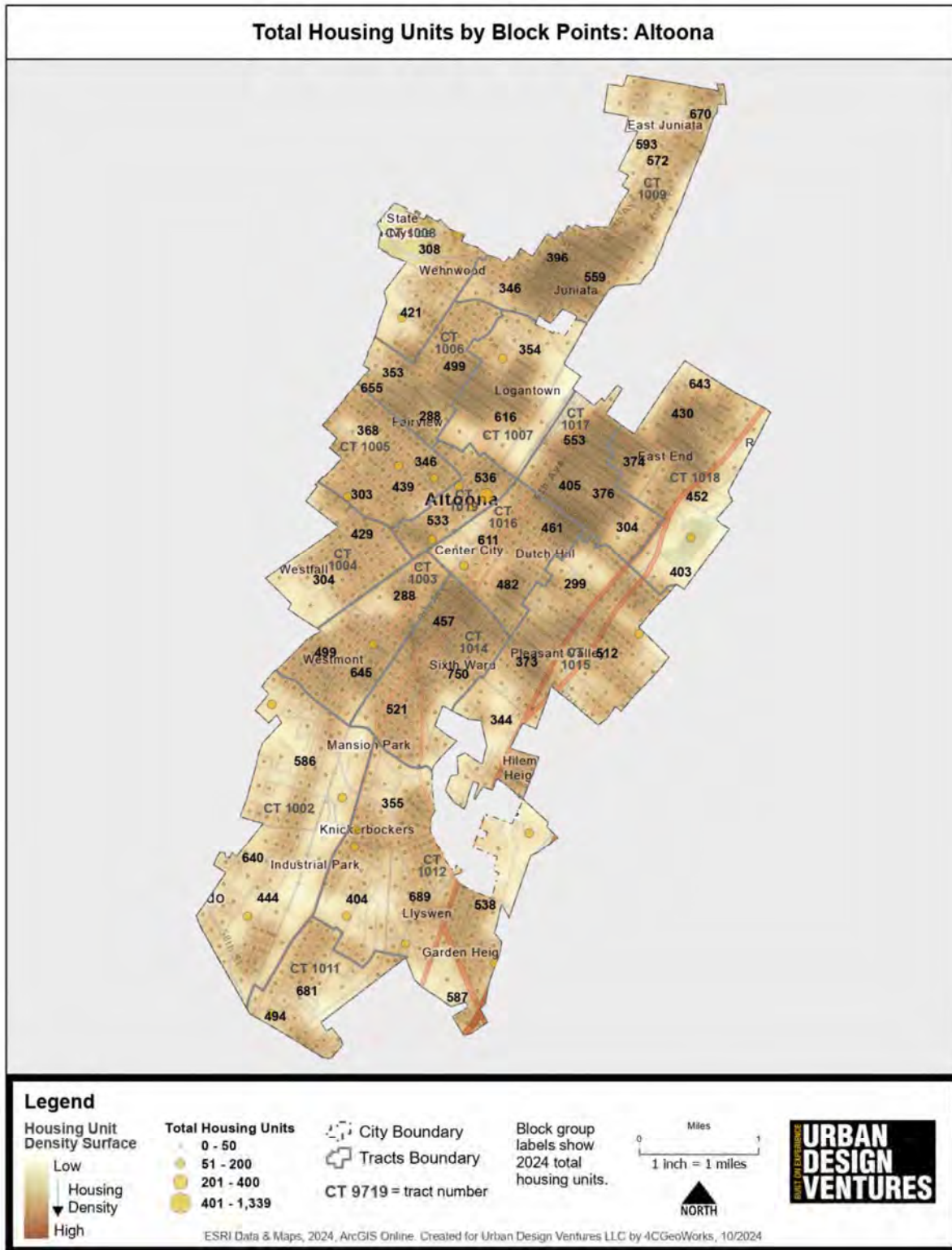
Percent Hispanic Population by Block Group



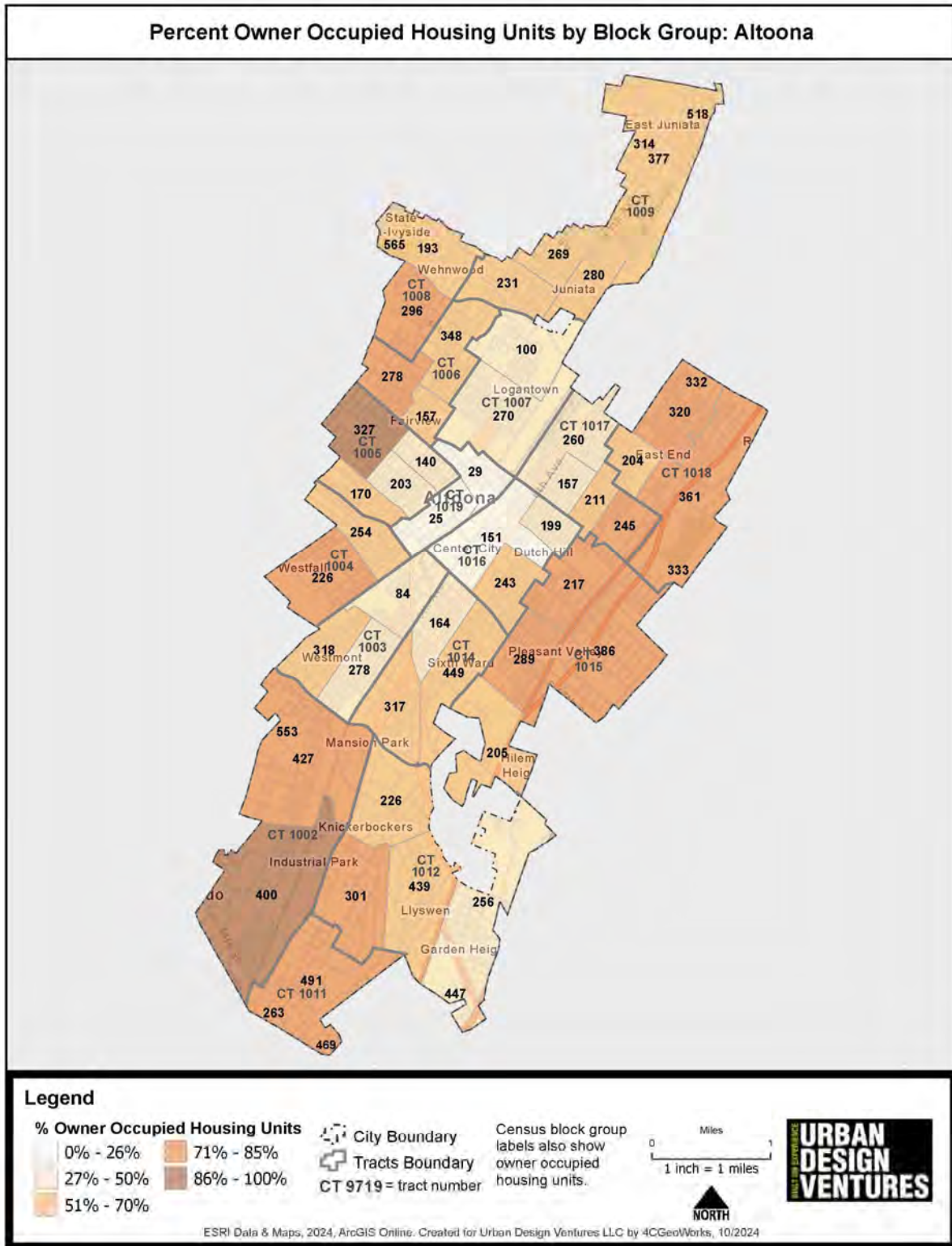
Minority Population by Block Group



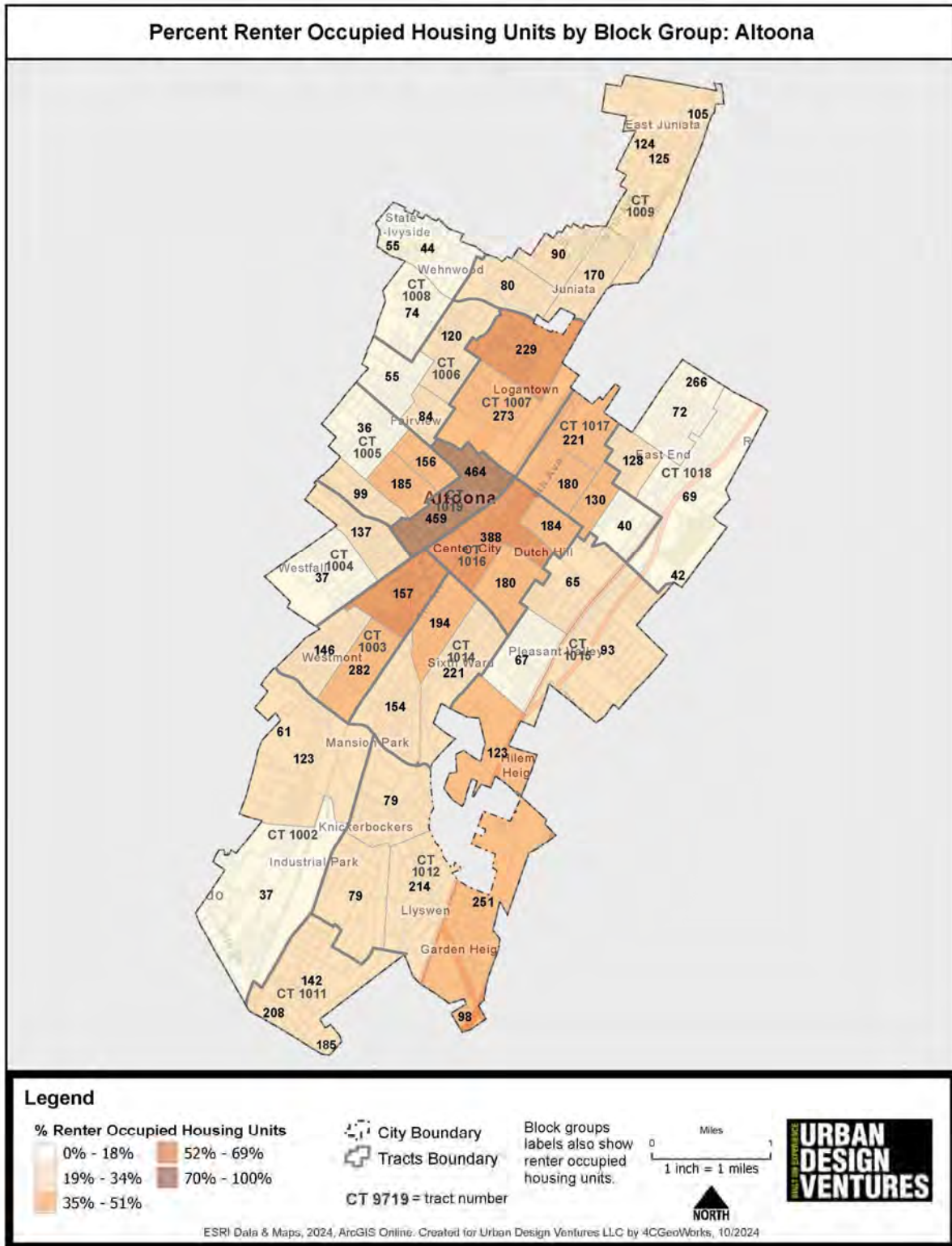
Population Age 65 and Over by Block Group



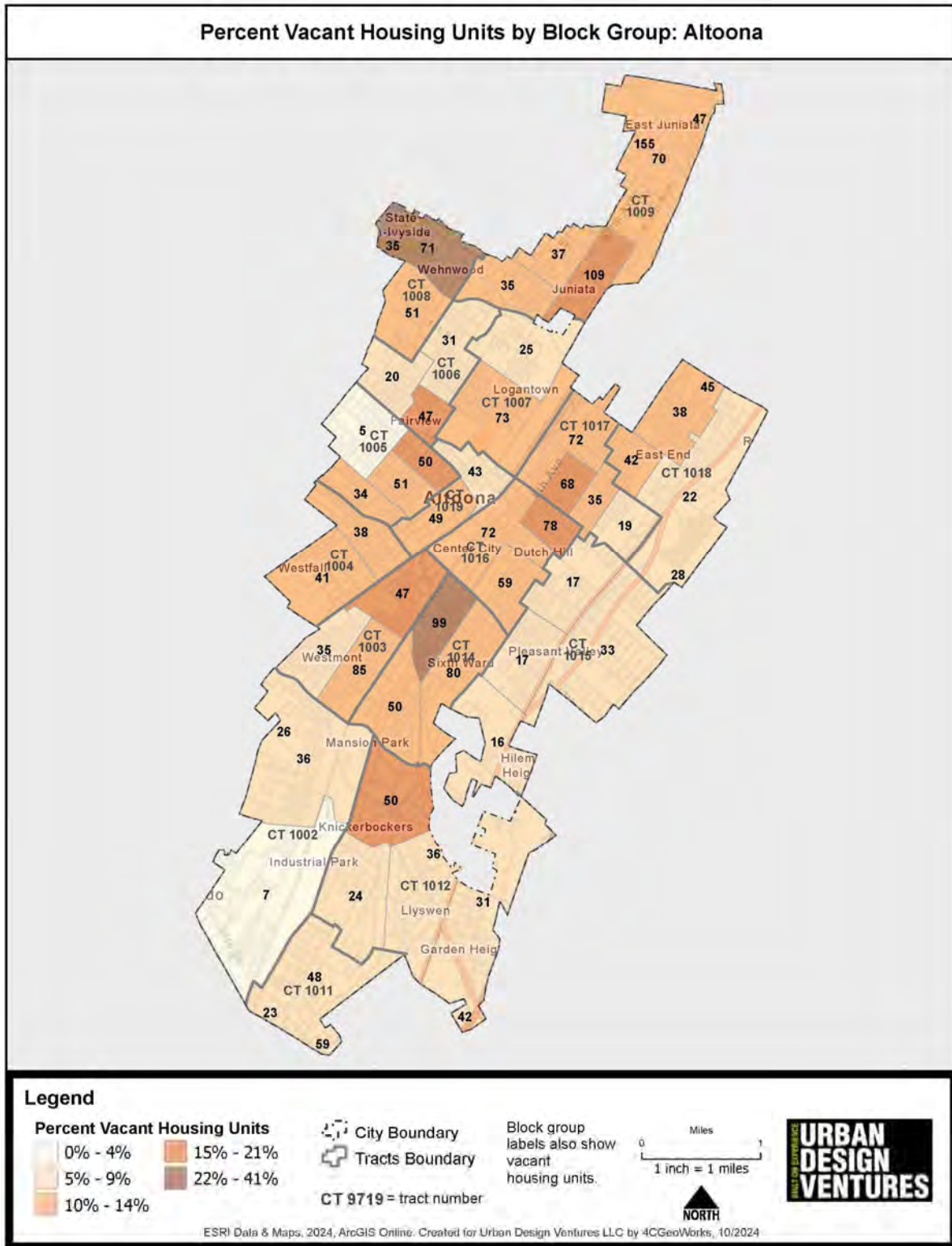
Total Housing Units by Block Point



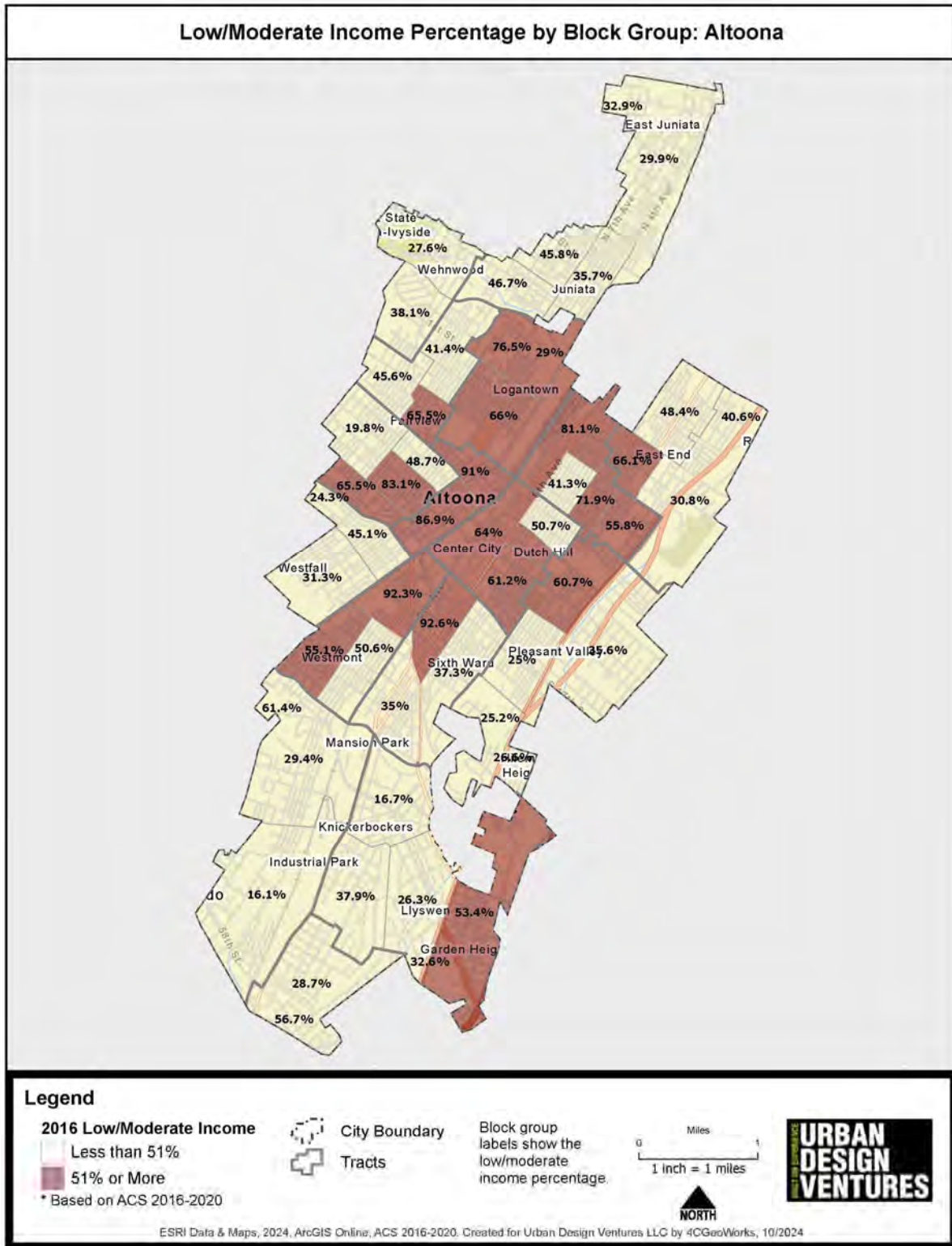
Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



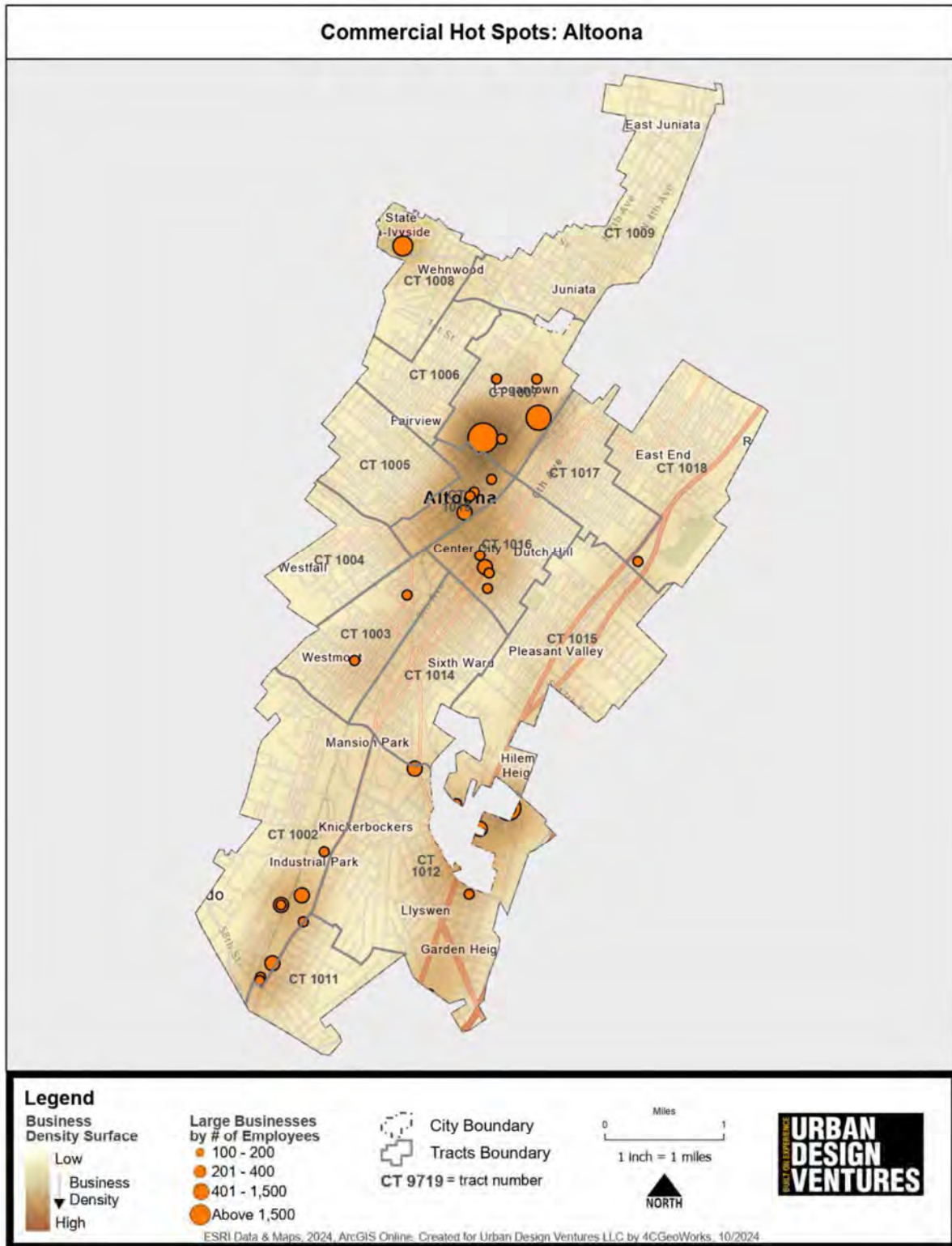
Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



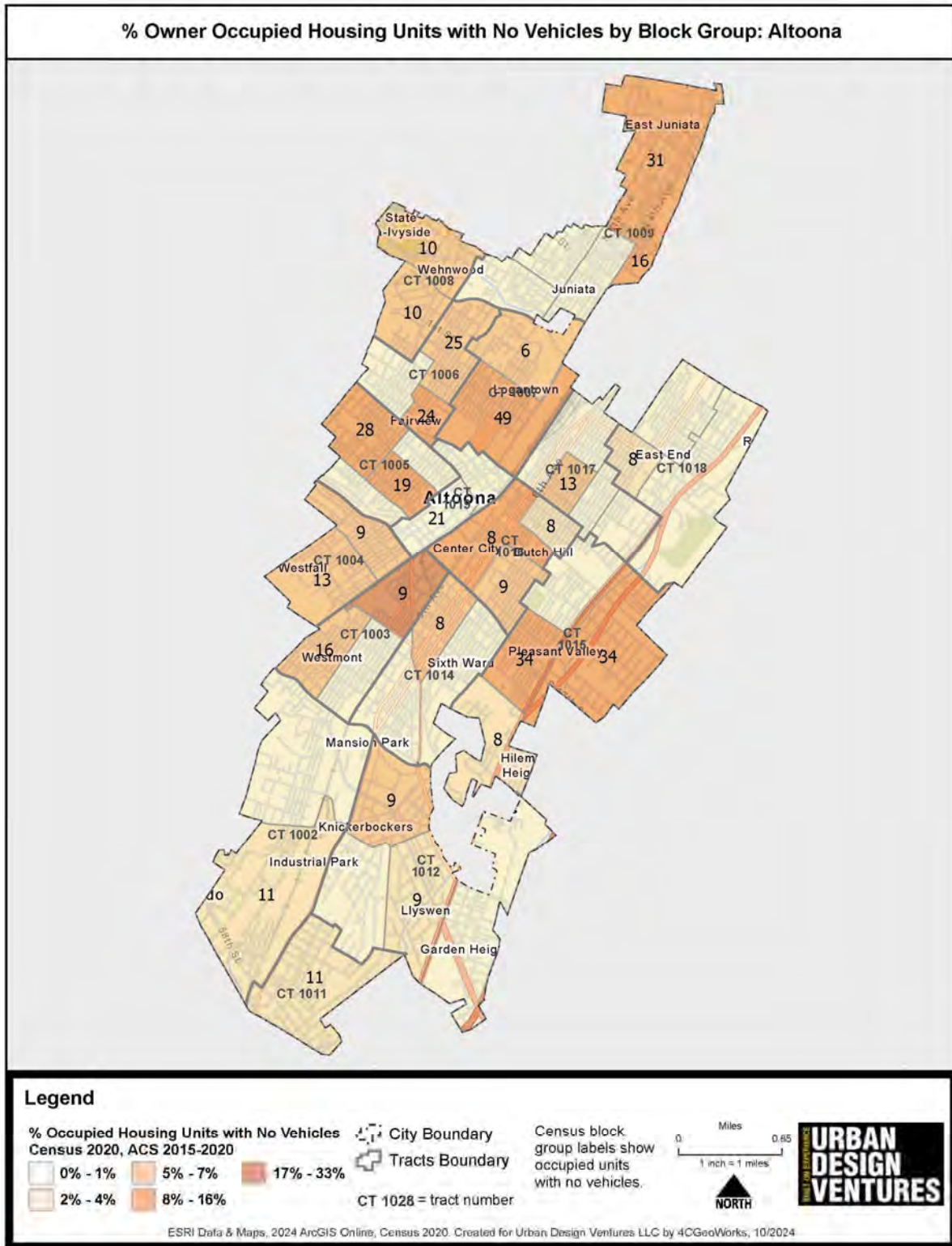
Vacant Housing Units by Block Group



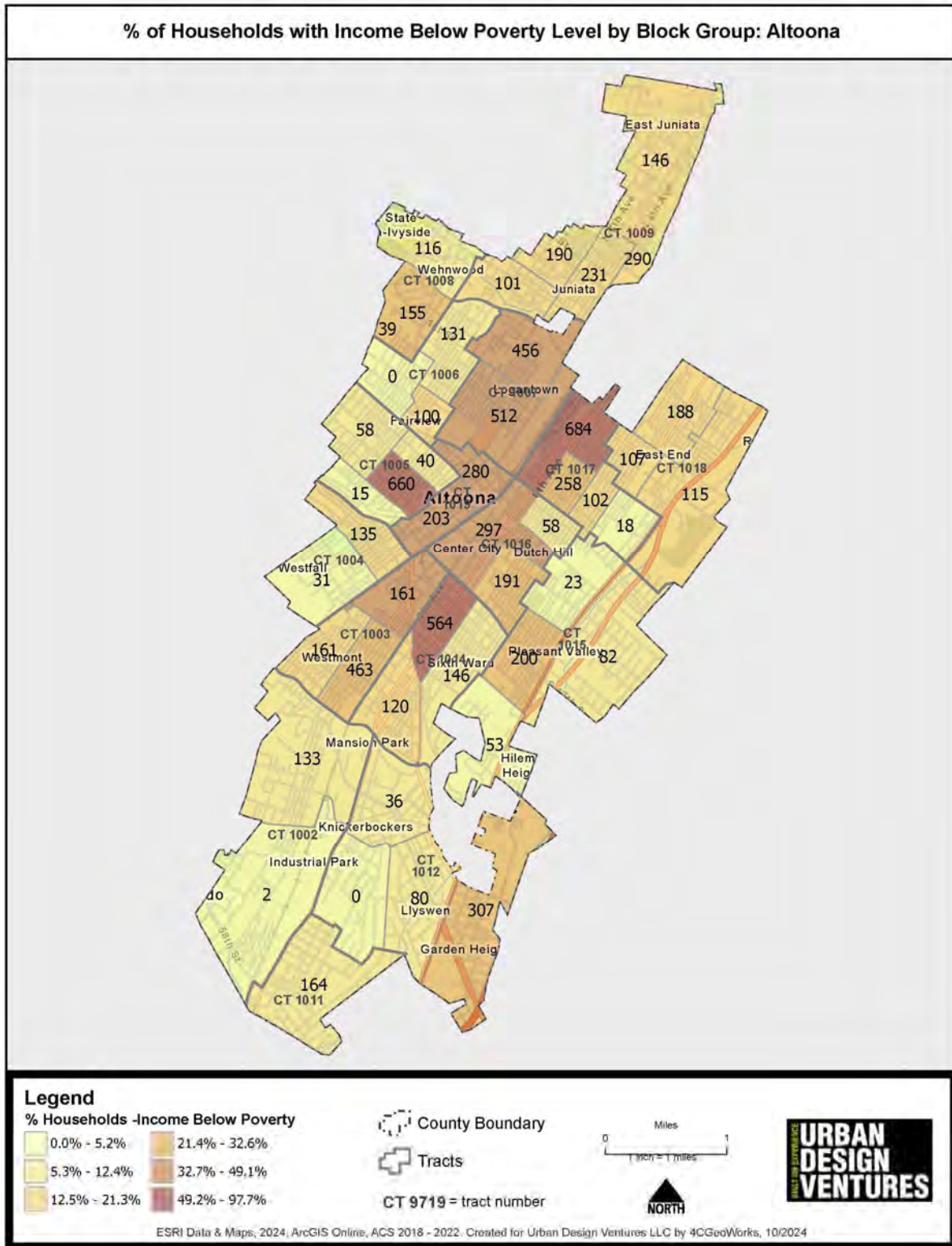
Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group



Commercial Hot Spots

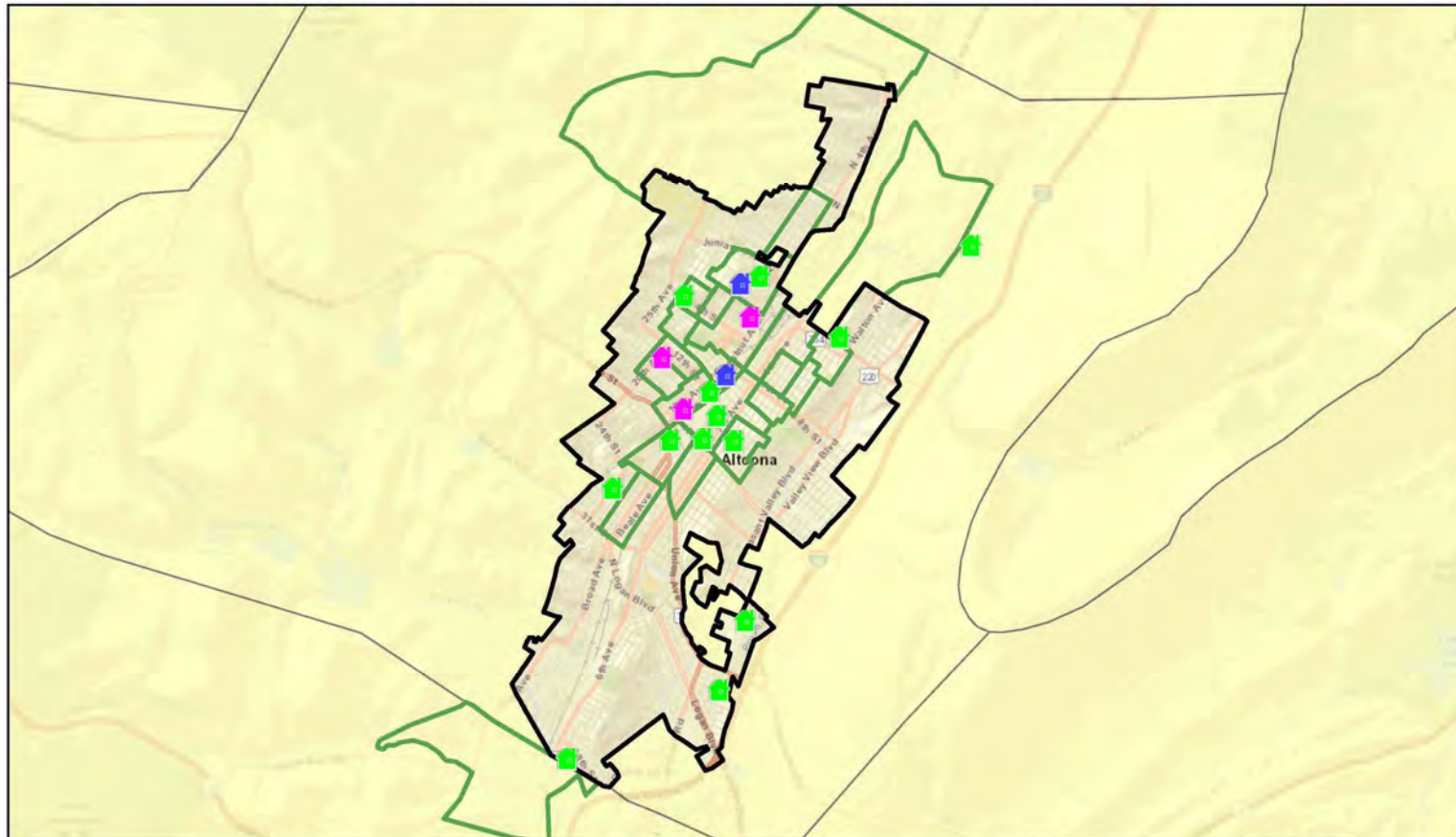


Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicles by Block Group









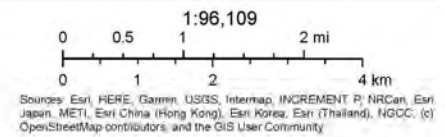
Households with Income Below Poverty Level by Block Group

City of Altoona, PA - Public Housing with Low/Mod Block Groups



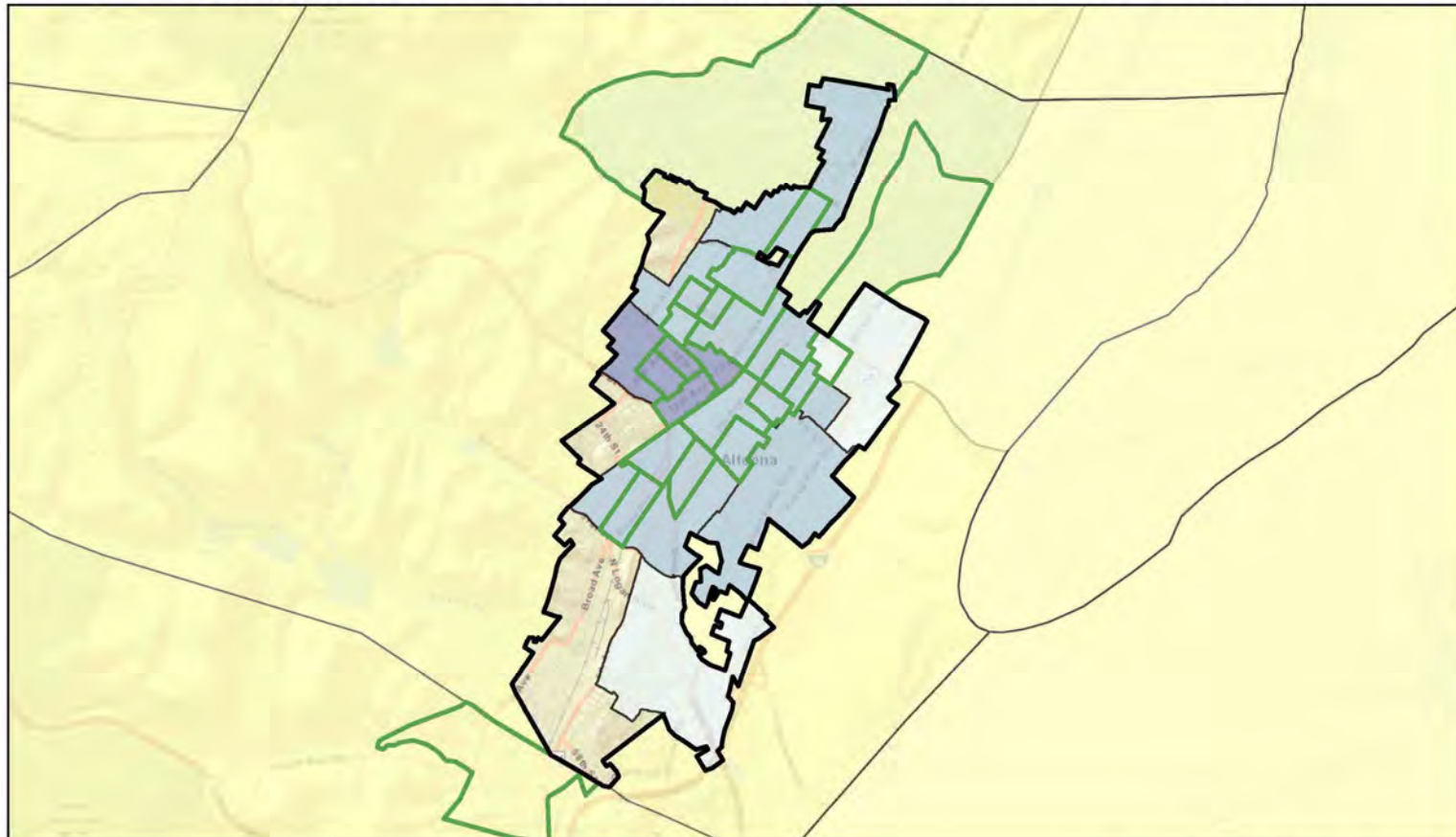
June 30, 2025

-  Public Housing Development
-  LIHTC Property
-  Multifamily Properties - Assisted
-  City of Altoona
-  Low/Mod Block Groups
-  UGLG Grantee

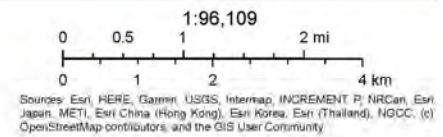
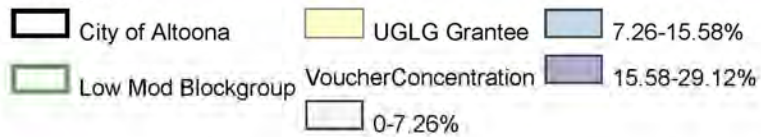


Public Housing with Low/Mod Block Groups

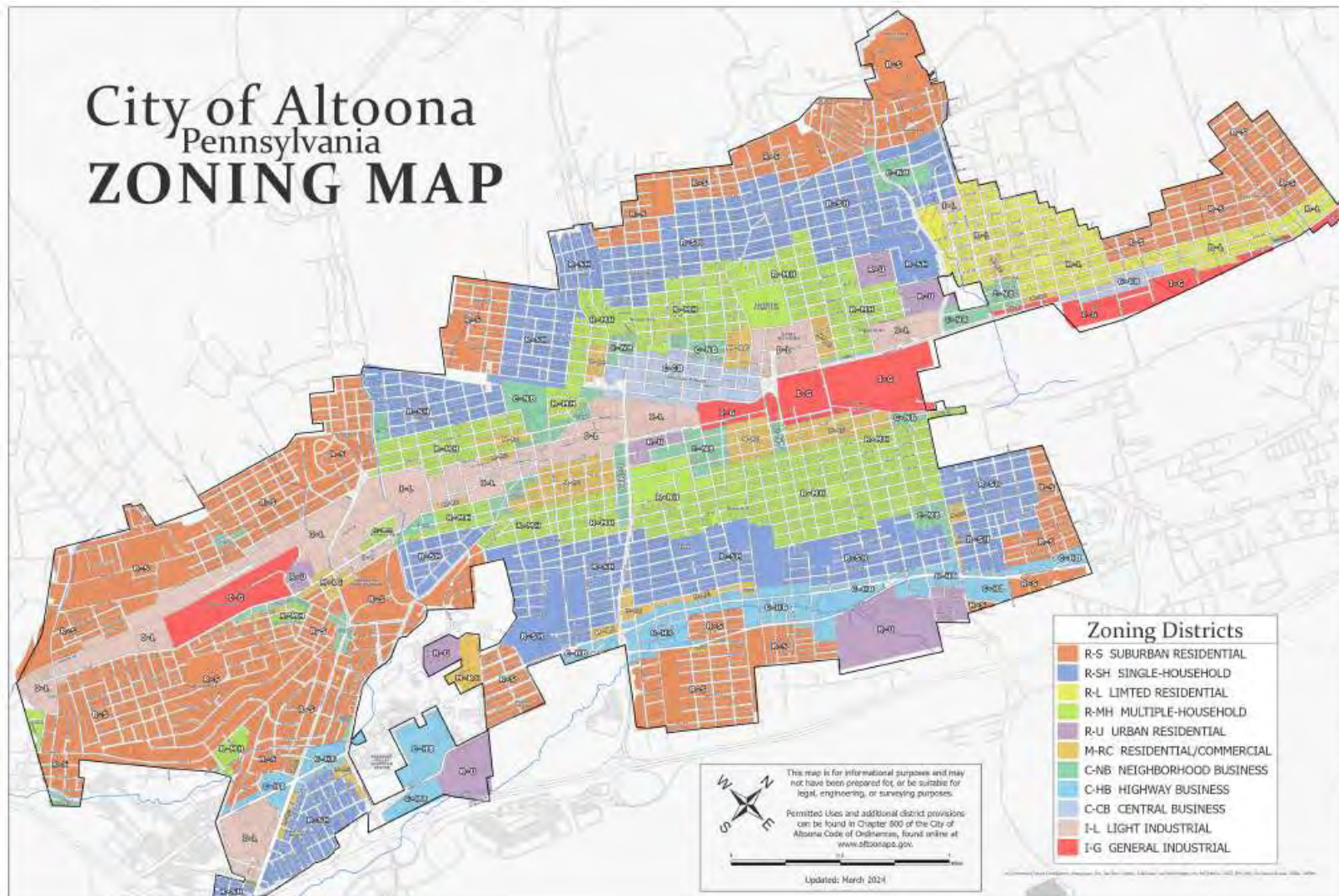
City of Altoona, PA - Voucher Concentration with Low/Mod Block Groups



June 30, 2025



Voucher Concentration with Low/Mod Block Groups



2024 Altoona Zoning Map

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

The City of Altoona's FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan serves as a consolidated planning document, an application, and a Community Development Strategic Plan for the City of Altoona. The document proposes six (6) priority areas to address the needs in the City of Altoona. Following are the Five-Year priorities and subsequent goals:

Housing Priority - (HS)

There is a need to increase the amount of affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for homebuyers, owner occupants, and renters.

Goals:

- **HS-1 Homeownership** - Assist low- and moderate-income homebuyers to purchase homes through down payment / closing cost assistance and associated housing counseling and training.
- **HS-2 Housing Development** - Increase the number of affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing units in the community for homebuyers and renters, through adaptive reuse of existing buildings and new construction.
- **HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation** - Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, emergency repairs and handicap accessibility.
- **HS-4 Rent and Utility Assistance** - Provide rental assistance for low- and moderate-income renters through utility payments, security deposits, and rental payments including Tenant Based Rental Assistance for low-income households who may be faced with the threat of eviction and who are at-risk of becoming homeless.

Homeless Priority - (HO)

There is a need to develop and preserve housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.

Goals:

- **HO-1 Housing** - Support the Continuum of Care and non-profit housing agencies' efforts to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing opportunities.
- **HO-2 Operation and Support** - Assist providers who operate housing or provide support services for the homeless and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless to achieve self-sufficiency.

- **HO-3 Prevention and Re-Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for re-housing.

Other Special Needs Priority - (SN)

There is a need to increase housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.

Goals:

- **SN-1 Housing** - Increase the supply of affordable, accessible, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings, construction of new housing, and providing rental assistance (including rent payments, security deposits, utility deposits and payments, and case management to achieve self-sufficiency) for low- and moderate-income residents.
- **SN-2 Social Services** - Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.

Community Development Priority - (CD)

There is a need to improve community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for residents living in the City of Altoona.

Goals:

- **CD-1 Community Facilities** - Improve parks, recreational facilities, trails, public buildings, community and neighborhood facilities throughout the City.
- **CD-2 Infrastructure** - Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction, of streets, sidewalks, bridges, curbs, walkways, water, storm water, sanitary sewer, handicap accessibility improvements/removal of architectural barriers, etc.
- **CD-3 Public Services** - Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and disabled, and general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- **CD-4 Clearance/Demolition** - Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.
- **CD-5 Accessibility Improvements** - Improve the physical, visual, and handicapped accessibility of community facilities and infrastructure.

- **CD-6 Transportation** - Support the expansion of transportation options for low- and moderate-income residents, the disabled and elderly to access services, shopping and employment.

Economic Development Priority - (ED)

There is a need to increase employment, workforce development, self-sufficiency, educational training, and empowerment for residents of the City of Altoona.

Goals:

- **ED-1 Employment** - Support and encourage job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.
- **ED-2 Development** - Support entrepreneurial ventures, business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.
- **ED-3 Redevelopment** - Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of vacant commercial and industrial sites.
- **ED-4 Financial Assistance** - Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, Congressionally Directed Spending, etc.
- **ED-5 Access to Transportation** - Support the expansion of public transportation and access to bus and automobile service to assist residents to get to work or training opportunities.

Administration, Planning, and Management Priority - (AM)

There is a need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of Federal, State, and local funded programs.

Goals:

- **AM-1 Overall Coordination** - Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
- **AM-2 Fair Housing** - Promote fair housing choice through education, training, and outreach and legal assistance for income-eligible households.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Altoona has a good performance record with HUD. The City regularly meets its performance standards as set by HUD. Each year the City prepares the required Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). The report is submitted within ninety (90) days after the start of the new program year. Copies of the CAPER are available for review at the City Department of Community Development, 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA.

The FY 2023 CAPER, which was the fourth CAPER for the FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, was approved by HUD. In the FY 2023 CAPER, the City of Altoona expended 87.95% of its CDBG funds to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The City expended 8.31% of its funds during the FY 2023 CAPER period on public service, which is below the statutory maximum of 15%. The City expended 19.56% of its funds during this CAPER period on Planning and Administration, which is below the statutory maximum of 20%. As of May 1, 2025, the City of Altoona has a drawdown ratio of 1.35, which is compliant with the required 1.5 maximum drawdown ratio.

The HOME program has been administered in a timely manner and in accordance with applicable activity limitations and match requirements. In Program Year 2023 the City received \$390,296.00. Total HOME funds expended for Program Year consisted of \$39,029.60 for administrative costs and \$351,266.40 in project costs.

The City was not required to provide a match for FY 2024's HOME funds as the City satisfied the distressed criteria for participating jurisdictions in accordance with HOME Program regulations. The City has also met the 15% Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) requirement.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The City of Altoona, in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, advertised and held a public hearing on the needs of the City of Altoona that provided residents with the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG and HOME Programs and to offer their suggestions on future CDBG and HOME program priorities.

The City maintains a mailing list for the CDBG and HOME programs, and copies of all public hearing notices and a survey concerning the program were mailed to all the agencies and individuals on the list.

A "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the City's website at <https://www.altoonapa.gov/> and copies of the plan were available for review at the following locations:

- **City Clerk’s Office and City Department of Community Development**
1301 12th Street
Altoona, PA
- **Altoona Housing Authority**
2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard
Altoona, PA
- **Altoona Area Public Library**
1600 Fifth Avenue
Altoona, PA

Upon request, the City would email an electronic copy of the draft plans to any person who requested a copy of the plans via email or by calling (814) 949-2470, or 711 for the hearing impaired.

Additionally, the City developed and disseminated an online citizen’s survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AltoonaCDBG2025-2029>.

The City developed the Five-Year Consolidated Plan based on the input received from the public and stakeholders through interviews, public hearings, draft plan review comments, and the citizen's survey.

5. Summary of public comments

The City of Altoona held its First Public Hearing on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Comments received at the public hearing are included in the attachments at the end of the Five-Year Plan.

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan were placed on public display and a Second Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, August 6, 2025. Comments received at the public hearing are included in the attachments at the end of the Five-Year Plan.

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

All comments and suggestions received to date have been accepted and incorporated into the planning documents.

7. Summary

The main goal of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan is to improve the living conditions of residents in the City of Altoona, create a suitable and sustainable living environment, and to address the housing, community, and economic development needs of residents.

The Five-Year Consolidated Planning process assists the City in setting priorities to pursue goals for all housing, community development, and planning programs. The City will use the Consolidated Plan's priorities and goals to allocate CDBG and HOME funding over the next five (5) years. The document helps provide direction for partners working to address the housing and community development needs of the low- and moderate-income population of the City. HUD evaluates the City's performance under the Consolidated Plan against these goals.

During the FY 2025 CDBG and HOME Program Year, the City of Altoona proposes to address the following strategies from its Five-Year Consolidated Plan:

- Housing
- Homelessness
- Other Special Needs
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- Administration, Planning, and Management

Drafts of the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan were placed on display at:

- **City Clerk's Office and City Department of Community Development**
1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA
- **Altoona Housing Authority**
2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA
- **Altoona Area Public Library**
1600 Fifth Avenue, Altoona, PA

The 30-day display period started on Tuesday, July 8, 2025 and ended on Thursday, August 7, 2025. A second public hearing was held on August 6, 2025 at the Altoona City Hall 4th Floor Conference Room to discuss the proposed activities and solicit citizen comments on the Plan. Upon completion of the 30-day comment period, the City of Altoona will submit the FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Pittsburgh Office on or about Friday, August 15, 2025.

8. FY 2025 CDBG and HOME Program Budgets:

FY 2025 Available Funds: The following financial resources are included in the FY 2025 Annual Action Plan to address the priority needs and goals identified in the City’s FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The City will receive the following Federal funds during the FY 2025 program year:

- FY 2025 CDBG Allocation: \$1,536,368.00
- CDBG Program Income: \$80,000.00
- FY 2025 HOME Allocation: \$266,494.73
- HOME Program Income: \$0.00
- **Total Funds: \$1,882,862.73**

FY 2025 CDBG and HOME Budget

The following CDBG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2025 Annual Action Plan:

1. CDBG Program Administration	\$ 287,596.00
2. Fair Housing	\$ 30,000.00
3. Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan	\$ 400,000.00
4. Single Family Owner-Occupied Emergency Repair	\$ 50,000.00
5. Emergency Roof Replacement Program	\$ 110,000.00
6. Street Reconstruction	\$ 200,000.00
7. 8 th Street Sidewalk Project	\$ 415,557.00
8. Operation Safe Space	\$ 5,000.00
9. The Salvation Army - Rent, Fuel, and Utility Payments	\$ 25,000.00
10. Overflow Church - Jefferson Park Meal Program Initiative	\$ 33,295.00
11. Overflow Church Warming Center - Overnight Shelter	\$ 49,920.00
12. Railroaders Memorial Museum	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>
Total FY 2025 CDBG Funds for Project Activities:	\$ 1,616,368.00

The following HOME activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2025 Annual Action Plan:

13. HOME Program Administration	\$ 26,649.00
14. HOME Rental Rehabilitation	\$ 131,777.73
15. IDA-CDC Kitchen Replacement at the Fairview Building	<u>\$ 108,068.00</u>
Total FY 2025 HOME Funds for Project Activities:	\$ 266,494.73

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
Lead Agency	ALTOONA	Department of Community Development
CDBG Administrator	ALTOONA	Department of Community Development
HOME Administrator	ALTOONA	Department of Community Development

Table 1 - Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The administering lead agency and administrator is the City of Altoona’s Department of Community Development for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs. The Director of Community Development, Mr. Eric Luchansky, reports directly to the Mayor and City Manager. The Department of Community Development is responsible for preparing Five-Year Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records (ERRs), Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day-to-day basis. Additionally, the City of Altoona has engaged a community planning and development consulting firm to assist the City on an as-needed basis for CDBG and HOME projects.

All Annual Action Plans submitted during the FY 2025-2029 period will be in accordance with the goals set forth in this Consolidated Plan. Should an unaddressed need be identified, the City will take actions up to and including preparation of a Substantial Amendment to this document. This process will include resident and organizational input per the City’s Citizen Participation Plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Mr. Eric Luchansky
 Director of Community Development
 City of Altoona
 1301 12th Street, Suite 400
 Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601
 Phone: (814) 949-2470
 Fax: (814) 949-0372
planning@altoonapa.gov

PR-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

The City of Altoona held a series of meetings with non-profit groups, housing providers, social service agencies, community and economic development organizations, and City departments. An online survey was created for stakeholders and residents to complete, which identified community needs, gaps in the system, etc. Input from the meetings and survey were used in the development of specific strategies and goals for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

Each year, as a part of the CDBG and HOME application process, local agencies/organizations are invited to submit applications for CDBG and HOME eligible activities as well as participate in public hearings. A complete list of agencies contacted and representatives that participated in meetings for the Consolidated Plan can be found in the Citizen Participation attachment.

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

The City of Altoona works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **Altoona Housing Authority** - Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and improvements to public housing communities.
- **Social Services Agencies** - funds to improve services to low- and moderate-income persons.
- **Housing Providers** - funds to rehabilitate and develop affordable housing and provide housing options for low- and moderate-income households.

Each year, as part of the CDBG and HOME application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for CDBG and HOME funds for eligible activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings, and having roundtable discussions, and completing survey forms.

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 Eastern Pennsylvania CoC (PA-509) is comprised of 33 Counties, including Blair County and the City of Altoona. For planning purposes, the CoC is divided into five regions and managed by a Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB). Altoona is a member of the South Central RHAB and takes an active role in supporting the RHAB's mission to break the cycle of homelessness. This

structure provides a variety of local services ranging from outreach and assessment to emergency and transitional housing to permanent housing services. All persons are assessed to determine their individuals needs and referred appropriately.

The Center for Community Action Agency provides a HUD approved Housing Counseling Program offering one-on-one counseling services and workshops in the following areas: pre-purchase, post-purchase, mortgage delinquency, rental and near homeless.

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

The City of Altoona's Planning Department staff participates in the Blair County Local Housing Options Team (LHOT) which is the local group that represents Altoona/Blair County to the CoC. Issues facing homeless persons in Altoona are discussed at the LHOT meeting and these local needs are reported to the greater CoC. The Healthy Blair County Coalition (HBCC) conducts a regular Community Health Needs Assessment. While this assessment is not specifically geared toward homeless people, it does address issues regarding the social, economic, emotional, and physical well-being of area residents regardless of their housing status. The most recent version of this needs assessment was completed in June of 2021, and the 2024 Community Needs Assessment will be published in 2025.

The Point in Time survey of sheltered and unsheltered homeless is conducted annually on the date prescribed by HUD. The count from the most recent completed survey in 2024 indicated that there were 101 people in 67 families that were considered homeless. Of those, 63 individuals in 33 households were in emergency shelter; 12 persons in 12 households were in transitional housing; and 26 persons in 22 households were unsheltered.

The CoC does not directly receive ESG funds. ESG funds for member counties and cities in the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC are administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). DCED has developed a process for allocating funds, for evaluating outcomes and for developing policies and procedures. The CoC is consulted by DCED regarding past program performance and involvement of ESG applicants.

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

1.	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Altoona
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims Service-Fair Housing Agency-Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency-Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency-Emergency Management Other government-Local Planning Organization Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Altoona Department of Community Development is the lead agency for the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Staff consulted other City departments including the Code Enforcement, Fire, Police, and Public Works Departments. Staff also consulted the City Council and the acting City Manager.
2.	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Area Public Library
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education Services-Narrowing the Digital Divide Other government-County

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Altoona Area Public Library was consulted to ascertain educational needs and priorities within the City of Altoona.
3.	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Area School District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Child Welfare Agency Other government-Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Altoona Area School District was consulted to ascertain educational needs and priorities within the City of Altoona.
4.	Agency/Group/Organization	Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional Organization Planning Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy

	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs of the City of Altoona.
5.	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnerships
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Services-Homeless Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Victims Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs-Chronically Homeless Homeless Needs-Families with Children Homelessness Needs-Veterans Homelessness Needs-Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnerships was consulted to ascertain the social service and homeless needs of the City of Altoona.
6.	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Public Housing Authority Services-Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Housing Needs Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy Anti-Poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Altoona Housing Authority was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.

7.	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County Alliance for Business and Economic Growth (Blair Alliance)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Blair Alliance (Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation and Blair County Chamber of Commerce) was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs of the City of Altoona.
8.	Agency/Group/Organization	Center for Community Action
	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-Victims Regional organization Continuum of Care
	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 HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy

	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Center for Community Action (which manages the Blair County Community Action Program) is the representative to the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care. It was consulted to ascertain the fair housing, housing, and homeless needs of the City of Altoona.
9.	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Curve Baseball Team
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Altoona Curve was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs for the City of Altoona.
10.	Agency/Group/Organization	Center for Independent Living of South Central Pennsylvania
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Center for Independent Living was consulted to ascertain the housing and social service needs of the City of Altoona.
11.	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair Senior Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Blair Senior Services, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the housing needs and non-housing special needs of the City of Altoona.
12.	Agency/Group/Organization	Central Blair Recreation and Parks
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Agency-Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency-Management of Public Land or Water Resources Other government-County Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission was consulted to ascertain the community development needs of the City of Altoona.
13.	Agency/Group/Organization	UPMC Hospital-Altoona
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services-Victims Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Regional organization Major Employer

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs-Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	UPMC Hospital-Altoona was consulted to ascertain the social service and healthcare needs of the City of Altoona.
14.	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Redevelopment Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency-Management of Public Land or Water Resources Other government-Local Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Altoona Redevelopment Authority was consulted to ascertain the housing, economic development, and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
15.	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair Planning
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Blair Planning was consulted to ascertain the housing, economic development, and community development needs of the City of Altoona.

16.	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County Department of Social Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Employment Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Other government-County
	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 HOPWA Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Blair County Department of Social Services was consulted to ascertain the homeless, social service, and healthcare needs of the City of Altoona.
17.	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair Health Choices
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Victims Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Blair Health Choices (the Central PA Behavioral Health Collaborative, Inc.) was consulted to ascertain the social service and healthcare needs of the City of Altoona.
18.	Agency/Group/Organization	Curry Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Curry Services, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the economic and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
19.	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Services, Inc.
	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-Victims Child Welfare Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Family Services, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the social service, homeless, housing, and healthcare needs of the City of Altoona.
20.	Agency/Group/Organization	First Commonwealth Bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Private Sector Banking/Financing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	First Commonwealth Bank was consulted to ascertain the housing, economic, and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
21.	Agency/Group/Organization	Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Civic Leaders Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy

	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
22.	Agency/Group/Organization	Improved Dwellings for Altoona, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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?	Improved Dwellings of Altoona, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
23.	Agency/Group/Organization	Healthy Blair County Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Regional organization Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Healthy Blair County Coalition was consulted to ascertain the social service and healthcare needs of the City of Altoona.

24.	Agency/Group/Organization	James A. Van Zandt Altoona Veterans Administration Medical Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Homeless Services-Health Services-Victims Health Agency Other government-Federal Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically Homeless Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Van Zandt Altoona VA Medical Center was consulted to ascertain the social service and healthcare needs of the City of Altoona.
25.	Agency/Group/Organization	M&T Bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Major Employer Private Sector Banking/Financing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	M&T Bank was consulted to ascertain the housing and economic development needs of the City of Altoona.

26.	Agency/Group/Organization	National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Blair County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	NAMI Blair County was consulted to ascertain the social service and healthcare needs of the City of Altoona.
27.	Agency/Group/Organization	Overflow Church
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Homeless Civic Leaders Neighborhood Organization
	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 Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Overflow Church was consulted to ascertain the social service and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
28.	Agency/Group/Organization	Operation Our Town
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization Civic Leaders Neighborhood Organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Operation Our Town was consulted to ascertain the housing, homeless, social service, economic development, and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
29.	Agency/Group/Organization	Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) at Altoona
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment Services-Narrowing the Digital Divide Other government-State Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Penn State-Altoona was consulted to ascertain the education, economic development, and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
30.	Agency/Group/Organization	Salvation Army
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Homeless Services-Employment Regional organization Civic Leaders

	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 Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Salvation Army was consulted to ascertain the housing, homeless, social service and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
31.	Agency/Group/Organization	Sheetz, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Sheetz, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the economic and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
32.	Agency/Group/Organization	Summit Legal Aid
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Service-Fair Housing Services-Victims Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy

	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Summit Legal Aid is the Fair Housing provider under contract with the City. It was consulted to ascertain the housing and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
33.	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of the Southern Alleghenies
	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-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services-Victims Regional organization Civic Leaders
	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 HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	United Way of the Southern Alleghenies was consulted to ascertain the housing, homeless, social service and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
34.	Agency/Group/Organization	Veterans Leadership Program
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Homeless Services-Employment Regional organization Civic Leaders

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Veterans Leadership Program was consulted to ascertain the homeless and social service needs of the City of Altoona.
35.	Agency/Group/Organization	Webber Advisors
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Webber Advisors was consulted to ascertain the housing, economic and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
36.	Agency/Group/Organization	Crowsnest Broadband
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Broadband Internet Service Providers Services-Narrowing the Digital Divide Regional organization Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Crowsnest Broadband website was examined to ascertain the availability of broadband internet in the City of Altoona.

37.	Agency/Group/Organization	Verizon
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Broadband Internet Service Providers Services-Narrowing the Digital Divide Regional organization Business Leaders Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Verizon website was examined to ascertain the availability of broadband internet in the City of Altoona.

Table 2 - Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

All known agency types were consulted and contacted during the planning process. See Appendices for meeting notes.

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	Center for Community Action	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Annual Plan and 5-Year Plan	Altoona Housing Authority	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
All Together Altoona Comprehensive Plan	Altoona Department of Community Development	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
BRAVE - Blair Resilience: Addressing Vulnerability and Exposure Hazard Mitigation Plan	Blair Planning	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Alleghenies Ahead Comprehensive Plan	Blair Planning	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Blair County 2021-2045 Long Range Transportation Plan	Blair Planning	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
2022 Childhood Lead Surveillance Annual Report	Pennsylvania Department of Health	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Connecting the Commonwealth Five-Year Plan	Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority	They are incorporated in the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

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

The City of Altoona Department of Community Development is the administering agency for CDBG and HOME programs. Coordination is maintained with all City Departments.

Development policies are promoted by the City Manager with approval and oversight by the Mayor and City Council. The City works with the Blair County Commissioners and County staff to address projects and activities that extend beyond the City limits. The City and the County have good working relationships.

Narrative (optional):

The City of Altoona works in conjunction with Blair County and Logan Township to address needs and to implement projects and activities that extend beyond the Altoona municipal limits. Close consultation is maintained between City, County and Township departments to ensure the needs of the area are adequately addressed.

PR-15 Citizen Participation

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

The FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan used several approaches to encourage citizen participation. These activities included the following: interviews and roundtable discussions with various stakeholders; a needs public hearing; request for proposals for funding (RFPs) from agencies/organizations; meeting with agencies/organizations on completing an RFP; and a second public hearing to gather public comments on the draft plan which was placed on public display. The City posted a survey on the City's website in both English and Spanish and received 71 completed resident surveys. All comments received are included in the Appendix Section of this document. The City uses citizen input to develop the plan which will serve the low- and moderate-income population of the City to attain the goals in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The City followed its approved Citizens Participation Plan to develop its FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response / attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1.	Newspaper Ad	-Minorities -Persons with disabilities -Non-targeted/ broad community -Residents of Public and Assisted Housing -Agencies/ organizations	None	None	None	Not Applicable.
2.	Public Meeting	-Minorities -Persons with disabilities -Non-targeted/ broad community -Residents of Public and Assisted Housing -Agencies/ organizations	A Public Meeting was held on Thursday, August 22, 2024, to discuss the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There was a total of ten (10) attendees.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.

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.	Resident Surveys	-Minorities -Persons with disabilities -Non-targeted/ broad community -Residents of Public and Assisted Housing -Agencies/ organizations	There was a total of 71 residents that completed the online survey.	A summary of the survey responses can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	www.surveymonkey.com/r/AltoonaCD BG2025-2029
4.	Agencies/ Organizations Surveys	-Agencies/ Organizations	There was a total of nine (9) organizations that completed surveys.	A summary of the survey responses can be found in the appendix section of this Five-Year Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.
5.	Stakeholder Meetings	-Minorities -Persons with disabilities -Non-targeted/ broad community -Residents of Public and Assisted Housing -Agencies/ organizations	The City met with 41 agencies and organizations as part of its stakeholders and individual meetings.	A summary of meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of Five-Year Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.

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)
6.	Newspaper Ad	-Minorities -Persons with disabilities -Non-targeted/ broad community -Residents of Public and Assisted Housing -Agencies/ organizations	None	None	None	Not Applicable.
7.	Public Hearing	-Minorities -Persons with disabilities -Non-targeted/broad community -Residents of Public and Assisted Housing -Agencies / organizations	A Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, August 6 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There was a total of six (6) attendees and three (3) livestream viewers.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.

Table 4 - Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The City of Altoona used the HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, which provides information on housing needs, to prepare its estimates and projects. The tables in this section have been populated with the 2016-2020 CHAS data sets provided by HUD, and additional data has been obtained from the 2018-2022 American Community Survey (ACS) five-year estimates and the 2020 U.S. Census. This data is the most current information on which to base the five-year needs assessment.

Altoona is part of the Eastern PA Continuum of Care which includes thirty-three (33) counties in Eastern PA. Blair County is a member of the South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board which includes nine (9) counties in central and south/central Pennsylvania. Data for the development of the needs for the homeless in the area have been obtained from the Eastern PA Continuum of Care.

Additional needs for the City of Altoona were obtained from input and interviews with various social service agencies, housing providers, city staff, and resident survey comments.

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

Summary of Housing Needs

Based on a comparison between the 2000 and 2020 population, the City of Altoona had a 5% decrease in population of 2,145 persons. The number of households decreased by 190 or 1%. This indicates that the size of households has decreased. Furthermore, the median income of the area increased by 17%. This increase in median income represents a change in nominal dollars and not a change in real dollars. In order to calculate the change in real dollars, the Consumer Price Index is used to calculate the inflation rate for a given period. Between 2000 and 2020, the cumulative inflation rate was 50.3%, meaning that the \$36,215.00 median income in 2000 would be \$55,830.66 if it were expressed in 2020 dollars. The median income in Altoona has not kept up with the rate of inflation.

Demographics	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Population	45,815	43,670	-5%
Households	18,735	18,545	-1%
Median Income	\$36,215.00	\$42,244.00	17%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	3,425	2,550	3,405	1,945	7,220
Small Family Households	825	700	1,380	715	3,815
Large Family Households	165	175	245	175	530
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	760	875	700	450	1,650
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	500	400	625	235	654
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	575	425	630	350	614

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2016-2020 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	15	0	135	25	0	0	4	29
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	4	0	50	0	54	4	0	0	0	4
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,280	270	20	0	1,570	380	190	25	20	615
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	460	740	425	35	1,660	205	295	205	90	795
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	235	0	0	0	235	35	0	0	0	35

Table 7 - Housing Problems Table

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

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	1,405	270	85	0	1,760	415	190	30	25	660
Having none of four housing problems OR has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems	1,135	1,145	1,190	565	4,035	465	945	2,100	1,355	4,865

Table 8 - Housing Problems 2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

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	560	305	265	1,130	75	145	45	265
Large Related	74	90	55	219	45	25	25	95
Elderly	450	255	55	760	280	290	130	700
Other	700	365	75	1,140	215	30	25	270
Total need by income	1,784	1,015	450	3,249	615	490	225	1,330

Table 9 - Cost Burden > 30%

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

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	0	0	70	70	60	85	0	145
Large Related	0	0	45	45	35	0	0	35
Elderly	190	60	10	260	180	95	20	295
Other	0	550	100	650	130	0	0	130
Total need by income	190	610	225	1,025	405	180	20	605

Table 10 - Cost Burden > 50%

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

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	39	0	50	0	89	4	0	4	0	8
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	39	0	50	0	89	4	0	4	0	8

Table 11 - Crowding Information - 1/2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	490	270	390	1,339	85	155	240	1,520

Table 12 - Crowding Information - 2/2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

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

According to the 2018-2022 American Community Survey (ACS), there were 18,518 households in the City of Altoona and single-person households comprised 6,226 (33.6%) of these households. There were 2,756 (44.3%) single-person households aged 65 and over, which indicates that 36.1% of Altoona's seniors live alone. It is presumed they will need additional accommodation and support to age in place, and the City will need to assist in obtaining funding and work with housing services and elderly support agencies to provide programs, activities and accommodations for its elderly population.

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

Disabled Population - Many elderly and disabled residents of Altoona live on fixed or limited incomes and lack the resources to afford home maintenance costs. The lack of affordable housing that is decent, safe, sound, sanitary and accessible forces them into substandard and often inaccessible housing. There are 7,599 residents (17.5%) of Altoona who have a disability; of the overall population, 2,345 persons or 5.4% have a hearing difficulty, 1,050 persons or 2.4% have a vision difficulty, 3,597 persons or 9.9% have a cognitive difficulty, 3,255 persons or 8.0% have an ambulatory difficulty, 1,171 persons or 2.9% have a self-care difficulty, and 2,518 persons or 7.4% have an independent living difficulty.

Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, sexual assault, and stalking - Based on the local crime statistics and social service agency responses to interviews and surveys, the Altoona Police Department received 30,786 police calls in calendar year 2024 and recorded 1,459 offenses. Of these, 32 offenses were for rape and one was for human trafficking; there were also 777 aggravated assaults and 521 simple assaults of which some may have involved intimate partner violence. Overall, in Blair County, there were 54 rape offenses, 2 human trafficking offenses, 112 aggravated assaults and 1,102 simple assaults. Victims were referred for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and/or housing assistance services. Local shelters offer programs to assist those experiencing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and serve approximately 4,000 people each year through shelter programs, peer to peer groups, confidential counseling, Civil Protection Orders, and legal assistance.

What are the most common housing problems?

Altoona's largest housing problem is affordability. According to the 2016-2020 CHAS data, 51.1% of renter-occupied households and 11.0% of owner-occupied households are cost burdened by 30% or more.

In consultations, interviews and surveys, affordable and accessible housing specifically for the elderly and disabled is an unmet housing need and problem. Most affordable housing units are located in the central portion of the City in and around the traditional Central Business District. These housing units tend to be the oldest housing in the City. Most of these units are unsuitable for persons who are elderly or have disabilities due to accessibility issues, which include lack of elevators in multi-story structures. For elderly

and disabled residents who are homeowners, the cost of accessibility improvement is a burden that many are unable to afford without some type of assistance.

Another housing problem is the lack of housing opportunities for the homeless population, hindered by the reduced availability and affordability of quality housing units. This includes rapid re-housing units, transitional housing for the chronically homeless, and permanent housing.

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

The elderly and disabled populations are the most affected by the cost of housing in the City of Altoona. Many elderly and disabled residents live on fixed or limited incomes making it unaffordable to maintain their homes. The lack of affordable housing that is decent, safe, sound, sanitary and accessible often forces them into substandard and/or inaccessible housing.

The other group of residents affected by lack of affordable housing are the homeless and persons at risk of becoming homeless, as well as victims of domestic violence.

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

The South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) reports to the PA-507 Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care. The South Central RHAB consists of nine (9) member counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset.

The City of Altoona is not an Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) entitlement grantee. Nonprofit shelter and homeless services organizations apply for ESG funding through the PA-507 Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care Continuum of Care, which receives ESG and other funding administered through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

The specific needs of extremely low-income persons/households who are housed, but in imminent risk of becoming unsheltered or living in shelters are food, clothing, transportation, and job training. Local social service agencies provide food and clothing through food pantries, food kitchens and thrift stores. Transportation and job training opportunities are limited, and funds are needed to address those options.

Local organizations maintain records in the HMIS system and continue to monitor and track assisted person/households.

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

The methodology used to generate estimates, per the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC, is based on historical data from sources such as the Point-in-Time Survey and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data. HMIS is a database used to collect client-level data regarding the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and those at-risk of homelessness. Providers participating in the PA HMIS are required to collect and record specific data elements for all new and continuing clients in the database. Data entry is to be completed weekly with the exception of Emergency Shelter clients, which should be completed daily. All weekly records are to be updated every Monday for clients served during the prior week. The PA HMIS is an “open” system which allows for the sharing of client-level data electronically between collaborating agencies. All participating agencies must adhere to the PA HMIS privacy policy as well as the operating policies and procedures. Agencies may also be able to share information through other methods unrelated to the PA HMIS, as outlined in their specific program policies. Data shared outside of PA HMIS is not to be controlled or monitored by DCED; therefore, this data is not covered by the PA HMIS privacy policy. DCED is the System Administrator for the PA HMIS and as such is the only entity with access to all client-level information, including personal identifiers, contained in the PA HMIS.

The definition of At-Risk of Homelessness according to the HUD/HAP Standards and Operating Procedures Handbook includes the following three categories:

Category 1: Individuals and families who:

- Have annual incomes below 30% AMI; and
- Do not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent literal homelessness; and
- Meet at least one of the following seven conditions:
 - Moved 2 or more times due to economic reasons 60 days prior to application for assistance;
 - Living in home of another due to economic hardship;
 - Losing housing within 21 days after application date;
 - Lives in a hotel/motel not paid for by charitable organizations or Federal/state/local government programs;
 - Lives in a severely overcrowded unit as defined by the US Census Bureau (Lives in a single-room occupancy [SRO] or studio apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons per room as defined by the US Census Bureau);
 - Exiting publicly funded institution or system of care (e.g. health care facility, mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility or correction program or institution.);

- Lives in housing associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness as defined in the Consolidated Plan.

Category 2: Children/youth who do not qualify under other federal statute;

- Runaway and Homeless Youth Act; Section 637 (11) of the Head Start Act; Section 41403(6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994; Section 330(h) (5) (A) of the Public Health Service Act; Section 3 (m) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008; Section 17 (b) (15) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

Category 3: Unaccompanied children and youth and their families who:

- Qualify as homeless under the Education for Children and Youth (Section 725 (2)) of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a (2) and parent or guardian of that child or youth if living with her or him.

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

The high cost of decent, safe, sound, sanitary and accessible housing in the City creates instability in housing available for the lower income families in the area. Many families live paycheck to paycheck and are paying over 30% of their income for housing.

The other housing characteristic is the lack of housing counseling to prevent homeowners from being unable to afford or maintain a home. Examples of risk factors that housing counseling would prevent include predatory lending practices, purchasing a house on a “land contract,” renting homes on a “verbal agreement”, the lack of knowledge or desire to lodge a Fair Housing complaint against a substandard landlord, and the lack of knowledge and education on maintaining a home.

Discussion

The City of Altoona has higher property values than in prior years, but the median household income has not kept pace with year-over-year inflation. There is an aging and elderly population which requires more accessible and affordable housing, a growing unhoused population which needs shelter, and a deteriorating and aging housing stock that is increasingly unsuited to Altoona’s needs.

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

In order for the City of Altoona to determine its goals and strategies, it must determine the extent to which any racial or ethnic group has a greater need in comparison to the City’s overall population need. Disproportionately greater need is defined as a group having a housing problem at least 10 percentage points more than the percentage of persons as a whole in that category. According to the 2016-2020 CHAS data, the City of Altoona had 17,205 (92.8%) White households, 719 (3.9%) Black or African American households, 10 (0.1%) American Indian and Alaska Native households, 14 (0.1%) Asian households, 20 (0.1%) Pacific Islander households, and 304 (1.6%) Hispanic households of any race.

The following tables examine the disproportionality of housing problems on racial or ethnic groups in the City of Altoona. Note: in the 2016-2020 CHAS data, the column “Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems” has been combined with “Has none of the four housing problems”.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,485	940
White	2,180	820
Black / African American	120	50
Asian	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	10	10
Hispanic	130	0

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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 OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,495	1,060
White	1,330	975
Black / African American	164	50
Asian	0	4
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
Hispanic	0	30

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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 OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	745	2,665
White	620	2,585
Black / African American	10	75
Asian	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
Hispanic	15	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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 OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	150	1,795
White	150	1,620
Black / African American	0	70
Asian	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	10
Pacific Islander	0	0
Hispanic	0	95

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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

Housing problems affected 72.6% of households in the 0-30% AMI group, 58.5% of households in the 30-50% AMI group, 21.8% of households in the 50-80% AMI group, and 7.7% of households in the 80-100% AMI group.

Three racial/ethnic categories were disproportionately affected by housing problems: Hispanic households in the 0-30% AMI group (100% had one or more housing problem), Black households in the 30-50% AMI group (76.6% had one or more problem), and Hispanic households in the 50-80% AMI group (100% had one or more housing problem). Note that minority households comprise only 7.2% of the City of Altoona’s total number of households. While housing problems appear to affect these households disproportionately, the small number of minority households indicates that a holistic approach will be more effective in ameliorating the City’s housing issues.

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

In order for the City of Altoona to determine its goals and strategies, it must determine the extent to which any racial or ethnic group has a greater need in comparison to the City’s overall population need. Disproportionately greater need is defined as a group having a housing problem at least 10 percentage points more than the percentage of persons as a whole in that category. According to the 2016-2020 CHAS data, the City of Altoona had 17,205 (92.8%) White households, 719 (3.9%) Black or African American households, 10 (0.1%) American Indian and Alaska Native households, 14 (0.1%) Asian households, 20 (0.1%) Pacific Islander households, and 304 (1.6%) Hispanic households of any race.

The following tables examine the disproportionality of severe housing problems on racial or ethnic groups in the City of Altoona. Note: in the 2016-2020 CHAS data, the column “Household has no/negative income, but none of the other severe housing problems” has been combined with “Has none of the four severe housing problems”.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems	Has one or more of four severe housing problems	Has none of the four severe housing problems OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other severe housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,820	1,600
White	1,565	1,435
Black / African American	85	85
Asian	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	10	10
Hispanic	120	10

Table 17 - Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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 severe housing problems	Has none of the four severe housing problems OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other severe housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	460	2,090
White	455	1,855
Black / African American	4	205
Asian	0	4
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
Hispanic	0	30

Table 18 - Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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 severe housing problems	Has none of the four severe housing problems OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other severe housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	115	3,290
White	115	3,090
Black / African American	0	85
Asian	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
Hispanic	0	15

Table 19 - Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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 severe housing problems	Has none of the four severe housing problems OR household has no/negative income, but none of the other severe housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	25	1,920
White	25	1,745
Black / African American	0	70
Asian	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	10
Pacific Islander	0	0
Hispanic	0	95

Table 20 - Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 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

Severe housing problems affected 53.2% of households in the 0-30% AMI group, 18.0% of households in the 30-50% AMI group, 3.4% of households in the 50-80% AMI group, and 1.3% of households in the 80-100% AMI group.

One racial/ethnic category was disproportionately affected by severe housing problems: Hispanic households in the 0-30% AMI group (92.3% had one or more severe housing problem). Note that minority households comprise only 7.2% of the City of Altoona’s total number of households. While housing problems appear to affect these households disproportionately, the small number of minority households indicates that the City would be best served by a holistic approach will be more effective in ameliorating the City’s housing issues.

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:

Housing affordability is the most pressing housing issue in the City of Altoona. While 72.3% of households in the City pay less than 30% of their household income toward monthly housing expenses, there were also 14.2% of households that were cost burdened (between 30% and 50% of their household income going to housing expenses) and 12.0% of households that were severely cost burdened (over 50% of their household income went to housing expenses).

According to the 2016-2020 CHAS data, the City of Altoona had 17,205 (92.8%) White households, 719 (3.9%) Black or African American households, 10 (0.1%) American Indian and Alaska Native households, 14 (0.1%) Asian households, 20 (0.1%) Pacific Islander households, and 304 (1.6%) Hispanic households of any race. The following table examines housing cost burden by racial or ethnic group.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	13,410	2,625	2,224	280
White	12,780	2,275	1,965	195
Black/African American	365	205	89	50
Asian	14	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	10	0	10	0
Hispanic	165	25	120	0

Table 21 - Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Discussion:

Of White households, 74.3% were not cost burdened, 13.2% were cost burdened by 30-50% of household income, and 11.4% were severely cost burdened by over 50% of household income. By comparison, 50.8% of Black/African American households were not cost burdened while 28.5% faced a 30-50% cost burden and 12.4% faced a >50% severe cost burden. No Asian or American Indian & Alaska Native households were cost burdened. Half of Pacific Islander households faced a >50% severe cost burden. Finally, 54.3%

of Hispanic households were not cost burdened, 8.2% had a cost burden of 30-50%, and 39.5% had a severe cost burden of over 50%.

The disproportionately affected groups were: Black/African American households with a cost burden of 30-50%; Pacific Islander households with a severe cost burden of >50%; and Hispanic households with a severe cost burden of >50%. Note that minority households comprise only 7.2% of the City of Altoona's total number of households. While housing problems appear to affect these households disproportionately, the small number of minority households indicates that a holistic approach will be more effective in ameliorating the City's housing issues.

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 2016-2020 CHAS data, the City of Altoona had 17,205 (92.8%) White households, 719 (3.9%) Black or African American households, 10 (0.1%) American Indian and Alaska Native households, 14 (0.1%) Asian households, 20 (0.1%) Pacific Islander households, and 304 (1.6%) Hispanic households of any race.

Three racial/ethnic categories were disproportionately affected by housing problems: Hispanic households in the 0-30% AMI group (100% had one or more housing problem), Black households in the 30-50% AMI group (76.6% had one or more problem), and Hispanic households in the 50-80% AMI group (100% had one or more housing problem).

One racial/ethnic category was disproportionately affected by severe housing problems: Hispanic households in the 0-30% AMI group (92.3% had one or more severe housing problem).

Three racial/ethnic categories were disproportionately affected by cost burdens: Black/African American households with a cost burden of 30-50%; Pacific Islander households with a severe cost burden of >50%; and Hispanic households with a severe cost burden of >50%.

Note that minority households comprise only 7.2% of the City of Altoona's total number of households. While housing problems appear to affect these households disproportionately, the small number of minority households indicates that a holistic approach will be more effective in ameliorating the City's housing issues.

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

There are no additional unidentified needs.

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

The City of Altoona has a minority population of 7.2% of its total population. The City uses the definition of an Area of Minority Concentration as a Census Tract or Block Group where at least 50% of the population who reside in that area are identified as being a minority person. Based on this definition there are no Census Tracts or Block Groups that are considered an Area of Minority Concentration.

Below are the concentrations of minority residents by Census Tract, according to the 2018-2022 ACS Estimates:

- CT 1002: 3.7% minority
- CT 1003: 6.3% minority
- CT 1004: 4.8% minority
- CT 1005: 21.3% minority
- CT 1006: 5.6% minority
- CT 1007: 15.6% minority
- CT 1008: 14.4% minority
- CT 1009: 4.1% minority
- CT 1011: 6.8% minority
- CT 1012: 5.8% minority
- CT 1014: 18.4% minority
- CT 1015: 4.1% minority
- CT 1016: 5.3% minority
- CT 1017: 6.9% minority
- CT 1018: 11.6% minority
- CT 1019: 8.3% minority

NA-35 Public Housing - 91.205(b)

Introduction

The Altoona Housing Authority has composed the following Progress Report on Goals/Objectives:

- Continue to educate Section 8 Voucher landlords on regulations associated with program regulations and annual Landlord Workshop.
- Continue to educate the community on Authority programs through various agencies.
- Continue to work with the City of Altoona in promoting Fair Housing events.
- Continue to increase Section 8 Voucher landlord participation.
- Continue to improve public housing vacancies.
- Continue to maintain PHAS high performer ranking.
- Continue to maintain SEMAP high performer ranking.
- Rent analysis for Public Housing Developments - Rent Charged vs. Rent Collected 98%.
- Continue to update Preventative Maintenance Plan and provide training to maintenance employees.
- Continue to provide training to staff through the Pennsylvania Association of Housing & Redevelopment Agencies (PAHRA) and the Western Pennsylvania Housing Directors Association (WPHDA) in person or via the internet.
- Continuation of the Head Start Program on-site at the Public Housing Family Development. Enrollment is currently 14 children.
- Continuation of seeking input from residents on customer service.
- Continuation of Altoona Police Department coverage at all Public Housing Developments.
- Continuation of Fair Housing Programs and City recognition of April as Fair Housing month.
- Continuation of providing Reasonable Accommodation training to staff and residents and the proper procedure for reviewing said requests.
- Continue to update bulletin boards at all developments with notices and brochures.
- Continue to monitor funding allocations for the Section 8 Voucher Program to assist as many households as possible with leasing.
- Continue to renovate and upgrade Public Housing units through Capital Fund modernization.
- Continue to offer an on-site After School Program at our Public Housing Family Development.
- Continue to conduct staff meetings to update staff on current regulation.
- Continue to educate staff and provide updates to residents on the HOTMA regulations.
- Continue to encourage residents at all public housing developments the importance of active resident organizations.
- Continue to address concerns/issues from residents.
- Continue to review the recently adopted Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP) and Administrative Plan for Section 8 on regulatory changes.
- Continue to educate residents on lease revisions.
- Continue to educate staff and residents on the Violence Against Women Policy.

The Altoona Housing Authority's Fair Housing Policy has the following fair housing strategies and actions to achieve their goals:

1. The Authority prohibits discrimination in housing because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status and disability. The Authority hosts educational workshops throughout the year and includes a component addressing Fair Housing regulations to landlords. Flyers are sent throughout the year to various agencies advising them of said regulations. The Authority also provides new clients with information on Fair Housing regulations at lease up. The Authority will continue to expand on these efforts in 2024. The Authority provides applicants and clients with brochures such as *Fair Housing is Your Right*, *Fair Housing Equal Opportunity and Your Fair Housing Rights - Sexual Harassment*.
2. The Authority continues to promote Fair Housing Awareness Month through participating in an annual poster contest at our family public housing development. In celebration of Fair Housing Awareness Month in April 2024, the Authority invited Summit Legal Aid (formerly Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services) to host an all-staff educational session on Fair Housing regulations.
3. The Authority participates in quarterly fair housing task force meetings. The lead participant is Summit Legal Aid. The Authority works very closely with Attorney Jaime Milligan from Summit Legal throughout the year promoting awareness and various workshops through the City of Altoona.

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	48	509	771	0	771	10	0	0
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-Year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	VASH	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	10,315	11,783	10,957	0	10,985	8,680	0
Average length of stay	0	3	4	2	0	2	0	0
Average Household size	0	1	1	2	0	2	1	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	16	237	153	0	153	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	30	123	327	0	322	5	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	48	509	822	0	812	10	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	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	VASH	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	46	482	723	0	717	6	0	0
Black/African American	0	2	24	93	0	89	4	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	2	3	0	3	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Table 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	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	VASH	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	6	10	0	10	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	48	503	812	0	802	10	0	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

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:

The Housing Authority's waitlist for Housing Choice Vouchers is currently closed and expected to reopen on or after May 1, 2025. As of October 25, 2024, there were 402 persons on the voucher waiting list. In addition, there were 169 families/individuals on the waiting lists for public housing of which 42 were for the elderly/disabled units at the 11th Street and Green Avenue Towers and 127 were on lists for Fairview Hills separated by bedroom size. The waiting list for Public Housing is still open and is expanding as the need for public housing grows. The AHA 2024 Annual Plan shows the following housing needs for the applicants on the public housing waiting lists:

Fairview Hills (family): 10 - one bedroom; 72 - two bedroom; 20 - three bedroom; 27 - four bedroom; 1 - five bedroom.

Towers (elderly/disabled): 18 - Studio; 4 - one bedroom; 0 - two bedroom.

There is a need for accessible housing accommodations for elderly and disabled applicants on the waiting list. According to the AHA 2024 Annual Plan, there were 33 elderly or disabled applicant families on the waiting list for public housing and 83 elderly or disabled families on the Section 8 waiting list.

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

The most immediate need of the current residents of Public Housing is for employment training, job opportunities, and transportation for shopping, medical services, and community services such as youth activities. Their housing needs are being addressed by the Public Housing Authority. The immediate needs of the Housing Choice Voucher holders are similar. They need housing units that are close to public transportation or their place of employment, and access to community services. The supply of available affordable units is limited and therefore there is a shortage of housing choices, especially since in recent years landlords have become increasingly reticent to accept Section 8 vouchers.

There is a need for accessible housing for the elderly and disabled applicants on the Section 8 waiting list. As of October 2024, the AHA reported that there are 42 applicants on the wait list for senior/disabled housing communities. The Housing Authority has been working to make reasonable accommodation to its public housing units to satisfy the Section 504 requirements for persons with physical disabilities such as mobility, visual, and hearing impairments.

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

The needs of the existing public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher Holders are not similar to the population at large, which has a much higher income. Those residents are living in decent, safe, and sanitary housing that is affordable to them since they are in a higher income bracket. Members of the

population at large in the lower income brackets need to include quality and affordable housing that is close to their places of employment or has access to quality public transportation.

Discussion

The Altoona Housing Authority is a partner with the City in addressing the housing needs for the residents of Altoona who are very low and extremely low income. The City of Altoona has identified the need for affordable housing that is decent, safe, and sanitary for those whose income is at or below 30% AMI. The Housing Authority is a valuable resource in addressing that need. There is a significant number of households in the City that are at or below 50% of AMI that are affected by housing problems, severe housing problems and housing cost burdens.

The Altoona Housing Authority is not rated as a “troubled” agency by HUD and is designated as a “high performer”. The Housing Authority’s biggest challenges are the lack of sufficient Housing Choice Vouchers to meet the demand for housing by low-income persons, and the need to renovate existing public housing units. There is a total of 169 people on waiting lists for Fairview Hills, Pleasant Village, and Green Avenue and 11th Street Tower, and another 402 persons on the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list. At least 42 persons on the waiting list are elderly or disabled persons indicating a need for additional accessible housing units and accommodations. The Housing Authority continues to make reasonable accommodations and improvements to its public housing units to satisfy the Section 504 requirements for persons with physical disabilities such as mobility, visual, and hearing impairments.

The Altoona Housing Authority is working to recruit additional landlords to expand the Section 8 Voucher Program. The Housing Authority offers landlords training and resource guides to help educate and guide landlords on policies and procedures, such as the inspection, payment, and termination of the Section 8 process, as well as Fair Housing laws. The Housing Authority also offers several workshops and training for tenants throughout the year regarding the Family Self-Sufficiency program, Fair Housing laws, and other educational topics related to housing.

According to its FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Plan, the Altoona Housing Authority’s FY 2025 Capital Fund Grant Budget is as follows:

- **Operations** = \$100,000.00
- **Site Improvement** = \$245,000.00
- **Dwelling Improvement** = \$1,065,836.00
- **Total** = **\$1,140,836.00**

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment - 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The PA 509 Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care (CoC) is comprised of 33 counties in northeast and central Pennsylvania, organized by geography into five Regional Homeless Advisory Boards (RHABs). The City of Altoona is a member of the South Central RHAB which serves nine (9) counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset.

The Homeless Needs Assessment table illustrates the 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) data for Blair County.

Note: the 2025 Point-in-Time data was published in June 2025 and due to time constraints has not been included in this Plan. It is available at the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC website, <https://pennsylvaniacoc.org/>.

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)	27	0	-	-	-	-
Persons in Households with Only Children	2	0	-	-	-	-
Persons in Households with Only Adults	46	26	-	-	-	-
Chronically Homeless Individuals	1	2	-	-	-	-
Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	-	-	-	-
Veterans	10	1	-	-	-	-
Unaccompanied Youth	6	0	-	-	-	-
Persons with HIV	1	1	-	-	-	-

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source Comments: Eastern PA CoC 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

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):

For all categories of individuals and families experiencing homelessness, the biggest challenge faced is the lack of affordable housing and the high cost of available housing.

Chronically Homeless: Chronically homeless individuals often lack access to basic needs such as food, shelter, health and mental health services. When a person cannot access these basic services other aspects of life are heavily impacted and create situations such as gaps in employment and unmanageable chronic health conditions.

Families with Children: Families with children face difficulties finding affordable housing that can accommodate the needs of families such as an appropriate number of bedrooms, safe and sound housing conditions, etc. Children experiencing homelessness tend to miss more school days and fall behind on grades and test scores compared to their peers.

Unaccompanied Children Under Age 18: There were two unaccompanied children under age 18 counted during the 2024 Point-in-Time count in Blair County. Both were in emergency shelter on the night of the PIT count. Unaccompanied homeless children are at very high risk from factors ranging from lack of financial resources to potential sexual assault and face great difficulty in obtaining a quality education or a well-paying career.

Veterans: There were eleven homeless veterans counted during the 2024 Point-in-Time count in Blair County. Two of these veterans were in emergency shelter, eight were in transitional housing, and one was unsheltered. Veterans have unique challenges such as high instances of PTSD and other mental and physical health challenges but also have dedicated services through the VA Hospital system and other nonprofit organizations.

Unaccompanied Youth Age 18-24: There were six unaccompanied youth counted during the 2024 Point-in-Time count in Blair County. Five of them were in emergency shelter and one was in transitional housing. These young adults are at high risk of alcohol and drug addiction and often have difficulty obtaining long-term housing and employment.

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	923	343
Black or African American	383	88
Asian	11	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	15	0
Pacific Islander	5	2
Two or More Races	99	8
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	327	49
Not Hispanic	1,443	443

Data Source Comments: 2024 Eastern PA CoC PIT Count

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

There were five (5) families with children (27 individuals) experiencing homelessness in Blair County on the night of the 2024 PIT count. All of these households were in emergency shelter. None of these were parenting youth households.

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

A majority of individuals and families experiencing homelessness, regardless of race or ethnicity, suffer from mental health issues and/or substance abuse disorders. The majority of homeless persons are White, but there is a higher percentage of minority persons who are homeless than there is of the City population at large. However, there was no available information regarding the racial or ethnic distribution of homeless persons.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

Unsheltered Homeless refers to the segment of a homeless community who do not have ordinary lawful access to buildings in which to sleep, as referred to in the HUD definition as persons occupying "place not meant for human habitation" (such as a bus stop, beach, riverbed, van, or sidewalk). Those who are unsheltered in the City of Altoona regularly sleep in vehicles or abandoned buildings.

Sheltered Homelessness would refer to those in an emergency shelter, in transitional housing, or are exiting an institution where they temporarily resided lacking a fixed nighttime residence. People will be

considered homeless if they are exiting an institution where they resided for up to 90 days. People who are losing their primary nighttime residence which may be a motel, hotel or a doubled-up situation (aka “couch-surfing”) within 14 days and lack resources or support networks to remain housing.

According to the 2024 Point-in-Time count for Blair County, there were 45 sheltered households with 75 individuals, and 22 unsheltered households with 26 individuals. For households without children, there were 38 sheltered households with 46 individuals, and 22 unsheltered households with 26 persons.

Service providers report a rising number of individuals and families whose homelessness results from an inability to obtain affordable housing. This especially applies to unhoused elderly and disabled persons.

Discussion:

According to the 2024 Point-In-Time data for Blair County, 7 (6.9%) were considered “Severely Mentally Ill,” 1 (1.0%) experienced “Chronic Substance Abuse,” 2 (2.0%) had HIV/AIDS, 11 (10.9%) were Veterans, and 6 (5.9%) were “Victims of Domestic Violence.”

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

Introduction:

The assessment of non-homeless special needs includes the following:

- Elderly persons (age 62 years and older)
- Frail elderly
- Persons with mental, physical and/or developmental disabilities
- Persons with alcohol or other substance abuse disorders
- Persons with HIV/AIDS and their families
- Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking

The housing need of each of these groups were determined by consultation with social service providers and statistical information provided by social services providers.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

- Elderly Persons are defined as persons who are age 62 years and older. According to the 2018-2022 American Community Survey, elderly persons represent 16.8% of the City's total civilian noninstitutionalized population. Approximately 6.8% of the elderly population are age 75 years and older. In addition, 15.3% of the City's households consist of elderly persons living alone.
- Frail Elderly are those persons who are elderly and have a form of disability, ranging from a hearing loss, vision difficulty, cognitive difficulty, ambulatory problems, and lack of self-help skills. It is estimated that approximately 36.0% of the total elderly population are frail elderly.
- Persons with mental, physical, and developmental disabilities comprise 17.5% of the City of Altoona's total population, according to the ACS data for 2018-2022.
- Persons with HIV/AIDS and their families comprise a small percentage of the City's overall population. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Health's "Annual HIV Surveillance Summary Report" for 2023 reports by county the number of HIV/AIDS diagnoses. As of December 31, 2023, there were 136 persons living with HIV in Blair County, with the last reported HIV/AIDS diagnosis in 2022.
- Victims of Domestic Violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking is rapidly increasing both locally and nationally. Based on crime statistics and agency data, it can be estimated that over 80 residents are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

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

- **Elderly Persons** - Accessible housing units plus supportive services such as transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.

- **Frail Elderly** - Accessible housing units and community infrastructure plus supportive services such as transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- **Mentally and/or Physically Disabled** - Accessible housing/permanent supportive housing using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing; supportive services such as PATH (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) and SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) case management for those with mental illness, substance abuse, or coexisting disorders; education and job training; financial counseling; and access to health care services.
- **Persons With Substance Addiction Issues** - Permanent supportive housing, using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing; supportive services such as PATH (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) and SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) case management for those suffering from mental illness, substance abuse, or coexisting disorders; education and job training; financial counseling; and access to health care services.
- **HIV/AIDS Persons** - Permanent supportive housing plus supportive services such as case management and continued access to health services and counseling.
- **Victims of Domestic Violence** - Permanent supportive housing, using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing, plus supportive services such as case management, peer support, legal assistance, education and job training, financial counseling, and access to victim counseling.

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

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Health's "2023 Annual HIV Surveillance Summary Report" is the last statewide publication that reports by county the number of HIV/AIDS diagnoses, persons living with HIV/AIDS, methods of transmission and demographic information. The report estimates that there were 136 persons living with an HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Blair County and 8 new diagnoses of HIV between 2019-2023. Of those persons, 97 were White, 22 were Black/African American, and 8 were Hispanic; 25 were female and 111 were male; over half (53.7%) were between 45 and 64 years of age with no persons below 25 years of age living with HIV or AIDS. Persons living with HIV comprise approximately 0.1% of the 2018-2022 ACS Blair County population estimate of 122,640 persons.

Discussion:

While many supportive service providers for the special needs population are located in the City of Altoona, their service area and clients are not limited to City limits. Therefore, when appropriate the above statistics include areas beyond the City such as County-level or State-level data. The needs for these various groups of the Special Needs Population were determined based on data from HUD, the U.S. Census Bureau, other local, state, and Federal data sources, and interviews with housing providers and social service agencies.

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

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

The following are needs for improvement to the City's public facilities:

- Public facilities need to be provided by the City to maintain a good quality of life for its residents.
- Public facilities for parks, playgrounds, recreational areas, and fields of play need to be improved and upgraded.
- Public and community facilities need to be improved and upgraded.

How were these needs determined?

These needs for public facilities were determined through resident surveys, agency needs surveys, interviews with City staff and officials, discussions with local stakeholders, public hearing comments on needs, and examination of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

The following are the City's needs for public improvements:

- The City needs to improve and upgrade its storm water management system and flood mitigation infrastructure.
- The City needs to reconstruct and improve its streets, curbs, and alleyways.
- The City needs to repair its sidewalk infrastructure to improve ADA accessibility.
- The City needs to improve ADA accessibility at intersections, public buildings and facilities.
- The City needs to work with the County to improve its offroad recreational network.
- The City needs to improve and upgrade its sanitary sewer system.
- The City needs to improve and upgrade its water lines and distribution system.
- The City needs to continue its public improvements through public greening, greenway streets, and beautification activities.
- The City needs to use publicly funded infrastructure improvements to attract private investment in housing and economic development.

How were these needs determined?

These needs for public facilities were determined through resident surveys, agency needs surveys, interviews with City staff and officials, discussions with local stakeholders, public hearing comments on needs, and examination of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The City of Altoona provides public safety services and other public services to its residents. The following are the City's needs for public services:

- The City needs to continue to facilitate utility and rental assistance.
- The City needs to continue to provide a high level of public safety to its residents.
- The City needs to continue its code enforcement efforts to ensure the health and safety of its residents.
- The City needs to continue to facilitate medical transport for its residents.
- The City needs to support, encourage, and further fair housing throughout its neighborhoods.
- The City needs to continue to support housing counseling services for low- and moderate-income families in the City.
- The City needs to continue to support programs that serve elderly Altoona residents.
- The City needs to continue to support programs that assist the homeless population in the City.
- The City needs to support increased access, capacity, and quality of mental health providers and drug and alcohol recovery services.
- The City needs to continue to support programs for victims of domestic violence and abuse.
- The City needs to continue to support programs that assist youth through afterschool, educational, and recreational programs.
- The City needs to continue to support micro-enterprise programs through technical assistance, advice, and business support services.
- The City needs to continue to support its job training programs for youth, unemployed and underemployed persons, and persons reentering the workforce.
- The City needs to continue to support social programs for low- and moderate-income persons.

How were these needs determined?

These needs for public facilities were determined through resident surveys, agency needs surveys, interviews with City staff and officials, discussions with local stakeholders, public hearing comments on needs, and examination of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

According to the 2018-2022 American Community Survey Data, there are 20,849 housing units in the City of Altoona of which 18,418 (88.3%) are occupied; this leaves 2,431 vacant units or a rate of 11.7%. Most of the vacant units are located in the center of the City.

Based on the 2018-2022 ACS, the City of Altoona's housing stock is considered older. Almost half (46.6%) was constructed prior to 1939 and 27.1% was constructed between 1940 and 1959, meaning that nearly three-quarters of the City's housing stock (73.7%) was built prior to 1960. Over nine-tenths (91.9%) of Altoona's housing stock was constructed prior to 1980 and is at elevated risk of Lead Based Paint (LBP) presence. The City of Altoona has seen a low amount of construction of housing to meet the demands of the City's declining population. Only 2.0% of the City's housing stock was built since the year 2000.

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

Introduction

According to the 2018-2022 ACS data, there are 20,849 total housing units. Of these, 18,418 (88.3%) are occupied and 2,431 (11.7%) are vacant. 11,870 of these housing units are owner-occupied and 6,965 are renter-occupied; homeowner housing has a 2.1% vacancy rate and rental housing has a 7.9% vacancy rate. A majority of owner-occupied houses have 3 bedrooms (57.4%) and a large majority have 3 or more bedrooms (79.3% of all owner-occupied houses). A plurality of renter-occupied housing units have 1 bedroom (29.9%) and a large majority have between 1 and 3 bedrooms (83.7% of all renter-occupied housing units).

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	15,300	73.4%
1-unit, attached structure	860	4.1%
2-4 units	2,341	11.2%
5-19 units	942	4.5%
20 or more units	1,316	6.3%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	90	0.4%
Total	20,849	100%

Table 27 - Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	19	0.2%	284	4.5%
1 bedroom	166	1.4%	1,901	29.9%
2 bedrooms	2,304	19.1%	1,775	27.9%
3 bedrooms	6,922	57.4%	1,647	25.9%
4 or more bedrooms	2,646	21.9%	754	11.9%
Total	12,057	65.5%	6,361	34.5%

Table 28 - Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

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

The following number of units in the City of Altoona are assisted with Federal, State and Local Programs:

- Public Housing - 516 housing units. The income levels are at 50% and below AMI.
- Housing Choice Vouchers - 937 vouchers of which 37 are Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers. The income levels are at 80% and below AMI.

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

The Altoona Housing Authority estimates that it will lose five (5) units from the expiration of Section 8 contracts for FY 2025.

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

There is a sufficient supply of housing units within the City of Altoona. According to the 2018-2022 ACS there are 12,057 owner-occupied housing units, 6,361 renter-occupied housing units, and 2,431 vacant units for a total of 20,813 housing units. The population over the past ten years has steadily declined as has the total number of households. The 2:1 ratio of owner-occupied housing units to renter-occupied units limits renter choice of affordable, decent, safe, and sound rental housing units.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Based on the statistics above and through interviews, meetings, and surveys, the City has determined that the greatest housing need in the City of Altoona is for decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing units. There is a particular need for accessible housing for the disabled and elderly.

Discussion

There is a continuing need for affordable and accessible housing in the City of Altoona. However, there is a lack of financial resources to adequately address these issues, and the multi-level aging housing stock creates difficulties in making accommodations such as ramps. The City is willing to cooperate with private developers and not-for-profit housing development agencies to construct new for-sale housing in the City that is affordable to lower-income families.

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

Introduction

The value of housing has increased in the last five years in the City of Altoona. According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey the median home value was \$87,600, which has increased by 26.4% to \$110,700 as of the 2018-2022 American Community Survey estimates. Median rent has also risen from \$623 per month to \$795 per month, a 27.6% increase. Of all rental housing units, 74.1% rented for less than \$1,000 per month in the 2018-2022 ACS (down from 91.0% that were less than \$1,000 per month in the 2013-2017 ACS), and apartments renting for less than \$500 per month went from 29.4% of the rental market in 2017 to 22.9% in 2022.

According to Zillow.com, the median sales price for a single-family home in Altoona, PA was \$130,000 on March 31, 2025.

According to the 2016-2020 American Community Survey, 270 for-rent housing units were affordable to households whose income was 50% or less of HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI). For homebuyers and homeowners, 125 for-sale housing units were affordable to households with 50% or less HAMFI.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2017	Most Recent Year: 2022	% Change
Median Home Value	\$87,600	\$110,700	26.4%
Median Contract Rent	\$623	\$795	27.6%

Table 29 - Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS (Base Year), 2018-2022 ACS (Most Recent)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	1,359	22.9%
\$500-999	3,040	51.2%
\$1,000-1,499	1,216	20.5%
\$1,500-1,999	224	3.8%
\$2,000 or more	94	1.6%
Total	5,933	100%
Median Rent (\$)	\$795	--
No Rent Paid	428	--

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	1,095	No Data
50% HAMFI	2,875	1,715
80% HAMFI	5,345	4,185
100% HAMFI	No Data	5,544
Total	9,315	11,444

Table 31 - Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Studio (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	613	756	917	1,116	1,243
High HOME Rent	600	638	796	997	1,076
Low HOME Rent	570	610	732	846	945

Table 32 - Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

Based on the HUD CHAS data, there is not sufficient housing for all income levels due to the cost burden.

The following households have housing costs that are 30% to 50% of their AMI:

- White: 2,620 (14.1% of all households, 15.2% of all White households)
- Black/African American: 205 (1.1% of all households, 28.9% of all Black households)
- Other/Multiple Race: 115 (0.6% of all households, 42.6% of all Other/Multiple Race households)
- Hispanic households: 25 (0.1% of all households, 8.1% of all Hispanic households)

The following households have housing costs that are greater than 50% of their AMI:

- White: 1,965 (12.1% of all households, 11.4% of all White households)
- Black/African American: 89 (0.5% of all households, 12.6% of all Black households)
- Pacific Islander: 10 (0.1% of all households, 50.0% of all Pacific Islander households)
- Other/Multiple Race: 45 (0.2% of all households, 16.7% of all Other/Multiple Race households)
- Hispanic households: 120 (0.6% of all households, 38.7% of all Hispanic households)

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

Between 2017 and 2022 the median home value increased by 26.4% and the median contract rent increased by 27.6%. During that same time period, the median household income increased by 30.7% which does surpass the rate of inflation (20.4% between December 2017 and December 2022). However, stakeholders report that since 2022 housing costs have risen significantly while median income has not.

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

Zillow Research estimates that as of March 31, 2025, the median rental price for an apartment is \$900/month, identical to the estimated median rent from March 31, 2024 and slightly below the FY 2024 Fair Market Rent of \$917 for a two-bedroom apartment. Listings on websites and classifieds advertise rental rates between the low \$600s a month to a high of \$1,900 for various types of housing (multiunit, townhouse or single-family detached house) and numbers of bedrooms from studio (no bedrooms) to five or more bedrooms. Apartments.com and Zillow only have limited information about cost per bedroom, and it is difficult to obtain a realistic rental cost average from Craigslist due to its duplicate listings. The drastically differing sources of data make it difficult to determine if true rental rates are below, on par, or above fair market rents which can impact on the overall affordability of housing for the City's residents and create drastic differences in the quality and upkeep of available and desirable housing.

Discussion

While housing may appear affordable in the City of Altoona, the sources of rental rates differ drastically. Several City residents negotiate rents on a verbal contract putting them at risk of rent hikes or evictions. Others may have long-term or rent-controlled contracts which skew the average lower, while the asking price for new contracts is correspondingly higher. The most pressing housing need is for affordable, decent, safe, and sound accessible housing in the City.

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

Introduction

The housing market analysis for the City of Altoona revealed the following summary:

- There are 1,674 (13.9%) owner-occupied housing units with one or two selected conditions (lacking full plumbing, lacking a full kitchen, more than one person per bedroom, or cost burden over 30%) out of 12,057 owner-occupied housing units.
- There are 3,056 (48.0%) renter-occupied housing units with one or two selected conditions out of 6,361 renter-occupied housing units.
- There are 7,859 (65.2%) of all owner-occupied housing units built before 1950 (75 years of age or older) out of 12,057 owner-occupied housing units.
- There are 2,889 (46.1%) of all renter-occupied housing units built before 1950 out of 6,361 renter-occupied housing units.
- There are 11,235 (93.2%) of all owner-occupied housing units built before 1980 and with a risk of lead-based paint hazard.
- There are 5,488 (86.3%) of all renter-occupied housing units built before 1980 and with a risk of lead-based paint hazard.

Definitions

The following definitions are used in the table below:

- **"Standard Condition"** - The condition of a housing unit that is compliant with the local codes and ordinances and which does not need any rehabilitation work or maintenance work.
- **"Selected Housing Condition"** - Overcrowding (1.01 or more persons per room), lacking a complete kitchen, lack of plumbing facilities, and/or other utilities, and cost over-burden.
- **"Substandard condition"** - Does not meet code standards or contains one of the selected housing conditions.
- **"Suitable for Rehabilitation"** - The amount of work required to bring the unit up to minimum code standard, and the existing debt on the property, together are less than the fair market value of the property.
- **"Not Suitable for Rehabilitation"** - The amount of work required to bring the unit up to minimum code standard exceeds the fair market value of the property after rehabilitation work is complete.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	1,570	13%	3,390	50%
With two selected Conditions	45	0%	80	1%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	35	1%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	10,105	86%	3,320	49%
Total	11,720	99%	6,825	101%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	170	1%	180	3%
1980-1999	585	5%	685	10%
1950-1979	3,210	27%	2,885	42%
Before 1950	7,755	66%	3,070	45%
Total	11,720	99%	6,820	100%

Table 34 - Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	10,965	94%	5,955	87%
Housing Units built before 1980 with children present	175	1%	70	1%

Table 35 - Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Total Units), 2016-2020 CHAS (Children Present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	405	2026	2,431
Abandoned Vacant Units	102	506	608
REO Properties	14	8	22
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data Source Comments: 2016-2020 CHAS; City of Altoona; Zillow

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

There is a need for housing rehabilitation work in the City of Altoona. After a pause during the COVID pandemic, the City has resumed its aggressive code enforcement policy efforts. In addition, as an older urban environment with 73.7% of its housing units built over 75 years ago, there is a need for rehabilitation work. These housing units regularly need their plumbing, electrical, and heating systems repaired or brought up to code standard. Low- and fixed-income families, seniors, and/or people with disabilities are the most likely to live in this substandard housing and are most in need of assistance with deferred maintenance. Additionally, the City of Altoona has four Historic Districts (Downtown Altoona, Broad Avenue, Knickerbocker and Llyswen) whose structures contribute to the historic fabric of those areas, and which require specialized rehabilitation work with compatible historic materials, methods and aesthetics. The added expense of meeting National Register historic guidelines often leads homeowners and landlords to forego rehabilitation work.

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

There are approximately 11,235 (93.2%) owner-occupied and 5,488 (86.2%) renter-occupied housing units in the City that were built prior to 1980 and are at risk of lead-based paint (LBP) presence.

Discussion

In determining decent, safe and sanitary housing, one needs to look at the environmental quality where these units are located. Air quality and contaminants in the soil affect the condition of housing. Census information only reports on the number of persons per room (overcrowding condition), the cost burden, and the lack of a complete kitchen or plumbing facilities. These are general conditions and do not necessarily reflect the true conditions of houses in the area. A better source is the local building inspector or code officer whose in-person estimates are more comprehensive and accurate than the U.S. Census

data. The City of Altoona incorporates all of these data sources for determining the condition of the housing in the City.

According to Zillow, as of January 2025 the City of Altoona had 22 distressed homes either in foreclosure, pre-foreclosure, bank-owned, or being auctioned, a rate of approximately 1 in every 548 owner-occupied units. An exact comparison is difficult, but the real estate firm ATTOM recorded that 1 in every 4,545 Pennsylvania households had a foreclosure filing in January 2025 and the February 2025 nationwide rate was 1 in every 4,395 households with a foreclosure filing.

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

Introduction

The Altoona Housing Authority owns and operates three (3) public housing communities with a total of 516 housing units in the public housing communities. It also operates one (1) unsubsidized moderate-income housing development with 126 units, though some of its residents do receive Section 8 vouchers.

In addition, the Housing Authority administers 937 Housing Choice Vouchers for low- to moderate-income households for rental units in the City and surrounding region.

Totals Number of Units

Program Type	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	126	513	937	0	900	37	0	0
# of accessible units	0	6	37	0	0	0	0	0	0

*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: Altoona Housing Authority

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 administers 513 public housing apartments, 126 market-rate apartments, and 937 Section 8 vouchers. An examination of current occupancy levels and waiting list information shows a majority of families have incomes below 30% of median income. The Authority monitors income targeting on a quarterly basis for compliance. Due to the age of the public housing units, regular maintenance is required to improve dwellings.

Public Housing Condition

<i>Public Housing Development</i>	<i>Average Inspection Score</i>
11th Street Tower	94
Green Avenue Tower	94
Fairview Hills	92
Pleasant Village (moderate income housing)	Not inspected

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

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

The City of Altoona Public Housing Authority has public housing units and publicly assisted housing units in the following public housing communities:

- **Fairview Hills** - 150 Units (9 accessible)
- **Green Avenue Tower** - 203 Units (16 accessible)
- **Eleventh Street Tower** - 160 Units (12 accessible)

The physical condition of the public housing is good, but maintenance and upgrading is needed due to the age of the units. There is a need to make more units accessible for tenants with disabilities.

In addition, the Housing Authority’s FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Plan for the Capital Fund Grant Program indicated the following as needed capital improvements in the public housing developments: window replacement, door replacement, appliances, security cameras, carpet replacement, abatement (lead based paint and asbestos), hallway lighting, toilet replacement, curb replacement and curb stops, hallway flooring upgrades, boiler replacement and boiler room repairs, hot water tanks, kitchen upgrades, storm drains, medicine cabinet replacement, outside lighting, daycare lighting replacement, sidewalk repairs, blacktop repair, fire alarm upgrades, elevator upgrades, roof drain stack replacement, dumpster enclosure replacement, landscaping and retaining wall, playground upgrades, painting, tub refinishing, balcony repairs, roof replacement, relocation fees, interior lighting, bathroom sinks and plumbing, siding, soffit replacement, heating units, and range hoods.

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

The Altoona Housing Authority has composed the following Progress Report on Goals/Objectives:

- Continue to educate Section 8 Voucher landlords on regulations associated with program regulations and annual Landlord Workshop.
- Continue to educate the community on Authority programs through various agencies.
- Continue to work with the City of Altoona in promoting Fair Housing events.

- Continue to increase Section 8 Voucher landlord participation.
- Continue to improve public housing vacancy rates.
- Continue to maintain PHAS high performer ranking.
- Continue to maintain SEMAP high performer ranking.
- Rent analysis for Public Housing Developments - Rent Charged vs. Rent Collected 98%.
- Continue to update Preventative Maintenance Plan and provide training to maintenance employees.
- Continue to provide training to staff through the Pennsylvania Association of Housing & Redevelopment Agencies (PAHRA) and the Western Pennsylvania Housing Directors Association (WPHDA) in person or via the internet.
- Continuation of the Head Start Program on-site at the Public Housing Family Development. Enrollment is currently 14 children.
- Continuation of seeking input from residents on customer service.
- Continuation of Altoona Police Department coverage at all Public Housing Developments.
- Continuation of Fair Housing Programs and City recognition of April as Fair Housing month.
- Continuation of providing Reasonable Accommodation training to staff and residents and the proper procedure for reviewing said requests.
- Continue to update bulletin boards at all developments with notices and brochures.
- Continue to monitor funding allocations for the Section 8 Voucher Program to assist as many households as possible with leasing.
- Continue to renovate and upgrade Public Housing units through Capital Fund modernization.
- Continue to offer an on-site After School Program at our Public Housing Family Development.
- Continue to conduct staff meetings to update staff on current regulation.
- Continue to educate staff and provide updates to residents on the HOTMA regulations.
- Continue to encourage residents at all public housing developments the importance of active resident organizations.
- Continue to address concerns/issues from residents.
- Continue to review recently adopted Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP) and Administrative Plan for Section 8 on regulatory changes.
- Continue to educate residents on lease revisions.
- Continue to educate staff and residents on the Violence Against Women Policy.

The Altoona Housing Authority's Fair Housing Policy has the following fair housing strategies and actions to achieve their goals:

1. The Authority prohibits discrimination in housing because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status and disability. The Authority hosts educational workshops throughout the year and includes a component addressing Fair Housing regulations to landlords. Flyers are sent throughout the year to various agencies advising them of said regulations. The Authority also provides new clients with information on Fair Housing regulations at lease up. The Authority will continue to expand on these efforts in 2025. The Authority provides applicants and clients with

brochures such as *Fair Housing is Your Right*, *Fair Housing Equal Opportunity* and *Your Fair Housing Rights - Sexual Harassment*.

2. The Authority continues to promote Fair Housing Awareness Month through participating in an annual poster contest at our family public housing development. In celebration of Fair Housing Awareness Month in April 2024, the Authority invited Summit Legal Aid (formerly Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services) to host an all-staff educational session on Fair Housing regulations.
3. The Authority participates in quarterly fair housing task force meetings. The lead participant is Summit Legal Aid. The Authority works very closely with Attorney Jaime Milligan from Summit Legal throughout the year promoting awareness and various workshops through the City of Altoona.

Discussion:

The Housing Authority is the primary provider of housing for the very low- and extremely low-income residents of the City of Altoona. To adequately meet the housing needs of the lowest income residents of the City, additional funding resources are required.

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

Introduction

Note: the 2025 Housing Inventory Count data was published in June 2025 and due to time constraints has not been included in this Plan. It is available at the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC website, <https://pennsylvaniacoc.org/>.

The following table lists the existing facilities for the homeless in the City of Altoona as of the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC FY 2024 Housing Inventory Count (HIC).

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional* Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	25	0	138	13	0
Households with Only Adults	10	14	73	29	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	0	12	42	0
Unaccompanied Youth	9	0	0	0	0

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source Comments: Eastern PA CoC FY 2024 Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

*Note: includes Rapid Re-Housing Beds.

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

Providers of services to homeless persons refer clients to local providers of mainstream services on a regular basis. These providers of mainstream services include the Blair County Assistance Office for TANF and SNAP, UPMC Altoona and the Gloria Gates Foundation for health care services, UPMC Home Nursing Agency for mental health services and PA CareerLink for employment services. Veteran's health care and other services are available through the James E. Van Zandt Veterans Hospital.

Additionally, the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC has undertaken the following projects in Blair County in 2024:

- Center for Community Action - PA 0372 Blair CAP Rapid Rehousing and RRH Expansion
- Center for Community Action - PA 0813 South Central PA Rapid Rehousing

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.

The Center for Community Action (successor to the Blair County Community Action Program) provides budget counseling, job readiness/job search, transportation assistance related to employment, child care expenses, clothing for clients for job interviews, housing placement assistance and the purchase of basic home furnishings for clients who are moving into unfurnished transitional housing. UPMC Altoona and Home Nursing Agency provide mental health and drug and alcohol counseling, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation provides service for persons with disabilities, the Blair County Assistance Office provides TANF and General Assistance and related services, the Altoona VA Hospital provides veteran's services, the Altoona Food Bank and St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank provides food and the Altoona Area School District provides GED and Remedial Education services.

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

Introduction

The City of Altoona has identified the priorities for services and facilities for its special needs population. This includes the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and public housing residents.

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 Persons** - Accessible housing units plus supportive services such as transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- **Frail Elderly** - Accessible housing units and community infrastructure plus supportive services such as transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- **Mentally and/or Physically Disabled** - Accessible housing/permanent supportive housing using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing; supportive services such as PATH (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) and SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) case management for those suffering from mental illness, substance abuse, or coexisting disorders; education and job training; financial counseling; and access to health care services.
- **Persons With Substance Addiction Issues** - Permanent supportive housing, using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing; supportive services such as PATH (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) and SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) case management for those suffering from mental illness, substance abuse, or coexisting disorders; education and job training; financial counseling; and access to health care services.
- **HIV/AIDS Persons** - Permanent supportive housing plus supportive services such as case management and continued access to health services and counseling.
- **Victims of Domestic Violence** - Permanent supportive housing, using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing, plus supportive services such as case management, peer-to-peer support, legal assistance, education and job training, financial counseling, and access to victims counseling.

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

The City of Altoona will assist in coordination with the PA Department of Human Services (DHS) to ensure that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions have an individual supportive services

plan. This includes housing, training/education, employment and other support services needed for a smooth transition back into society.

Local hospitals have guidelines for staff on how to appropriately discharge patients, regarding resource connections and appropriate living situations prior to exiting the facility. The CoC works with healthcare providers to ensure individuals are being discharged into permanent housing, and the CoC staff continues to work with providers, particularly through SOAR and HMIS involvement, to strengthen this connection and offer guidance on appropriate discharge.

The area's healthcare providers are the primary force working directly with individuals to ensure they are not being discharged into homelessness. The CoC is taking specific steps toward increasing the effectiveness of discharge from medical settings to permanent housing.

There is a strong network of agencies and service providers in Altoona/Blair County that operate programs for homeless persons. These providers have relationships established with mainstream providers of health, mental health and employment services and refer homeless persons to these providers on a regular basis for needed services.

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)

For FY 2025, the City will support the efforts of agencies that serve the special needs populations in Altoona. The City will also support Emergency Financial Assistance Programs to provide emergency rent assistance to low-and moderate-income renters to help prevent homelessness.

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))

Not Applicable.

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

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

The City of Altoona previously identified and implemented the following changes to the City's Zoning Ordinances:

- Added under Title Three, Article 1, Section 101 a new subsection to address Housing Choice and Fair Housing.
- Added a definition for "Accessibility" to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

There are no known public policies in the City of Altoona that are barriers to affordable housing. The City Department of Community Development monitors the following:

- Tax policies affecting land and other properties
- Land use controls
- Zoning Ordinance
- Building Code
- Fees and charges

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

Introduction

The goal of the City of Altoona’s economic development policy is to foster economic growth in the community, improve the local economy, promote job opportunities, and increase the local tax base.

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	16	2	0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Construction	1,100	1,015	5.6%	5.2%	-0.4%
Manufacturing	1,588	1,176	8.1%	6.1%	-2.0%
Wholesale Trade	543	382	2.8%	2.0%	-0.8%
Retail Trade	2,943	2,079	15.1%	10.7%	-4.4%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	1,328	563	6.8%	2.9%	-3.9%
Information	339	528	1.7%	2.7%	1.0%
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	595	693	3.0%	3.6%	0.6%
Professional, Scientific, Management & Waste	1,460	2,375	7.5%	12.3%	4.8%
Education and Health Care Services	5,703	7,655	29.2%	39.6%	10.4%
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	2,082	1,728	10.6%	8.9%	-1.7%
Other Services	1,015	783	5.2%	4.0%	-1.2%
Public Administration	842	370	4.3%	1.9%	-2.4%
Total	19,554	19,349	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS (Workers), 2022 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics OnTheMap (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	20,812
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	19,554
Unemployment Rate	6.0%
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	12.2%
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	4.9%

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business, science, and arts	6,235
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	11
Service	4,183
Sales and office	4,498
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	1,749
Production, transportation, and material moving	2,878

Table 42 - Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	15,293	84.5%
30-59 Minutes	2,298	12.7%
60 or More Minutes	505	2.8%
Total	18,096	100%

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 25 to 64 years)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	801	159	793
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	6,690	363	3,474
Some college or Associate's degree	4,452	249	1,113
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,959	62	561

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	8	23	22	52	62
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	124	239	346	538	136
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	937	1,143	827	3,641	1,919
Some college, no degree	541	811	397	530	470
Associate's degree	131	191	256	324	133
Bachelor's degree	134	573	523	574	330
Graduate or professional degree	0	92	73	240	209

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

Educational Attainment - Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	\$19,873
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	\$32,732
Some college or Associate's degree	\$37,736
Bachelor's degree	\$51,250
Graduate or professional degree	\$61,162

Table 46 - Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2018-2022 ACS

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

As the principal city in the Altoona Metropolitan Statistical Area and the twelfth most populous City in Pennsylvania as of the 2020 US Census, the City of Altoona contains a large number of professional offices, educators and health care workers. The City is also positioning itself as a tourism destination.

The three (3) largest categories of jobs in the business sector are as follows:

- **Education and Health Care Services** - 7,655 jobs
- **Professional, Scientific, Management & Waste Management** - 2,375 jobs
- **Retail Trade** - 2,079 jobs
- **Total = 12,109 jobs**

These three categories comprise 62.6% of the total number of jobs in the City. They represent a shift from the former leading categories of Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities and Manufacturing, which together only comprise 1,739 jobs (9.0%) in 2022.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor 4th quarter report for 2023 the top ten employers in Blair County by rank are:

1. UPMC Altoona
2. Sheetz, Inc.
3. State Government
4. Federal Government
5. Altoona Area School District
6. Sheetz Distribution Services LLC
7. Wal-Mart Associates, Inc.
8. Pyramid Healthcare, Inc.
9. Giant Food Stores LLC
10. Pennsylvania State University

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

According to Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of January 2025 the City of Altoona has an unemployment rate of 4.0%. The equivalent unemployment rate of Pennsylvania is 4.3%, and the national rate is 4.5%. In Altoona, there are 17,842 available jobs and 19,554 workers.

Some employers such as Norfolk Southern Railroad and Sheetz will continue to maintain a major presence and large workforce in the area for the foreseeable future, whereas other major employers such as retailers are moving out of Altoona and the region due to inflationary pressures and competition from national and online retailers. Roundtable discussions indicate there is a shortage of qualified and trained employees to fill necessary positions, especially skilled labor in construction and nursing. Stakeholder and resident surveys also indicated the need for job training and skills programs to help build technical expertise and fill the gaps in employment available. Non-profits and service agencies are working together to help provide job training opportunities.

Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD) works as a catalyst for business expansion in Blair County, and the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAPDC) serves Blair and other Counties to encourage the creation and retention of jobs and improve overall quality of life. Representatives from these agencies indicated that a lack of access to capital and land is a barrier to attracting new businesses and jobs to the City. They indicated that the City should consider resuming programs that assisted businesses and development initiatives.

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.

There are no major changes to the local economy expected. No businesses have announced major expansions or closures, and there are no abnormal economic pressures.

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

According to the 2018-2022 ACS Estimates, there were 20,812 persons in the civilian workforce in the City of Altoona. The majority of the workforce was employed in the Educational Services and Health Care and Social Assistance Category (5,703 persons) and the Retail Trade Category (2,943 persons). This corresponds to the City's educational attainment: 16,958 persons in the labor force had a high school diploma/equivalent or higher and 4,618 persons in the labor force had a bachelor's degree or higher.

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

The following organizations provide workforce training initiatives and community education in the City:

Altoona Area School District Adult Education Program

For over fifty years, the Altoona Area School District (AASD) has provided Adult Education opportunities at the AASD Adult Education program. These courses are held at the ArtsAltoona building at 2212 6th Avenue. These courses are free to all Blair County residents thanks to funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through its Department of Education and PA CareerLink, as well as from the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Region. Programs and collaborations include:

- High School Equivalency Diploma (formerly the GED Program)
- EARN - Employment Advancement and Retention Network (Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission)
- Family Literacy
- Pennsylvania Literacy Corps
- PA CareerLink
- Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- ELECT - Education Leading to Employment and Career Training (Center for Schools and Communities)

Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center

The Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center (GACTC) was founded in 1966 and is jointly sponsored by eight area school districts including AASD. GACTC provides vocational and technical programs in the form of high school programs as well as adult education. It offers full- and part-time training in more than 25 in-demand career paths for high school and adult students, and some programs can be offered on campus and online. Examples include:

- Automotive Technology
- Computer and Networking Technology
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Dental Assistant
- Electrical Trades
- Emergency Services
- Freight Broker Agent
- Graphic Design
- HVAC/R
- Logistics & Supply Chain Management
- Medical Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomy
- Precision Machining
- Software Certificates
- Welding Technology

Penn State Altoona Continuing Education and Training

Beyond its 5 associate degree programs, 22 bachelor's degree programs, 5 Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate programs, and the ability to complete the general requirements for over 275 bachelor's degree programs throughout the Penn State system, Penn State Altoona offers professional and workforce development training. This includes management skills, such as Strategic Planning, and Supervisory and Leadership Training. It also offers basic concepts in computers and engineering as well as many other career development programs.

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

The City of Altoona participates in the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

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.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy addresses the objective of supporting entrepreneurial initiatives designed to attract businesses, industries, and professionals to downtown areas. One of these strategies mentions attracting young entrepreneurs engaged in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) research and development. Potential partners for these initiatives would include entities such as the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Penn State University as well as private lenders and economic development organizations.

Current partners that address issues of economic development include the Blair County Alliance for Business & Economic Growth. The Blair County Alliance is the result of the affiliation of the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation and the Blair County Chamber of Commerce. The agency is “a private non-profit 501(c)6 organization whose mission is to grow the economy, attract new investment and improve the quality of life for all Blair County residents.” The Blair County Alliance provides financial, entrepreneurship and business development, workforce development, and expansion and retention services to businesses in the region.

The City of Altoona also works closely with Penn State University and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), on workforce development and expansion, since both have locations in Altoona and are major employers in the region.

Discussion

As of the end of January 2025, the City's unemployment rate was 4.0% while the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was 4.3% and the national rate was 4.5% for the same period. The need for new business growth and job opportunities and to retain existing businesses and jobs remains a prime concern in Altoona.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

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

Households with multiple housing problems are located throughout the City of Altoona. Cost burden in the CHAS data is only available for low- and moderate-income families. Using other data sources, it is evident that householders throughout the City of Altoona are cost burdened. The CHAS data, however, does reveal information regarding housing problems for specific minority groups and areas of minority concentration are already defined and mapped in this report.

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

The City of Altoona defines an area of minority concentration as having more than a 50% minority population. There are no areas of minority concentration in the City of Altoona. This is largely due to the fact that only 9.1% of the City's residents are non-White or Hispanic.

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

These areas have the oldest housing stock in the City of Altoona. They are the most affordable places in the City of Altoona to purchase or rent a house, but are in need of renovation to reduce energy costs, increase livability and accessibility, and meet code standards.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Housing problems exist throughout the City of Altoona but are concentrated in central, northern and eastern parts of the City. The large majority of social services and community assets exist in these areas, such as City Hall, the main Fire and Police stations, schools, most churches, etc. The City of Altoona collaborates with service providers to continue to deliver services to low- and moderate-income households throughout the City, especially those households with housing problems.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

The City of Altoona offers a robust rental and homeowner housing rehabilitation program. This program offers low- and moderate-income households an opportunity to address housing problems associated with the housing unit. However, this program does not address cost burden issues.

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.

The Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA), signed into law on December 22, 2021, is an independent agency of the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). PBDA is responsible for creating a statewide broadband plan (also available in multiple languages) and distributing federal and state monies for broadband expansion projects in unserved and underserved areas of Pennsylvania. The Authority focuses on closing Pennsylvania's digital divide so all residents can get connected to affordable and reliable high-speed broadband internet at home, at work, or on the road. PBDA administers the \$1.16 billion that was awarded through the Federal government for broadband deployment, mapping, and adoption projects.

As of the August 2023 PBDA Five-Year Plan, there were 279,085 unserved locations across Pennsylvania where broadband is not available (less than 25 megabits per second download speed and 3 Mbps upload speed), as well as 54,048 locations that are underserved (less than 100 Mbps download/20 Mbps upload speed). Access to broadband services increases opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons by connecting them with housing opportunities, educational resources, and job opportunities.

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

Having multiple service providers in an area stimulates innovation as companies compete with each other to have the optimal product for end users. The growth of these companies would also stimulate local economies as job opportunities become available to deploy and expand broadband infrastructure, and to install, improve, and/or expand broadband systems. Though residents may have difficulty affording service, there are multiple broadband providers in Altoona offering wireless, satellite, cable and DSL.

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

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

In 2006 the Blair County Department of Emergency Service hired the engineering consulting firm URS Corporation to complete the Blair County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Since that time, it has been updated periodically by Blair Planning. In the original plan, Altoona was identified as being at great risk of flooding, flash flooding, and severe weather such as winter storms, windstorms, and tornadoes. Blair Planning is in the process of updating the BRAVE Hazard Mitigation Plan and is expected to release the new plan to its members in 2025 for their approval. Its major considerations are identifying all types of hazards, examining the built, social, and natural environments for vulnerabilities, addressing community capacity to handle hazards, and writing an action plan for hazard preparedness, management and recovery. The Blair County Emergency Management Agency is in charge of coordinating the application of governmental and volunteer emergency service organizations and facilities in the event of disaster emergency situations and for supplementing the disaster operations and recovery plans of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Altoona's valley location between the Allegheny Front and Brush Mountain makes it more prone to floods than other areas within the Commonwealth. It is an urbanized area with less vegetation and more pavement than surrounding rural areas. There are few marshlands that can absorb floodwater, and the aging sanitary and storm sewers can become overloaded with storm water causing flooding and pollution issues. The City is also downhill from multiple reservoirs to the east and west, and though their dams receive periodic inspections this is still a risk factor for catastrophic damage.

Conversely, Altoona has been increasingly subject to weather extremes, such as heatwaves and drought during the summer, extended cold during the winter, and severe storms during all times of year. Air conditioning is not universal in Altoona, placing stress on elderly and disabled residents. Due to the advanced age and insufficient insulation of many residential structures in Altoona, which often rely on expensive electric, oil, or propane heat, households face ever-increasing energy costs. Low- and moderate-income occupied residences are also more likely to be in disrepair and vulnerable to storm damage, while also being under-insured. With increasing intensity and frequency of weather events, Altoona and Blair County are at a higher risk than ever of severe loss, damage, and infrastructure failures.

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-income households are more likely to live in areas with greater exposure to natural hazards and less likely to live and work in structures that are resilient to these natural hazards. Immediately following disasters, State and Federal aid is more oriented towards homeowners than to renters, and the increased demand for rental properties drives up the cost of rent. Additionally, low-income individuals are already more likely to have chronic health conditions and to be exposed to harmful pollution in both their residence and their workplaces.

Any natural or manmade disaster can have devastating impacts, and such disasters have been occurring more frequently and with greater destructive energy. The impact on vulnerable lower income populations may be even more devastating. A number of these households may not have insurance or sufficient insurance to cover an unexpected event such as a fire or flood. Renters are likely more vulnerable than homeowners as there is a great possibility a renter does not have sufficient insurance to protect themselves. Even low- and moderate-income homeowners can be affected as they may be underinsured or lack flood insurance.

The 2020 BRAVE Plan estimates that according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hazards U.S. Multi-Hazard Software (HAZUS), the total building-related losses from a 1% annual chance flood in Blair County are estimated to equal \$312,510,000. Of these, 33.50% comprise residential occupancies. The total economic loss, including replacement value, content loss, functional loss and displacement cost, from a county-wide 1% annual-chance flood are estimated to equal \$594,010,000. As the principal municipality and seat of Blair County, Altoona would suffer a significant amount of these losses.

Between 1998 and 2007 the City of Altoona purchased 22 properties to demolish and remain as open space (deed restricted) to prevent future disasters in those areas. However, the BRAVE Plan identified 475 structures in 2020 that remain vulnerable to flooding in the City of Altoona. The City will continue to identify areas of risk to mitigate future disasters and may continue to purchase properties to maintain as deed-restricted open space as a mitigation effort.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan is a guide for the city of Altoona to use in its housing, community development, and economic development programs. The Strategic Plan portion of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan established the City's priorities and goals for:

- Housing
- Homelessness
- Other Special Needs
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- Administration, Planning, and Management

These strategies have been developed as the result of meetings agencies/organizations, public hearings, community meetings, resident surveys, agency/organization surveys, and consultations. It is based on needs assessment and market analysis.

The overriding objective and strategy is to assist low- and moderate-income residents (income of less than 80% of the area median income). These residents are referred to as the "target income" group. HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development shows that the City has an overall low- and moderate-income percentage of its population at 49.20%. The City is cognizant of the Federal regulation that at least 70% of all its CDBG funds must principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The City is committed to this and has created its Strategic Plan to meet that requirement.

The principles of the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan are as follows:

- **Assist** - By developing comprehensive strategies to support and assist those residents who are low and moderate income.
- **Involve** - The community and provide opportunities for citizen input in the planning process and preparation of the plan.
- **Collaborate** - Between public, private, and non-profit agencies and organizations to ensure that activities and services will be efficient and effective.
- **Leverage** – CDBG/HOME funds and other local resources to maximize the effectiveness of programs and services.
- **Promote** - Involvement of agencies and organizations to undertake specific projects and activities to assist low- and moderate-income persons.

The priority needs of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan were determined based on the following:

- Researching existing data on needs in the City
- Consultation with City staff and officials
- Interviews and meetings with community stakeholders
- Public hearings
- Resident surveys
- Surveys of social service providers, housing organizations, and community and economic development agencies

The key factors affecting the determination of the Five-Year priorities for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan include the following:

- The types of target income households with the greatest needs
- The areas with the greatest concentration of low-income households
- Activities that will best address the needs of City residents
- The limited amount of funding available to meet the needs
- The ability to leverage additional financial resources

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

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1.	Area Name:	Citywide
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	-
	HUD Approval Date:	-
	% of Low/ Mod:	-
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	-
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	This target area includes all low- and moderate-income areas throughout the City of Altoona.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	The City of Altoona is 49.20% low- and moderate-income.
	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)

The City of Altoona will allocate its CDBG funds to those geographic areas whose population is over 51% low- and moderate-income. At least 70% of the City's CDBG funds are budgeted for activities will principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The following guidelines for allocating CDBG and HOME funds will be used during the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan:

- The public services activities are for social service organizations whose clientele have a low income or in certain cases, a limited type of clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.

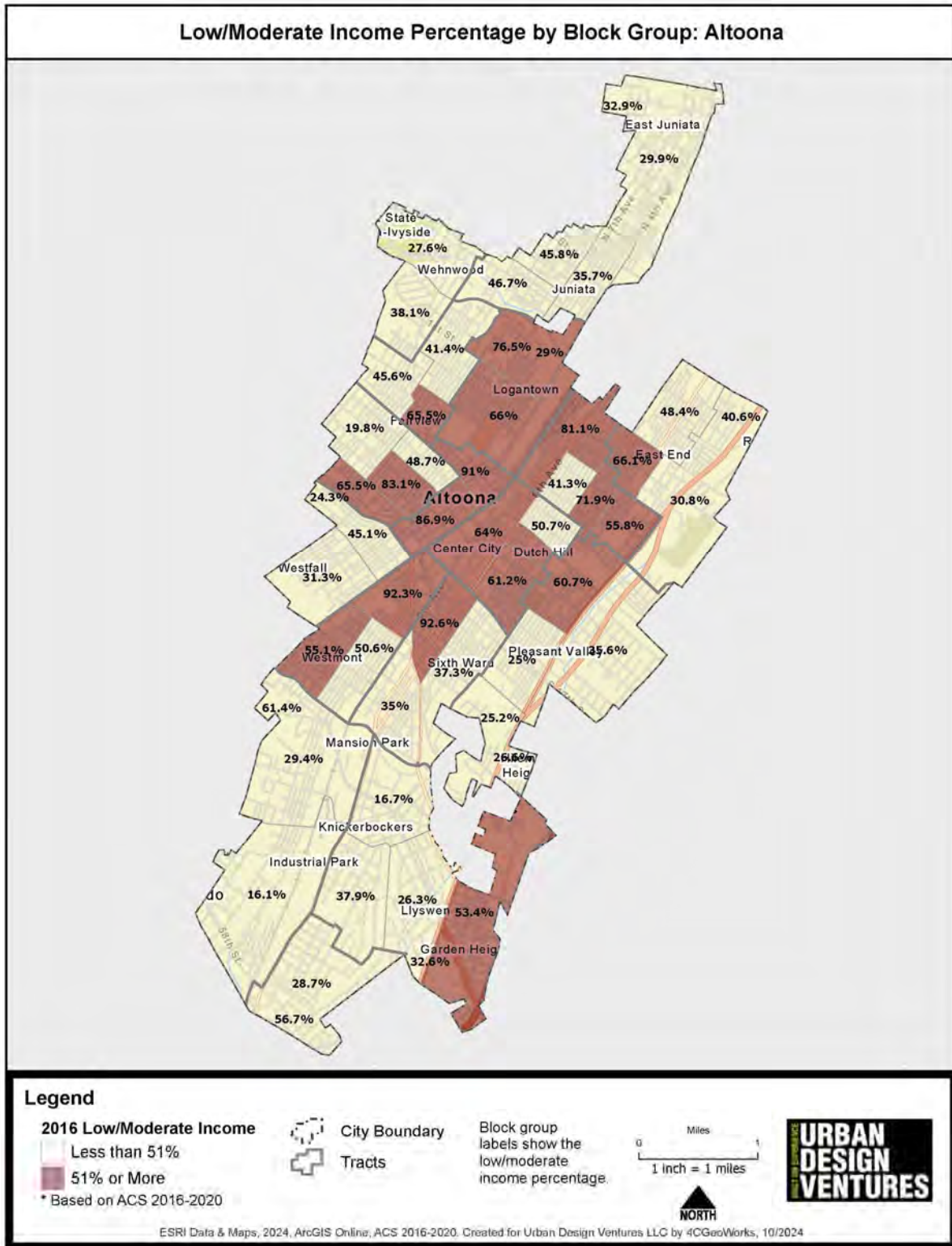
- The public facilities activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group or have a low- and moderate-income service area benefit or clientele over 51% low- and moderate-income.
- The acquisitions and demolition of structures are either located in a low- and moderate-income census area or these activities are eligible by preventing or eliminating slums and blight on a spot basis or area basis.
- The housing activities have income eligibility criteria; therefore, the income requirement directs funds to low- and moderate-income households throughout the City.
- Economic development projects will either be located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group, or a poverty tract greater than 20%, or part of a redevelopment plan, or making 51% of the jobs available to low- and moderate-income population.

The City of Altoona has an overall low-mod percentage of 49.2%. Of the City's 46 block groups, the following meet the low-mod block group definition of 51% or more low- and moderate-income persons:

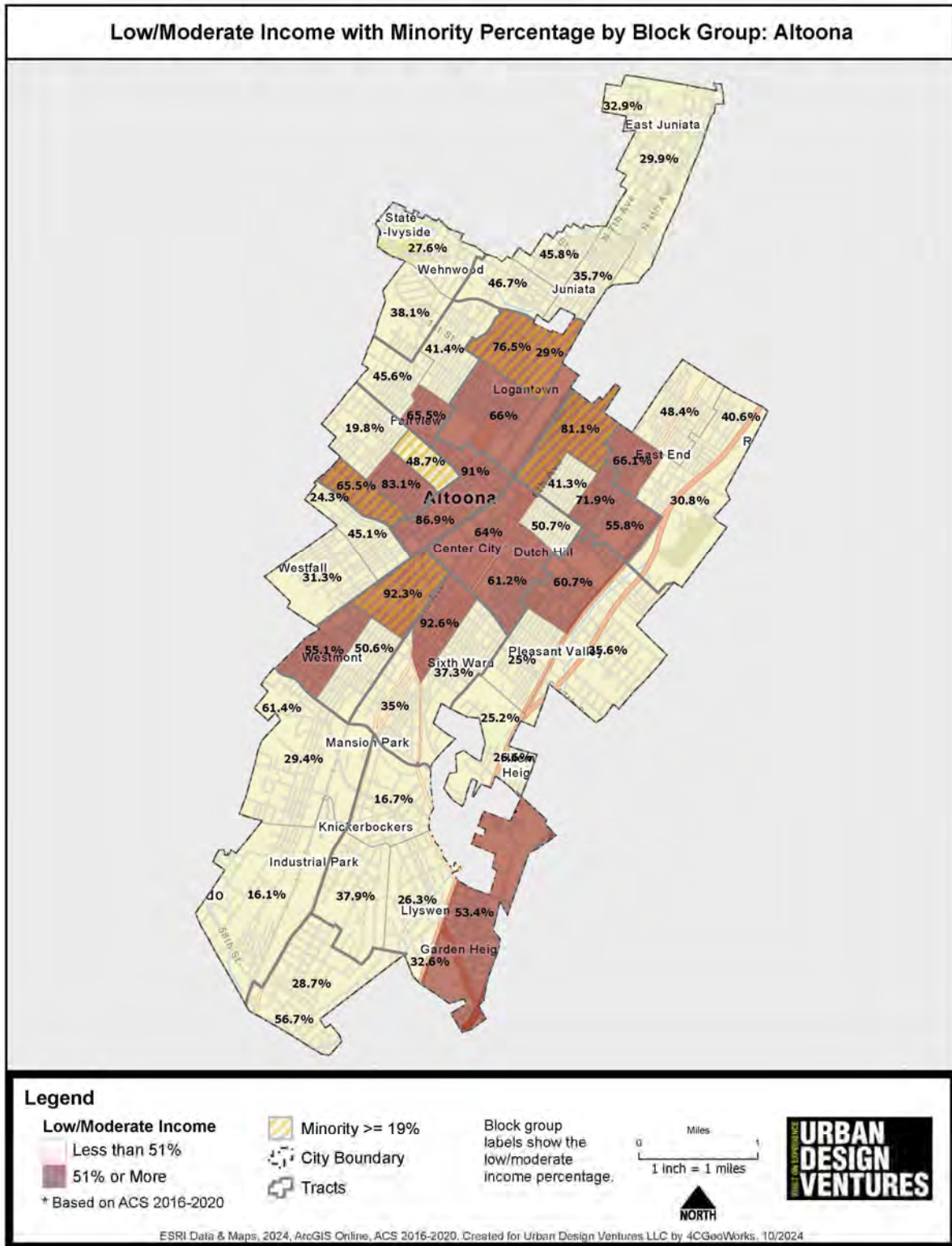
- CT 1003, BG 1: 92.3% low-mod
- CT 1003, BG 3: 55.1% low-mod
- CT 1005, BG 2: 83.1% low-mod
- CT 1005, BG 3: 65.5% low-mod
- CT 1006, BG 3: 65.5% low-mod
- CT 1007, BG 1: 66.0% low-mod
- CT 1007, BG 2: 76.5% low-mod
- CT 1012, BG 4: 53.4% low-mod
- CT 1014, BG 1: 92.6% low-mod
- CT 1015, BG 2: 60.7% low-mod
- CT 1016, BG 2: 61.2% low-mod
- CT 1016, BG 3: 64.0% low-mod
- CT 1017, BG 1: 55.8% low-mod
- CT 1017, BG 2: 81.1% low-mod
- CT 1017, BG 4: 71.9% low-mod
- CT 1018, BG 3: 66.1% low-mod
- CT 1019, BG 1: 91.0% low-mod
- CT 1019, BG 2: 86.9% low-mod

The HOME funds will be used for HOME Program administration and housing activities. These funds will be targeted to low-income households.

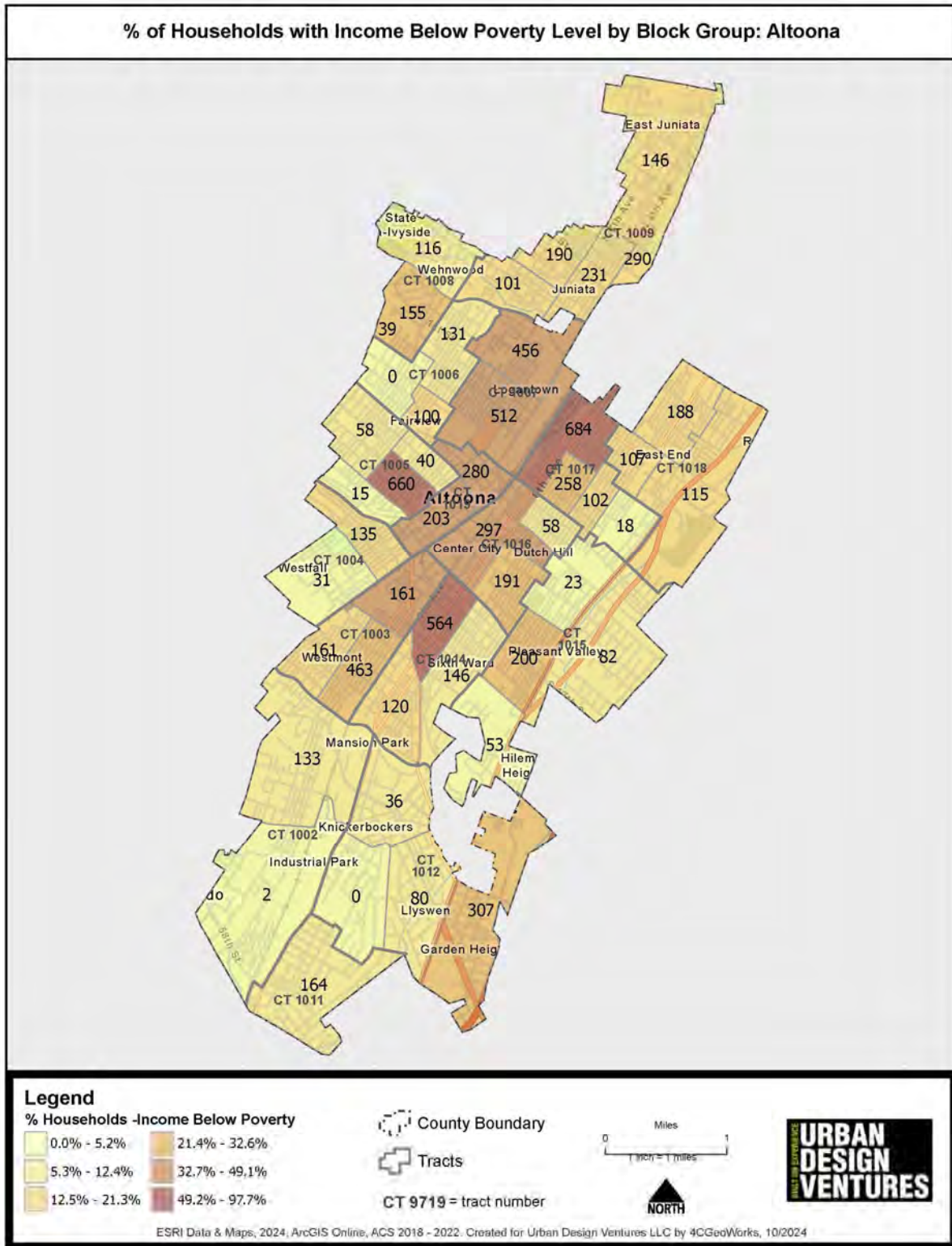
Below are maps illustrating the Percent of Low-Moderate Income Households by Block Group, Percent of Low-Moderate Income and Minority Households by Block Group, and Households Below the Poverty Level by Block Group.



Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group



Low/Moderate Income with Minority Percentage by Block Group



Households with Income Below Poverty Level by Block Group

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

Priority Needs

Table 48 - Priority Needs Summary

1.	Priority Need Name	Housing Priority
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	HS-1 Homeownership HS-2 Housing Development HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation HS-4 Rent and Utility Assistance
	Description	There is a need to increase the amount of affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for homebuyers, owner occupants, and renters.
	Basis for Relative Priority	23.5% of all households are cost burdened by 30% or more, which rises to 54.5% when only considering renter households. Altoona’s housing stock has a median build date of 1943 which is relatively old. This housing stock was not constructed with accessibility features and may need to be retrofitted.
	Priority Need Name	Homeless Priority
2.	Priority Level	Low

<p>Population</p>	<p>Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth</p>
<p>Geographic Areas Affected</p>	<p>Citywide</p>
<p>Associated Goals</p>	<p>HO-1 Housing HO-2 Operation and Support HO-3 Prevention and Re-Housing</p>
<p>Description</p>	<p>There is a need to develop and preserve housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.</p>
<p>Basis for Relative Priority</p>	<p>This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.</p>
<p>3. Priority Need Name</p>	<p>Other Special Needs Priority</p>
<p>Priority Level</p>	<p>Low</p>

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	SN-1 Housing SN-2 Social Services
	Description	There is a need to increase housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
4.	Priority Need Name	Community Development Priority
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	CD-1 Community Facilities CD-2 Infrastructure CD-3 Public Services CD-4 Clearance/Demolition CD-5 Accessibility Improvements CD-6 Transportation
	Description	There is a need to improve community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for residents living in the City of Altoona.

	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
5.	Priority Need Name	Economic Development Priority
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Non-housing Community Development Other: Economic Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	ED-1 Employment ED-2 Development ED-3 Redevelopment ED-4 Financial Assistance ED-5 Access to Transportation
	Description	There is a need to increase employment, workforce development, self-sufficiency, educational training, and empowerment for residents of the City of Altoona.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
	6	Priority Need Name
Priority Level		High
Population		Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Non-housing Community Development Other: Administration
Geographic Areas Affected		Citywide
Associated Goals		AM-1 Overall Coordination AM-2 Fair Housing
Description		There is a need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of Federal, State, and local funded programs.
Basis for Relative Priority		This priority was determined through consultations with City staff.

Narrative (Optional)

The priority ranking of needs for housing, homelessness, other special needs, community development, economic development, and anti-poverty are as follows:

- **High Priority** - Activities are assigned a high priority if the City expects to fund them during the Five-Year Consolidated Plan period.
- **Low Priority** - Activities are assigned a low priority if the activity may not be funded by the City during the Five-Year Consolidated Plan period. The City may support applications for other funding if those activities are consistent with the needs identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

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

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	The City has very limited HOME funds. Financial assistance is limited to rental rehabilitation.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	With the limited amount of HOME funds and the need to increase rental housing rehabilitation, the City is not able to fund TBRA.
New Unit Production	There are numerous vacant sites in residential areas that the city can utilize for new construction. New construction will permit the design of housing for special needs population.
Rehabilitation	There is a high demand for rehabilitation funds for rental rehabilitation and single-family housing. Over 86% of occupied rental housing units were built prior to 1980.
Acquisition, including preservation	<p>The cost to acquire property is expensive, especially when relocation benefits are required.</p> <p>The City of Altoona has four (4) national historic districts. The Downtown Altoona Historic District consists of 240 contributing buildings located in the central business district and the surrounding residential area. The Broad Avenue Historic District includes 140 contributing buildings in a residential area. The Knickerbocker Historic District includes 153 contributing rowhouse residences built as worker’s housing. Finally, the Llyswen Historic District includes 166 contributing buildings, primarily single-family dwellings. These districts have increased construction costs but are eligible for incentives such as Historic Tax Credits.</p>

Table 49 - Influence of Market Conditions

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

The City of Altoona is receiving \$1,536,368.00 in CDBG funds and \$266,494.73 in HOME funds for the FY 2025 program year. Additionally, the City expects to receive \$80,000.00 in CDBG Program Income. The program year is from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Due to uncertain Federal funding, the City is planning for a 5% reduction in funding in each subsequent year of the FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan period. The following are the anticipated CDBG and HOME resources:

- **FY 2025** = \$1,536,368.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$266,494.73 HOME
- **FY 2026** = \$1,459,550.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$253,169.99 HOME
- **FY 2027** = \$1,382,731.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$239,845.26 HOME
- **FY 2028** = \$1,305,913.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$226,520.52 HOME
- **FY 2029** = \$1,229,094.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$213,195.78 HOME
- **Total** = **\$6,913,656.00 CDBG + \$400,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$1,199,226.28 HOME**

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2025 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) and subsequent CAPERs.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$1,536,368.00	\$80,000.00	-0-	\$1,616,368.00	\$5,697,288.00	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	\$266,494.73	-0-	-0-	\$266,494.73	\$932,731.55	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.

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 of Altoona will continue to work with the Altoona Housing Authority on projects to upgrade the Housing Authority's housing stock. The Altoona Housing Authority also uses their Capital Funds in these projects.

State Programs

The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) provides loans and grants under the PennHOMES Program for development of rental housing, issues state Mixed Use Development Tax Credits and taxable or tax-exempt bonds to finance affordable housing and administers the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. These are funded through the National Housing Trust Fund, the Realty Transfer Tax Fund, the Marcellus Shale Fund, and the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund (PHARE).

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) administers several programs related to affordable housing. The Housing and Community Development (HCD) Program provides loans and grants for acquisition and development of housing for low- and moderate-income persons.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources funds have been and will continue to be used to leverage CDBG funds for streetscape and tree planting projects.

Private Resources

Private investment in the form of cash, private mortgage and other financing may be available for housing. These resources can take many forms and may even be raised through obtaining either Low-Income Housing Tax Credits or Historic Tax Credits. It is beyond the scope of this Consolidated Plan to qualify any and all private real estate investment activity.

Local Resources

Operation Our Town, a local philanthropic organization, often contributes funds to the Altoona law enforcement community. City capital planning and general funds are used to leverage Federal funds for various public works projects, including street paving, streetscaping, code/zoning enforcement, planning and policing. While it does not currently have a line item in the City budget, the Shade Tree Commission plants and maintains trees that complement CDBG funded streetscaping projects.

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

The City provides an ongoing 50% matching funds through its HOME program for private landlords to upgrade or rehabilitate housing units that are rented to low-income families and individuals.

Discussion

The City of Altoona will continue to use a variety of funds to address and accomplish the goals established in this Consolidated Plan.

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 Altoona	Government	Planning	Jurisdiction
Altoona Housing Authority	PHA	Public Housing	Jurisdiction
Center for Community Action	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

Community development, housing, and human service needs are provided by a wide variety of agencies and organizations. The City takes the lead in administering the program through its Department of Community Development. The City surveys the human service agencies and public and private housing providers and other nonprofit organizations to determine the unmet needs of clients eligible for CDBG, HOME and the State’s Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) ESG program. Project applications for unmet needs are invited from these agencies. These agencies are encouraged to identify service gaps and recommend methods for filling those gaps. The consolidated plan is implemented through the human service agencies in Blair County, the Altoona Housing Authority, the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation, the Altoona Redevelopment Authority, the Altoona Department of Public Works, and Improved Dwellings for Altoona (CHDO). This is a large portion of the regional cooperation efforts.

Other participating agencies include Altoona Housing Authority, Altoona School District, AMTRAN, Blair County Alliance, Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Blair Senior Services, Catholic Charities, Center for Community Action (managing the Blair County Community Action Program), Center for Independent Living of South Central PA, Family Services, Inc., Improved Dwellings of Altoona, Midtown Oaks Health & Rehab Center, NAACP, The Nehemiah Project, Twenty-Eighth Street Church of the Brethren, UPMC-Altoona, and UPMC Behavioral Health.

Additionally, there are other federal, state, county, and regional governmental efforts to meet these needs independent of Altoona’s program. The City of Altoona contracts with the agencies most experienced and capable of meeting the identified needs in the delivery system. Efforts are made to eliminate duplication and contradiction of efforts and to coordinate and/or enhance these services and projects to maximize the impact on the community.

The Altoona City Council appoints the members to the Altoona Housing Authority Board. The Housing Authority Board provides an annual report to City Council on its activities including its capital

improvements and proposed development initiatives. There is an informative and cooperative relationship between the City of Altoona, its departments, and the Altoona public housing authority.

The major strength in the delivery system rests in the fact that the human service agencies, housing agencies, and the City of Altoona operate in a small geographic, demographic, and socioeconomic environment. As a direct result of this, routine communication and coordination are relatively easy.

The Department of Community Development is aware of a few minor gaps in delivery of services in Altoona. These gaps are not related to institutional capabilities, but rather in insufficient funding of the services. The staff and agencies are aware of these areas and are working with providers and agencies to develop appropriate solutions.

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	
Legal Assistance	X		
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X		
Utilities Assistance	X		
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X		
Mobile Clinics			
Other Street Outreach Services			
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	
Child Care	X	X	
Education	X		
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	
Healthcare	X		
HIV/AIDS	X		
Life Skills	X	X	
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	
Transportation	X	X	
Other			

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)

Special supportive housing needs have been identified by local focus groups and resident surveys. These include mental health treatment centers and transitional/supportive housing for people with mental health needs and substance use disorders.

The City does not intend to use HOME Funds or any other tenant-based rental assistance to assist the above-mentioned sub-populations.

To summarize, services for homeless populations and special need non-homeless population categories overlap. By meeting/networking locally and participating in the regional Continuum of Care network (for planning, administration, and monitoring), the Blair County human service agencies work together in both a locally- and regionally coordinated manner. These organizations and agencies make referrals to help both the homeless and special needs populations and anticipate and plan for the needs of these groups.

The homeless issue recognizes no municipal boundaries, and the role of the City of Altoona is limited to enhancing the existing services provided for the homeless by existing County-wide human service agencies. Both CDBG and ESG funds are used to address homelessness issues.

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 is a strong network of agencies and service providers in Altoona and Blair County that operate programs for homeless persons. These providers have established relationships with mainstream providers of health, mental health, and employment services and refer homeless persons to these providers on a regular basis as needed basis for services.

Strengths include excellent providers of mental health and drug and alcohol services including the UPMC Home Nursing Agency, Blair Health Choices, and UPMC-Altoona Hospital. Utility assistance is another area of strength with services provided by the Center for Community Action and Catholic Social Services. Counseling and advocacy for homeless persons is a strength with programs provided by Blair Senior Services, UPMC Home Nursing Agency, Family Services of Blair County and the Center for Community Action.

Areas of weaknesses would include Legal Assistance, in which services are limited because of reductions in funding; public transportation where bus routes and times of operation are limited, especially on weekends; and in the lack of shelter beds that are increasingly insufficient for demand especially for homeless families with children.

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

The Department of Community Development is aware of minor gaps in delivery of services in Altoona. These gaps are not related to institutional capabilities, but rather in insufficient funding of the services. The staff and agencies are aware of these areas and are working with providers and agencies to develop appropriate solutions.

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.	HS-1 Housing Construction	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Rental units constructed: 0 Housing Units Homeowner housing added: 0 Housing Units
2.	HS-2 Housing Development	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Rental units constructed: 0 Housing Units Homeowner housing added: 0 Housing Units Direct financial assistance to homebuyers: 0 Homebuyers assisted
3.	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$2,560,040 HOME: \$1,079,305.79	Rental units rehabilitated: 70 Housing Units Homeowner housing rehabilitated: 140 Housing Units
4.	HS-4 Rent and Utility Assistance	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$112,500 HOME: \$0	Tenant-based rental assistance/Rapid rehousing: 600 Households assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5.	HO-1 Housing	2025	2029	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$0	Housing for Homeless added: 0 Household Housing Units Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added: 0 Beds
6.	HO-2 Operation and Support	2025	2029	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$224,600	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 12,000 Persons Assisted
7.	HO-3 Prevention and Re-Housing	2025	2029	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$22,500	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 0 Persons Assisted Tenant-based Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing: 125 Households Assisted
8.	SN-1 Housing	2025	2029	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Other Special Needs Priority	CDBG: \$0	HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 0 Household Housing Units Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added: 0 Household Housing Units

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9.	SN-2 Social Services	2025	2029	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Other Special Needs Priority	CDBG: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted
10.	CD-1 Community Facilities	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$45,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30,000 Persons Assisted
11.	CD-2 Infrastructure	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$2,770,007	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities Other Than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5,675 Persons Assisted
12.	CD-3 Public Services	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$149,827	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 12,500 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
13.	CD-4 Clearance / Demolition	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Buildings demolished: 0 Buildings
14.	CD-5 Accessibility Improvements	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities Other Than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted
15.	CD-6 Transportation	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted
16.	ED-1 Employment	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs
17.	ED-2 Development	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
18.	ED-3 Redevelopment	2025	2029	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Façade treatment/business-building rehabilitation: 0 Business Brownfield acres remediated: 0 Acres

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
19.	ED-4 Financial Assistance	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted Jobs created/retained: 0 Businesses Assisted
20.	ED-5 Access to Transportation	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs
21.	AM-1 Overall Coordination	2025	2029	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$1,294,182 HOME: \$119,920	Other: 10 Other
22.	AM-2 Fair Housing	2025	2029	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$135,000	Public Service Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 43,821 Households Assisted

Table 53 - Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1.	Goal Name	HS-1 Homeownership
	Goal Description	Assist low- and moderate-income homebuyers to purchase homes through down payment / closing cost assistance and associated housing counseling and training.
2.	Goal Name	HS-2 Housing Development
	Goal Description	Increase the number of affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing units in the community for homebuyers and renters, through adaptive reuse of existing buildings and new construction.
3.	Goal Name	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, emergency repairs and handicap accessibility.
4.	Goal Name	HS-4 Rent and Utility Assistance
	Goal Description	Provide rental assistance for low- and moderate-income renters through utility payments, security deposits, and rental payments including Tenant Based Rental Assistance for low-income households who may be faced with the threat of eviction and who are at-risk of becoming homeless.
5.	Goal Name	HO-1 Housing
	Goal Description	Support the Continuum of Care and non-profit housing agencies' efforts to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing opportunities.
6.	Goal Name	HO-2 Operation and Support
	Goal Description	Assist providers who operate housing or provide support services for the homeless and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless to achieve self-sufficiency.
7.	Goal Name	HO-3 Prevention and Re-Housing
	Goal Description	Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for re-housing.
8.	Goal Name	SN-1 Housing

	Goal Description	Increase the supply of affordable, accessible, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings, construction of new housing, and providing rental assistance (including rent payments, security deposits, utility deposits and payments, and case management to achieve self-sufficiency) for low- and moderate-income residents.
9.	Goal Name	SN-2 Social Services
	Goal Description	Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.
10.	Goal Name	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Goal Description	Improve parks, recreational facilities, trails, public buildings, community and neighborhood facilities throughout the City.
11.	Goal Name	CD-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction, of streets, sidewalks, bridges, curbs, walkways, water, storm water, sanitary sewer, handicap accessibility improvements/removal of architectural barriers, etc.
12.	Goal Name	CD-3 Public Services
	Goal Description	Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and disabled, and general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
13.	Goal Name	CD-4 Clearance/Demolition
	Goal Description	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.
14.	Goal Name	CD-5 Accessibility Improvements
	Goal Description	Improve the physical, visual, and handicapped accessibility of community facilities and infrastructure.
15.	Goal Name	CD-6 Transportation

	Goal Description	Support the expansion of transportation options for low- and moderate-income residents, the disabled and elderly to access services, shopping and employment.
16.	Goal Name	ED-1 Employment
	Goal Description	Support and encourage job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.
17.	Goal Name	ED-2 Development
	Goal Description	Support entrepreneurial ventures, business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.
18.	Goal Name	ED-3 Redevelopment
	Goal Description	Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of vacant commercial and industrial sites.
19.	Goal Name	ED-4 Financial Assistance
	Goal Description	Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, Congressionally Directed Spending, etc.
20.	Goal Name	ED-5 Access to Transportation
	Goal Description	Support the expansion of public transportation and access to bus and automobile service to assist residents to get to work or training opportunities.
21.	Goal Name	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
22.	Goal Name	AM-2 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Promote fair housing choice through education, training, and outreach and legal assistance for income-eligible households.

Table 54 – Goal Descriptions

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)

It is estimated that the City of Altoona will provide the following affordable housing throughout the next five years:

- Homeowner housing constructed: 0 Housing Units
- Renter housing constructed: 0 Housing Units
- Homeowner housing rehabilitated: 140 Housing Units
- Renter housing rehabilitated: 120 Housing Units

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)**

There is a need for accessible housing for the elderly applicants on the Section 8 waiting list. As of October 2024, the Altoona Housing Authority reported that it has a total of 363 public housing units set aside for mixed (elderly/disabled) populations at the 11th Street and Green Avenue Towers, and that there are 42 households on the waiting list for those facilities. Between the two towers there are a total of 28 units designated as "accessible". The Housing Authority continues to make reasonable accommodations to its public housing units to satisfy the Section 504 requirements for persons with physical disabilities such as mobility, visual, and hearing impairments.

The Altoona Housing Authority meets Section 504 compliance.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

The Housing Authority offers several programs to increase resident involvement such as resident groups, community workshops, and educational and training opportunities.

Residents are asked to completed resident satisfaction surveys to help the Housing Authority identify needs in the public housing communities, the PHA offers several workshops to educate residents on Fair Housing laws, and the PHA continues to operate activities such as the Police Stop and Talk Program, after school and day care activities, and offers amenities such as parks and public spaces to hold community events.

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

No

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation

The Altoona Housing Authority is designated as a "high performer." Not Applicable.

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

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City of Altoona previously identified and implemented the following changes to the City's Zoning Ordinances:

- Added under Title Three, Article 1, Section 101 a new subsection to address Housing Choice and Fair Housing.
- Added a definition for "Accessibility" to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

There are no known public policies in the City of Altoona that are barriers to affordable housing. The City Department of Community Development monitors the following:

- Tax policies affecting land and other properties
- Land use controls
- Zoning Ordinance
- Building Code
- Fees and charges

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City intends to continue to promote Fair Housing by working with Summit Legal Aid and Mid-Penn Legal Services. It also has continued to support and encourage construction proposals for for-rent and for-sale properties, as well as financing housing rehabilitation efforts and funding homebuyer training & education. To expand the amount of accessible housing available to elderly and disabled residents, the City is promoting rehabilitation and reasonable accommodations & modifications. Finally, it is expanding its code enforcement efforts to ensure that the existing housing stock remains in safe, sound, and decent condition.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy - 91.215(d)

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

The CoC annually funds a Supportive Services Only Program that is operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Center for Community Action. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. All persons served are assessed to determine their individual needs.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The family shelter in Altoona is operated by Family Services, Incorporated (FSI). The organization provided 4,188 nights of shelter to homeless individuals in FY 2022 but still had to turn away over 3,000 persons due to lack of space at the shelter. FSI opened a new Emergency Family Shelter in February 2023 which has added to the available beds, but the organization reports that demand still outstrips capacity.

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 Eastern Pennsylvania CoC has undertaken the following projects in Blair County in 2024:

- Center for Community Action - PA 0372 Blair CAP Rapid Rehousing and RRH Expansion
- Center for Community Action - PA 0813 South Central PA Rapid Rehousing

The PA 0372 Rapid Rehousing program serves the general public. The PA 0813 Rapid Rehousing program is targeted to 18-25 year-olds who have a mental or physical disability but are able to live independently. These two programs offer a variety of supportive services to clients to assist them in the transition to permanent housing. These services include life skills, employment services, clothing, furniture, general case management, housing search, budget counseling etc.

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

There are no specific programs designed to address individuals and families who are being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care. Both the City of Altoona and Blair County have obtained Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) funding in the past to address the needs of these individuals and families, but neither is a current recipient. Likewise, Blair County Community Action (now under the auspices of the Center for Community Action), has used ESG funds in the past to provide Homeless Prevention Services to families to prevent them from becoming homeless.

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

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

The City plans to continue two facets of the lead paint program. The first is to provide educational materials explaining the dangers of lead exposure, particularly in children. The second is to ensure the City makes proper referrals for health screening and care when lead is discovered in a unit which is being rehabilitated with HUD funds.

The City will also continue to implement lead-based paint best practices in its housing programs.

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

There are approximately 10,965 (94%) owner-occupied and 5,955 (87%) renter-occupied housing units in the City that were built prior to 1980 and are at risk of lead-based paint (LBP) presence. Additionally, it is estimated that 175 owner-occupied units and 70 renter-occupied units with lead-based paint are home to children under the age of 6. It is anticipated that the age of the housing stock alone indicates a lead hazard in Altoona.

Independent consultations with the Altoona office of the Pennsylvania Department of Health confirm that cases of lead poisoning are found each year in the City of Altoona. The new Federal regulations that took effect in September of 2000 establish environmental procedures that must be used when rehabilitating a building. The City of Altoona Department of Community Development has integrated lead-based paint notification, inspection, testing, or interim control procedures into all of its housing programs.

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

The City's housing rehabilitation program has integrated lead paint remediation into every application funded where lead paint has been found. There are no plans to alter this approach to lead remediation. The approach includes notification, inspection, testing, and remediation procedures concerning lead paint in accordance with federal regulation. The typical cost of this program is \$8,000 per unit or more.

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

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

According to the 2018-2022 American Community Survey Data, approximately 13.7% of the City of Altoona's families live in poverty while only 8.0% of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's families live in poverty. Female-headed households with children under the age of 6 are particularly affected by poverty at 66.9%. The City's goal is to reduce the extent of poverty by 5%, based on actions the City can control and through working with other agencies/organizations.

The City's anti-poverty strategy is based on attracting a range of businesses and supporting workforce development including job-training services for low income residents. In addition, the City's strategy is to provide supportive services for target income residents.

Planned economic development programs include:

- **ED-1 Employment** – Support and encourage job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.
- **ED-2 Development** – Support entrepreneurial ventures, business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.
- **ED-3 Redevelopment** – Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of vacant commercial and industrial sites.
- **ED-4 Financial Assistance** – Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, Congressionally Directed Spending, etc.
- **ED-5 Access to Transportation** – Support the expansion of public transportation and access to bus and automobile service to assist residents to get to work or training opportunities.

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

Increasing the supply of and providing access to affordable housing is integrally tied to the City's anti-poverty strategy. The most successful way to implement this is through job training and creation activities while providing affordable housing.

SP-80 Monitoring - 91.230

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

The Planning and Community Department staff engages in monthly meetings to review the status of the program as a whole as well as each individual project. Staff also checks the expenditure rates at these monthly meetings. If any problems are identified a plan of action is formulated to correct any matters requiring action.

The City staff prepares purchase orders prior to the payment of any invoice. Each invoice is reviewed by at least three people in the Department of Community Development before it is paid, and if an inconsistency is detected, payment is withheld until it is rectified. All invoices submitted must be accompanied by backup documentation, so staff are able to ascertain whether the funds requested are for legitimate purposes. CDBG subrecipients are also required to submit quarterly reports.

In addition to the above review, staff conducts annual risk assessment evaluations on all CDBG and HOME projects and activities. Desk-top reviews or on-site monitoring visits are determined based on the risk assessment. These reviews are conducted once a year unless issues arise during the program year requiring more intensive supervision. These subrecipients are informed in writing before the visit takes place informing them of the areas that will be under review. The areas monitored are project eligibility, project progress, project documentation such as low/moderate income compliance of clients and job creation, regulatory compliance such as procurement procedures, and Davis-Bacon Wage compliance where appropriate. Financial management, audit submissions, Section 504 compliance, ADA compliance, and Fair Housing Regulations are also reviewed.

The City of Altoona also undergoes an annual audit to ensure compliance with Federal and State regulations, local practices, as well as established accounting practices. Issues discovered in the audit are presented to the Department of Community Development, which then responds with appropriate steps to address the finding.

On-site inspections shall be conducted by City staff in concert with its Rental Registration Program to ensure compliance with income and rent requirements as well as local property standards during a project's period of affordability. Rental unit inspections are conducted every three (3) years with an average inspection time of 20-30 minutes per unit, and the property owner, tenant, or designated representative must be present. Inspections are conducted using the adopted International Property Maintenance Code, which has been designed to identify life-safety and routine maintenance concerns on existing structures. Life-safety violations must be corrected within 10 days; all violations are given 45 days for correction. The City has adopted the following inspection schedule:

- 1-4 units: every 3 years, all units in structure
- 5-25 units: every 2 years, 1/2 of units in structure
- 26 or more units: annually, 1/3 of units in structure

Where projects may utilize other State or Federal funding sources requiring inspections, the City may accept such reports to ensure compliance with applicable standards. Regardless of the source of funding, all inspections shall uphold local code requirements as a minimum.

Annual Action Plan

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

Introduction

The City of Altoona is receiving \$1,536,368.00 in CDBG funds and \$266,494.73 in HOME funds for the FY 2025 program year. Additionally, the City expects to receive \$80,000.00 in CDBG Program Income. The program year is from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Due to uncertain Federal funding, the City is planning for a 5% reduction in funding in each subsequent year of the FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan period. The following are the anticipated CDBG and HOME resources:

- **FY 2025** = \$1,536,368.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$266,494.73 HOME
- **FY 2026** = \$1,459,550.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$253,169.99 HOME
- **FY 2027** = \$1,382,731.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$239,845.26 HOME
- **FY 2028** = \$1,305,913.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$226,520.52 HOME
- **FY 2029** = \$1,229,094.00 CDBG + \$80,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$213,195.78 HOME
- **Total** = **\$6,913,656.00 CDBG + \$400,000.00 CDBG Program Income + \$1,199,226.28 HOME**

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2025 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) and subsequent CAPERs.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$1,536,368.00	\$80,000.00	-0-	\$1,616,368.00	\$5,376,388.00	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	\$266,494.73	-0-	-0-	\$266,494.73	\$932,731.55	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.

Table 55 - Expected Resources - Priority Table

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

The City of Altoona will continue to work with the Altoona Housing Authority on projects to upgrade the Housing Authority's housing stock. The Altoona Housing Authority also uses their Capital Funds in these projects.

State Programs

The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) provides loans and grants under the PennHOMES Program for development of rental housing, issues state Mixed Use Development Tax Credits and taxable or tax-exempt bonds to finance affordable housing and administers the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. These are funded through the National Housing Trust Fund, the Realty Transfer Tax Fund, the Marcellus Shale Fund, and the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund (PHARE). Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources funds have been and will continue to be used to leverage CDBG funds for streetscape and tree planting projects.

Private Resources

Private investment in the form of cash, private mortgage and other financing may be available for housing. These resources can take many forms and may even be raised through obtaining either Low-Income Housing Tax Credits or Historic Tax Credits. It is beyond the scope of this Consolidated Plan to qualify any and all private real estate investment activity.

Local Resources

Operation Our Town, a local philanthropic organization, often contributes funds to the Altoona Law Enforcement Community to assist in dealing with illegal drug trade and other violent and nonviolent crime. City capital planning and general funds are used to leverage Federal funds for various public works projects, including street paving, streetscaping, code/zoning enforcement, planning and policing. While it does not currently have a line item in the City budget, the Shade Tree Commission plants and maintains trees that compliment CDBG funded streetscaping projects.

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

The City provides an ongoing 50% matching funds through its HOME program for private landlords to upgrade or rehabilitate housing units that are rented to low-income families and individuals.

Discussion

The City of Altoona will continue to use a variety of funds to address and accomplish the goals established in this Consolidated Plan.

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.	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$560,000 HOME: \$239,845.73	Rental Units Rehabilitated: 14 Household Housing Units Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 28 Household Housing Units
2.	HS-4 Rent and Utility Assistance	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$25,000	Tenant-based Rental Assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 120 Households Assisted
3.	HO-2 Operation and Support	2025	2029	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$49,920	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 12,000 Persons Assisted
4.	HO-3 Prevention and Re-Housing	2025	2029	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$5,000	Tenant-based Rental Assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 25 Households Assisted
5.	CD-1 Community Facilities	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$10,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities Other Than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 6,000 Persons Assisted
6.	CD-2 Infrastructure	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$615,557	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities Other Than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1,135 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7.	CD-3 Public Services	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$33,295	Public Service Activities Other Than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2,500 Persons Assisted
8.	AM-1 Overall Coordination	2025	2029	Admin	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$287,596 HOME: \$26,649	Other: 2 Other
9.	AM-2 Fair Housing	2025	2029	Admin	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$30,000	Public Service Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 43,821 Households Assisted

Table 56 - Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1.	Goal Name	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, emergency repairs and handicap accessibility.
2.	Goal Name	HS-4 Rent and Utility Assistance
	Goal Description	Provide rental assistance for low- and moderate-income renters through utility payments, security deposits, and rental payments including Tenant Based Rental Assistance for low-income households who may be faced with the threat of eviction and who are at-risk of becoming homeless.

3.	Goal Name	HO-2 Operation and Support
	Goal Description	Assist providers who operate housing or provide support services for the homeless and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless to achieve self-sufficiency.
4.	Goal Name	HO-3 Prevention and Re-Housing
	Goal Description	Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for re-housing.
5.	Goal Name	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Goal Description	Improve parks, recreational facilities, trails, public buildings, community and neighborhood facilities throughout the City.
6.	Goal Name	CD-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction, of streets, sidewalks, bridges, curbs, walkways, water, storm water, sanitary sewer, handicap accessibility improvements/removal of architectural barriers, etc.
7.	Goal Name	CD-3 Public Services
	Goal Description	Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and disabled, and general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
8.	Goal Name	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
9.	Goal Name	AM-2 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Promote fair housing choice through education, training, and outreach and legal assistance for income-eligible households.

Table 57 – Goal Descriptions

Projects

AP-35 Projects - 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Altoona proposes to undertake the following activities with FY 2025 CDBG and HOME funds:

Projects

#	Project Name
1.	CDBG Program Administration
2.	Fair Housing
3.	Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program
4.	Single Family Owner-Occupied Emergency Repair Program
5.	Emergency Roof Repair Program
6.	Street Reconstruction
7.	8th Street Sidewalk Project
8.	Operation Safe Space
9.	The Salvation Army - Assistance with Rent, Utility, and Heating Fuel Payments
10.	Overflow Church - Jefferson Park Meal Program Initiative
11.	Overflow Church - Warming Center
12.	Railroaders Memorial Museum - Restoration of Pennsylvania Railroad ALTO Tower
13.	HOME Program Administration
14.	Rental Rehabilitation Program
15.	IDA-CDC Kitchen Replacement at the Fairview Building

Table 58 - Project Information

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

The allocations and priorities were established by an online survey, stakeholder meetings, follow-up surveys from service providers, and public meetings. Obstacles to addressing underserved needs include finding more federal funding resources to accomplish activities and having local resources to pair with them to make successful projects.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1.	Project Name	CDBG Program Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$287,596.00
	Description	Operational budget for the Department of Community Development for general management, monitoring, coordination, oversight and evaluation of projects within the Community Development Block Grant Program and monitoring of activities necessary for effective planning implementation. Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of Federal, State, and local funded programs and activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 1 organization will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity is located at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.
	Planned Activities	The HUD Matrix Code is 21A General Program Administration.
2.	Project Name	Fair Housing
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-2 Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000.00
	Description	Fair housing activities including eliminating housing discrimination through the promotion of fair housing using educational programs, monitoring, research and community investment.
	Target Date	6/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 43,821 persons will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity is located at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/mod Limited Clientele (LMC) benefit, 570.208(a)(2). The HUD Matrix Code is: 21D Fair Housing Activities (subject to Admin cap).
3.	Project Name	Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$400,000
	Description	Continued funding of the City-wide homeowner rehabilitation program. Provide zero percent interest housing rehabilitation loans to income eligible residents.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that ten (10) households will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Citywide. This activity is managed at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Housing (LMH) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 14A Rehabilitation; Single-Unit Residential, 570.202(a)(1).
4.	Project Name	Single Family Owner-Occupied Emergency Repair Program
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000

	Description	Provide no-interest, deferred forgivable loan funds amortized over four years to low-moderate income homeowners up to \$5,000 to correct exterior code violations, excluding mowing, and up to \$20,000 for emergency repairs to heating, plumbing, and electrical system failures or other repairs as determined necessary by City inspectors to pose an immediate threat to health and safety and do not trigger lead paint remediation beyond de minimis treatment. New construction, routine maintenance and full rehabilitation projects are ineligible and will be referred to the single-family direct loan program. Structure demolition (garages, additions, etc.) will be referred to the City demolition program.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that ten (10) households will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Citywide. This activity is managed at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Housing (LMH) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 14A Rehabilitation; Single-Unit Residential, 570.202(a)(1).
5.	Project Name	Emergency Roof Replacement Program
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$110,000
	Description	Continued funding of the City-wide Emergency Roof Replacement Program. Provide zero percent interest housing rehabilitation loans to income eligible residents that convert to a grant after 4 years.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that eight (8) households will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Citywide. This activity is managed at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.

	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Housing (LMH) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 14A Rehabilitation; Single-Unit Residential, 570.202(a)(1).
6.	Project Name	Street Reconstruction
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-2 Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000
	Description	Funding will support street reconstruction in low- to moderate-income areas to be determined in the City of Altoona.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Benefit to be determined by project location.
	Location Description	Low-mod areas. Location(s) to be determined.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Area (LMA) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 03K Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
7.	Project Name	8th Street Sidewalk Project
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-2 Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$415,557
	Description	This project is for the construction/replacement of sidewalk, curb (as necessary), ADA accessible ramps, and street trees on 8th Street between 6th Ave and Crawford Ave. This project would improve accessibility and increase the safety of the area by replacing the uneven sidewalks and providing ADA accessible ramps.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 1,135 persons will benefit from this activity.

	Location Description	8th Street between 3rd Avenue and Crawford Avenue in the City of Altoona; Census Tract 1016, Block Group 1.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Area (LMA) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 03L Sidewalks, 570.201(c).
8.	Project Name	Operation Safe Space
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HO-3 Prevention and Re-Housing
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000
	Description	Operation Safe Space is a program that will temporarily relocate persons requiring immediate need due to condemnation, structural failure, or otherwise unsafe conditions of a property. The program will be administered by the Codes and Inspections Department, the Altoona Fire Department, and the Altoona Police Department. The funds requested will fully support the program and no additional funding source is being utilized.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 25 households will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Citywide. This activity is managed at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 08 Relocation, 570.201(i).
9.	Project Name	Salvation Army - Rental, Utility, and Heating Fuel Assistance
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-4 Rent and Utility Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000

	<p>Description</p>	<p>As a social services organization, The Salvation Army provides low-income individuals and families with basic needs assistance with things like food, housing, utility, and clothing. Over 19% of the residents of Altoona are living in poverty and inflation continues to cause hardships for many individuals and families. This is creating an increase in the number of families that are seeking assistance from The Salvation Army in order to maintain their housing.</p> <p>Funds would be used to provide qualifying households with emergency, rental, utility, and heating fuel assistance to ensure housing is secure and safe. Applications for financial aid are processed through an intake system to verify income eligibility to ensure that over 51% of applicants meet the HUD low-income guidelines. Our plan is to specifically assist 120 households with up to \$750 each in assistance to keep essential household utilities and rent secure.</p>
	<p>Target Date</p>	<p>6/30/2025</p>
	<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>It is estimated that 120 households will benefit from this activity.</p>
	<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Citywide. This activity is managed at 1813 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602.</p>
	<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>The National objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC) benefit.</p> <p>The HUD Matrix Code is 05Q Subsistence Payments, 570.207(b)(4).</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Project Name</p>	<p>Overflow Church - Jefferson Park Meal Program Initiative</p>
	<p>Target Area</p>	<p>Citywide</p>
	<p>Goals Supported</p>	<p>CD-3 Public Services</p>
	<p>Needs Addressed</p>	<p>Community Development Priority</p>
	<p>Funding</p>	<p>CDBG: \$33,295</p>
	<p>Description</p>	<p>Through the Jefferson Park initiative, Overflow Church focuses on building relationships with our community. Being able to provide community meals allows us to connect to our neighborhood and build a stronger community. Eating together provides a space for people to communicate and share life together.</p>

	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 2,500 persons will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Census Tract 1017, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 1018, Block Group 3. Administered at 127 5th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Area (LMA) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 05W Food Banks, 570.201(e).
11.	Project Name	Overflow Church Warming Center - Overnight Shelter
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HO-2 Operation and Support
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$49,920
	Description	The Warming Center serves as a winter overnight shelter for individuals aged 18 and older experiencing homelessness due to factors such as domestic violence, mental health challenges, housing shortage, and financial hardship. Last winter, the Center provided shelter to 91 individuals and successfully assisted 75 in securing alternative housing in collaboration with local agencies. However, relying solely on volunteers posed operational challenges, including limited service continuity. This funding request seeks to introduce a hybrid staffing model, combining paid staff with volunteers, to ensure safe and consistent operations. Funds will cover staffing costs and general operating expenses to maintain and enhance the Center’s services throughout the winter season.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 12,000 persons will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	127 5th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC) benefit. The HUD Matrix Code is 03T Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs, 570.201(e).

12.	Project Name	Railroaders Memorial Museum - ALTO Tower
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000.00
	Description	Built in the 1880s by the Pennsylvania Railroad, ALTO Tower is the last remaining interlocking tower in Blair County and one of only a handful left from the PRR era. Over the 100 plus years of constant operation, the tower has physically grown worn and tired. Since its closure in 2012, the tower has remained dormant and vacant. In 2022, Norfolk Southern Corporation transferred ownership to the Railroaders Memorial Museum. The Museum seeks funding to completely restore the exterior of the tower and return it to its 1940's appearance, representing the golden era of railroading in Altoona. This restoration will attract visitors to the museum and enable the partnership with Penn State Altoona's Rail Transportation Engineering program to expand its logistics, maintenance of way, and track lab courses. The state of Alto Tower is urgent as there are elements such as the front bay window showing extensive rot and structural weakness, and community members are concerned that the tower will need to be demolished.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 6,000 persons will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity is located at 1701 10th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 and managed at the Railroaders Memorial Museum, 1200 9th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602.
	Planned Activities	The National objective is Slum/Blight Spot Basis benefit (SBS). The HUD Matrix Code is 16B Non-Residential Historic Preservation, 570.202(d).
13.	Project Name	HOME Program Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination

	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$26,649.00
	Description	Administration allocation from HOME grant of 10% to provide for staffing to oversee HOME funded projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 1 organization will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity is located at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.
	Planned Activities	The HUD Matrix Code is 21A General Program Administration.
14.	Project Name	HOME Rental Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$131,777.73
	Description	Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program - Continuation of deferred loan program for the rehabilitation of low-income rental units.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that ten (10) household housing units will be rehabilitated under this activity.
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing (LMH) benefit, 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential.
15.	Project Name	IDA-CDC Kitchen Replacement at the Fairview Building
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$108,068.00

Description	We are requesting funds from the 2025 HOME funds allocation to replace 14 kitchens on the top floor of the Fairview Building in addition to repainting soffit and fascia on the exterior of the building which will include the dormers and upper window panels.
Target Date	6/30/2026
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 14 household housing units will benefit from this activity.
Location Description	331 22nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601
Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing (LMH) benefit, 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential, 570.202(a)(1).

Table 59 – Project Summary

AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The following information provides a profile of the population, age, and racial/ethnic composition of the City of Altoona. This information was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau at <https://data.census.gov>. The 2018-2022 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates were used to analyze the social, economic, housing, and general demographic characteristics of the City of Altoona. These 5-year estimates are the most recent data available for the City. The 2020 U.S. Census data is included where applicable, and the 2016-2020 HUD CHAS data is used to compare block group information.

Population:

- Between 2017 and 2022, the population decreased by 2.1% from 44,749 to 43,821 persons.

Age:

- The median age in Altoona is 39.8 years old.
- Youth age 20 and under account for 25.4% of the population.
- Seniors age 65 or over comprise 17.3% of the population.

Race and Ethnicity:

- 89.8% of Altoona residents are White;
- 3.3% are Black or African American;
- 0.1% are American Indian and Alaska Native;
- 0.2% are Asian;
- 0.0% are Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander;
- 0.6% are Some Other Race; and
- 5.7% are Two or More Races.
- 1.8% of Altoona residents are Hispanic or Latino of any race.

Income Profile:

- The Area Median Income for a family of four (4) in the Altoona, Pennsylvania Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is \$86,900 for 2024.
- At the time of the 2018-2022 American Community Survey, median household income in the City of Altoona was \$50,435. This was significantly lower than Blair County (\$59,386) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (\$73,170).
- 37.1% of City households have earnings received from Social Security income.
- 5.8% of households have earnings received from public assistance.
- 24.7% of households have retirement income.

Poverty:

- 13.7% of all families were living in poverty as of the 2018-2022 ACS.
- 33.3% of female-headed households with no spouse present were living in poverty. This rose to 45.7% when there were youth under 18 years of age present, and to 66.9% living in poverty when there were children under 5 years of age present.
- 29.2% of all youth under 18 years of age were living in poverty.
- 19.3% of all persons in Altoona were living in poverty.

Low/Mod Income Profile:

The low- and moderate-income profile for City of Altoona is a measurement of the area's needs. According to HUD’s FY 2024 calculations, the City of Altoona has an overall low- and moderate-income percentage of 49.19%.

Economic Profile:

As of the 2018-2022 American Community Survey:

- 31.9% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as management, business, science, and arts; 23.0% had occupations classified as sales and office; and 21.4% had occupations classified in the service sector.
- 29.2% of the employed civilian population worked in the educational services, health care and social assistance industry; 15.1% worked in the retail trade industry; and 10.6% worked in the arts, entertainment, recreation, and accommodation and food services industry.
- 83.5% of the employed civilian population were classed as private wage and salary workers and 13.1% were classed as government workers.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unadjusted unemployment rate for Altoona was 3.7% compared to a rate of 4.3% in Blair County, 4.2% for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a national unemployment rate of 4.5% in February 2025.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	100%

Table 60 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City is not only attempting to meet the needs of the community but also further fair housing and increase affordable housing supply. It is essential to engage in not only community building activities and fund needed improvements in low- and moderate-income areas but also to provide opportunities for residents to live in non-impacted areas.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing - 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Altoona will utilize its CDBG and HOME funds to rehabilitate affordable housing units. The one-year goals for affordable housing in the City of Altoona for FY 2025 are the following:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	172
Special-Needs	0
Total	172

Table 61 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	120
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	52
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	172

Table 62 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City of Altoona will undertake the following activities to address affordable housing:

- **CD-25-03 Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan** - Continued funding of the City-wide homeowner rehabilitation program. Provide zero percent interest housing rehabilitation loans to income eligible residents.
- **CD-25-04 Single Family Owner-Occupied Emergency Repairs** - Provide no-interest, deferred forgivable loan funds amortized over four years to low-moderate income homeowners up to \$5,000 for to correct exterior code violations, excluding mowing, and up to \$20,000 for emergency repairs to heating, plumbing, and electrical system failures or other repairs as determined necessary by City inspectors to pose an immediate threat to health and safety and do not trigger lead paint remediation beyond de minimis treatment. New construction, routine maintenance and full rehabilitation projects are ineligible and will be referred to the single-family direct loan program. Structure demolition (garages, additions, etc.) will be referred to the City demolition program.

- **CD-25-05 Emergency Roof Replacement Program** - Continued funding of the City-wide Emergency Roof Replacement Program. Provide zero percent interest housing rehabilitation loans to income eligible residents that convert to a grant after 4 years.
- **CD-25-09 Salvation Army - Rental, Utility, and Heating Fuel Assistance** - Funds would be used to provide qualifying households with emergency, rental, utility, and heating fuel assistance to ensure housing is secure and safe. Applications for financial aid are processed through an intake system to verify income eligibility to ensure that over 51% of applicants meet the HUD low-income guidelines. Our plan is to specifically assist 120 households with up to \$750 each in assistance to keep essential household utilities and rent secure.
- **HOME-25-14 HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program** - Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program - Continuation of deferred loan program for the rehabilitation of low-income rental units.
- **HOME-25-15 IDA-CDC Kitchen Replacement at the Fairview Building** - Replace 14 kitchens on the top floor of the Fairview Building in addition to repainting soffit and fascia on the exterior of the building which will include the dormers and upper window panels.

AP-60 Public Housing - 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Altoona Housing Authority is the public housing agency that serves the City of Altoona. The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Altoona is to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing to the residents receiving assistance through the Public Housing and Section 8 Housing Choice Programs in an efficient and professional manner.

The Authority administers 513 public housing apartments, 126 market-rate unsubsidized apartments, and 937 Section 8 vouchers. An examination of current occupancy levels and waiting list information shows that a majority of families have incomes below 30% of median income. The Authority monitors income targeting on a quarterly basis for compliance.

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

During FY 2025, the Altoona Housing Authority will complete site work including concrete and curb repairs and security camera installation, building repairs such as exterior window and door replacement, and interior work of replacing appliances, carpets and toilets.

The Housing Authority will also continue to work with the City on Code Enforcement, Fair Housing workshops and the expansion of homeownership programs. The Housing Authority is disposing of its last Home Choice property in FY 2024 and the proceeds will be used to help expand the homeownership program.

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

The Altoona Housing Authority offers several programs for residents to be involved in and promote self-sufficiency and homeownership.

The Altoona Housing Authority is improving public safety and crime prevention at its public housing communities through community policing programs such as a Stop and Talk Program. Police also patrol on foot and bicycle to create a more notable presence of law enforcement. The Housing Authority also offers after school and day care programs, food banks, and summer programming for youth. The Residents organization meetings are held monthly to encourage residents to meet and talk about community activities and improvements in their communities.

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

Not Applicable. The Altoona Housing Authority is designated as a "high performer."

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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

Introduction

The PA 509 Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care (CoC) is comprised of 33 counties in northeast and central Pennsylvania, organized by geography into five Regional Homeless Advisory Boards (RHABs). The City of Altoona is a member of the South Central RHAB which serves nine (9) counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset.

Describe the jurisdiction's one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including:

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

The CoC annually funds a Supportive Services Only Program that is operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Center for Community Action. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. All persons served are assessed to determine their individual needs.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The family shelter in Altoona is operated by Family Services, Incorporated (FSI). The organization provided 4,188 nights of shelter to homeless individuals in FY 2022 but still had to turn away over 3,000 persons due to lack of space at the shelter. FSI opened a new Emergency Family Shelter in February 2023 which is expected to help with capacity issues but not solve them.

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 Eastern Pennsylvania CoC has undertaken the following projects in Blair County in 2024:

- Center for Community Action - PA 0372 Blair CAP Rapid Rehousing and RRH Expansion
- Center for Community Action - PA 0813 South Central PA Rapid Rehousing

The PA 0372 Rapid Rehousing program serves the general public. The PA 0813 Rapid Rehousing program is targeted to 18-25 year-olds who have a mental or physical disability but are able to live independently.

These two programs offer a variety of supportive services to clients to assist them in the transition to permanent housing. These services include life skills, employment services, clothing, furniture, general case management, housing search, budget counseling etc.

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

There are no specific programs designed to address individuals and families who are being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care. Both the City of Altoona and Blair County have obtained Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) funding in the past to address the needs of these individuals and families, but neither is a current recipient. Likewise, Blair County Community Action (now under the auspices of the Center for Community Action), has used ESG funds in the past to provide Homeless Prevention Services to families to prevent them from becoming homeless.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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

Introduction:

The City of Altoona previously identified and implemented the following changes to the City's Zoning Ordinances:

- Added under Title Three, Article 1, Section 101 a new subsection addressing Housing Choice and Fair Housing.
- Add a definition for "Accessibility" to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

There are no known public policies in the City of Altoona that are barriers to affordable housing. The City Department of Community Development monitors the following:

- Tax policies affecting land and other properties
- Land use controls
- Zoning Ordinance
- Building Code
- Fees and charges

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 intends to continue to promote Fair Housing by working with Summit Legal Aid and Mid-Penn Legal Services. It also has continued to support and encourage construction proposals for for-rent and for-sale properties, as well as financing housing rehabilitation efforts and funding homebuyer training & education. To expand the amount of accessible housing available to elderly and disabled residents, the City is promoting rehabilitation and reasonable accommodations & modifications. Finally, it is expanding its code enforcement efforts to ensure that the existing housing stock remains in safe, sound, and decent condition.

Discussion:

Not Applicable.

AP-85 Other Actions - 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Altoona has developed the following actions which address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, fosters affordable housing, reduces lead-based hazards, reduces the number of poverty families, develops institutional structures, and enhances coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The primary action taken in addressing obstacles to meeting underserved needs is identifying additional financial resources and leveraging funds with available state and local fund resources. An additional strategy for meeting unmet needs is to coordinate with other local service providing organizations so to minimize duplication of service and maximize collaborative efforts to meet identified needs. These are the primary strategies utilized in meeting unmet needs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

With the limited CDBG and HOME funding available, the City intends to continue to increase its supply of affordable housing by rehabilitating homes for eligible homeowners and constructing new homes through Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). Given the resources available, this will reduce but not eliminate barriers to affordable housing. City support for code enforcement and policing services also helps preserve housing units, keeping them in the market and reducing prices.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City will continue to reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards through housing rehabilitation activities using CDBG and HOME funds.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Virtually all of the City's housing activities, programs, and projects are intended to benefit low-to-moderate income persons and to reduce the number of poverty-level families. One of the City's primary anti-poverty components of the CDBG program is to provide safe and sanitary housing for the low- and moderate-income individuals residing in the City. Providing safe and affordable housing opportunities for the low-to-moderate income population is a major deterrent to poverty. Because nearly two-thirds of City residents own their home, a high percentage in comparison with State and National figures, maintaining low-to-moderate-income residents in their own home is a primary component of the City's antipoverty

program. The City addresses this through its ongoing single-family housing rehabilitation program, rental assistance program, and rental rehabilitation assistance program.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Department of Community Development is aware of a few minor gaps in delivery of services in Altoona related to insufficient funding. The staff and agencies involved are working with providers and agencies to develop appropriate solutions and develop alternate funding sources.

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

The City of Altoona created the Altoona Housing Authority (AHA), a body independent of City government whose members are appointed for staggered terms of office by the Mayor with a concurring vote from Altoona City Council. This organizational relationship is determined by Pennsylvania law.

The administrative activities of the agency are determined in accordance with Pennsylvania law and agency policy, including hiring, contracting and procurement. The relationship between the Altoona Housing Authority and the City of Altoona can be delineated by contracts for specific projects. The City and the Housing Authority cooperate in providing police protection for the housing projects and provide funding assistance for specific housing projects. The City also reviews and concurs on capital improvements conducted by the AHA and provides annual inspections on rental units under the City's rental inspection program. The construction of new developments or the demolition or disposition of existing developments is within the exclusive purview of the Housing Authority, although the authority consults routinely with the City of Altoona on these matters.

Discussion:

Not Applicable.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The City of Altoona receives an annual allocation of CDBG and HOME funds. Since the City receives these Federal allocations, the questions below have been completed as they are applicable. The City of Altoona anticipates that it will receive up to \$80,000 in program income from the repayment of Housing Rehabilitation Loans. These funds have been included in the FY 2025 Program Year Budget. There are no existing Program Income Funds that have been received and which have not been programmed.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	\$80,000
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:	\$80,000

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.	72.73%

**HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)**

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The City of Altoona does not intend to use any other forms of investment other than those described in 24 CFR 92.205(b). Not Applicable.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

1. The housing must be single-family housing.
2. The housing must be modest housing as follows:
 - a. In the case of acquisition of newly constructed housing or standard housing, the housing has a purchase price for the type of single-family housing that does not exceed 95 percent of the median purchase price for the area.
 - b. In the case of acquisition with rehabilitation, the housing has an estimated value after rehabilitation that does not exceed 95 percent of the median purchase price for the area.
3. The housing must be acquired by a homebuyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family as determined by the HOME Investment Partnership Program and the housing must be the principal residence of the family throughout the period described in paragraph 4.
4. *Periods of affordability.* The HOME-assisted housing must meet the affordability requirements for not less than the applicable period specified in the following table, beginning after project completion. The per unit amount of HOME funds and the affordability period that they trigger are described more fully in paragraph 5 (recapture) of this section.

Affordability requirements will be incorporated into lease-purchase agreements, lien agreements, and through deed restriction.

Homeownership assistance HOME amount per-unit	Minimum period of affordability in years
Under \$25,000	5
\$25,000 to \$50,000	10
Over \$50,000	15

Recapture. The participating jurisdiction (PJ) recoups all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyers, if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the period of affordability. The period of affordability is based upon the total amount of HOME funds subject to recapture. If the homebuyer or the homeowner breaches the terms and conditions for any reason, e.g. no longer occupies the property as

his/her/their/ principal residence, the full amount of the subsidy is immediately due and payable.

- a. *Reduction during affordability period.* The PJ will reduce the HOME investment amount to be recaptured on a pro-rata basis for the time the homeowner has owned and occupied the housing measured against the required affordability period at the following rate. Five (5) year period-1/60th per month, ten (10) year- 1/120th per month, fifteen (15) year-1/180th per month.
- b. *Shared net proceeds.* If the net proceeds are not sufficient to recapture the reduced amount of HOME investment as provided for in paragraph 5 (a) plus enable the homeowner to recover a “Fair Return on Investment”, the amount of the homeowner’s down payment and any capital improvement investment made by the owner since purchase. The PJ may share the net proceeds. The net proceeds are the sales price minus loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and closing costs. The net proceeds will be divided proportionally as set forth in the following mathematical formulas:

<u>HOME Investment</u> HOME Investment + Homeowner Investment	x Net Proceeds =	HOME amount to be recaptured
<u>Homeowner Investment</u> HOME Investment + Homeowner Investment	x Net Proceeds =	amount to homeowner

- c. *Amount subject to recapture.* The HOME investment that is subject to recapture is based on the amount of HOME assistance that enabled the homebuyer to buy the dwelling unit. This includes any HOME assistance that reduced the purchase price from fair market value to an affordable price but excludes the amount between the cost of producing the unit and the market value of the property (i.e. the development subsidy). If the HOME assistance is only used for the development subsidy and therefore not subject to recapture, a resale option must be developed and used.

Resale Provisions. The resale policy is enforced through the use of a Restrictive Covenant signed by the homebuyer at closing. The Restrictive Covenant will specify:

- 1. the length of the affordability period (based on the dollar amount of HOME funds invested in the unit; either 5, 10, or 15 years);
- 2. that the home remains the Buyer’s principal residence throughout the affordability period; and
- 3. the conditions and obligations of the Owner should the Owner wish to sell before the end of the affordability period, including:

- a. The Owner must contact the City of Altoona Department of Community Development or its representative in writing if intending to sell the home prior to the end of the affordability period;
- b. The subsequent purchaser must be low-income as defined by HOME and occupy the home as his/her new purchaser's primary residence for the remaining years of the affordability period. (However, if the new purchaser receives direct assistance through a HOME-funded program, the affordability period will be re-set according to the amount of assistance provided); and
- c. The sales price must be affordable to the subsequent purchaser; affordable is defined as limiting the Principal, Interest, Taxes and Insurance (PITI) amount to no more than 30% of the new purchaser's monthly income.

Fair Return on Investment. The City of Altoona will administer its resale provisions by ensuring that the Owner receives a fair return on his/her investment and that the home will continue to be affordable to a specific range of incomes. Fair Return on Investment means the total homeowner investment which includes the total cash contribution plus the approved capital improvements credits as described below:

1. The amount of down payment;
2. The cost of any capital improvements, documented with receipts provided by the homeowner, including but not limited to:
 - a. Any additions to the home such as a bedroom, bathroom, or garage;
 - b. Replacement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems;
 - c. Accessibility improvements such as bathroom modifications for disabled or elderly, installation of wheel chair ramps and grab bars, and any and all of which must have been paid for directly by the Owner and which were not installed through a federal, state, or locally-funded grant program; and
 - d. Outdoor improvements such as a new driveway, walkway, retaining wall, or fence.

NOTE: All capital improvements will be visually inspected to verify their existence.

3. The percentage of change as calculated by the Housing Price Index (HPI) Calculator of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The HPI Calculator is currently located at www.fhfa.gov and projects what a given house purchased at a point in time would be worth today if it appreciated at the average appreciation rate of all homes in the area. The calculation shall be performed for the Altoona, PA Metropolitan Statistical Area.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

Affordability to a Range of Buyers. The City will ensure continued affordability to a range of buyers, particularly those whose total household incomes range from 65 percent to no greater than 80 percent MFI.

Sales prices shall not be set such that the amount of Principal, Interest, Taxes and Insurance does not exceed 30 percent of the new Buyer's annual income. The affordable sales price shall not exceed the applicable Market Limit as established and provided by HUD for the Altoona area.

Lease-purchase. The lease-purchase agreement must be ratified within nine (9) months of the date of completion of construction or rehabilitation. The homebuyer must qualify as a low-income family at the time the lease-purchase agreement is signed. The homebuyer must provide completion certification of housing counseling training. The housing must be purchased by the homebuyer within thirty-six (36) months of signing. If the housing is not transferred to a homebuyer within this time frame the unit must be rented to an income eligible tenant in accordance with HOME affordability requirements for rental housing.

Contract to purchase. The sales contract must be ratified within nine (9) months of the date of completion of construction or rehabilitation. The homebuyer must qualify as a low-income family at the time the contract is signed. The homebuyer must provide completion certification of housing counseling training. If the housing is not transferred to a homebuyer within this time frame the unit must be rented to an income eligible tenant in accordance with HOME affordability requirements for rental housing.

Homeownership is defined as ownership in fee simple title or a 99-year leasehold interest in a one-to-four-unit dwelling. The ownership interest may be subject only to the restrictions on mortgages, deeds of trust, or other liens or instruments securing debt on the property as approved by the PJ.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

HOME funds may be used to refinance existing debt of multi-family properties that were developed by locally based housing organizations and in which HOME funds are also being used for eligible rehabilitation costs, consistent with 24 CFR 92.206(b)(2), subject to meeting the following conditions:

1. Refinancing is necessary to permit or continue affordability under 24 CFR 92.252.
2. The amount of HOME funds provided for refinancing costs cannot exceed 51% of the combined total cost for eligible rehabilitation costs and refinancing costs. The funds to be used for

rehabilitation and refinancing may include sources other than HOME funds, but a minimum level of \$2,000 per unit of HOME funds must be used for eligible rehabilitation costs.

3. Before providing HOME funds, the City shall review the management practices of the owner to ensure that disinvestment in the property has not occurred, that the long-term needs of the project can be met, and that the refinancing will help to ensure the affordability of the units to very low and low-income households over the period of affordability.
 4. In its written approval of the HOME funds, the City shall specify that the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units.
 5. Refinancing will be limited to projects that have previously received an investment of public funds.
 6. Refinancing of multi-family properties shall be eligible anywhere in the City of Altoona.
 7. The minimum period of affordability for refinancing of multi-family properties shall be 15 years.
 8. The HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multi-family loans made or insured by any other federal program, including CDBG funds.
- 5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(I)(2)(vii)).**

Not applicable.

- 6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(I)(2)(vii)).**

Not applicable.

- 7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(I)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).**

Not applicable.

Discussion**HOME Match Requirements:**

The City is not required to provide a match for FY 2025's HOME funds as the City satisfied the distressed criteria for participating jurisdictions in accordance with HOME Program regulations. Not Currently Applicable.

HOME Program Income:

The City does not anticipate receiving HOME Program Income. Not Applicable.

CHDO Organizations:

The City of Altoona has one CHDO, Improved Dwellings of Altoona.

CDBG Program Income:

The City of Altoona anticipates approximately \$80,000 in Program Income.

CDBG Percentages:

- Administrative Percentage: 20%
- Public Service Percentage: 15%
- Low and Moderate-Income Percentage: 100%
- No Slum and Blight Activities.

HOME Percentages:

- Administrative Percentage: 10%
- CHDO Set-Aside: 15%



SF 424 FORMS & CERTIFICATIONS

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- Preapplication
- Application
- Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- New
- Continuation
- Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

08/12/2025

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name:

City of Altoona, PA

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

23-6001899

* c. UEI:

YEQ8SQVGMK45

d. Address:

* Street1:

1301 12th Street, Suite 400

Street2:

* City:

Altoona

County/Parish:

Blair

* State:

PA: Pennsylvania

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code:

16601-3458

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Community Development Dept.

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mr.

* First Name:

Eric

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Luchansky

Suffix:

Title:

Community Development Director

Organizational Affiliation:

Community Development Department

* Telephone Number:

814-949-2471

Fax Number:

814-949-0372

* Email:

eluchansky@altoonapa.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Assistance Listing Number:

14.218

Assistance Listing Title:

Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant

* b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

* b. End Date:

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="1,536,368.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="80,000.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="1,616,368.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

- Yes
- No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:
Middle Name:
* Last Name:
Suffix:

* Title:

* Telephone Number: Fax Number:

* Email:

* Signature of Authorized Representative: 

* Date Signed:

Instructions for the HUD 424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual, must provide the following assurances and certifications. The Responsible Civil Rights Official has specified this form for use for purposes of general compliance with 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 146.25, as applicable. The Responsible Civil Rights Official may require specific civil rights assurances to be furnished consistent with those authorities and will specify the form on which such assurances must be made. A failure to furnish or comply with the civil rights assurances contained in this form may result in the procedures to effect compliance at 24 CFR §§ 1.8, 3.115, 8.57, or 146.39.

By submitting this form, you are stating that all assertions made in this form are true, accurate, and correct.

As the duly representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant: [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

*Authorized Representative Name:

Matthew Pacifico

*Title: Mayor

*Applicant/Recipient Organization:

City of Altoona, PA

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the application to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.

2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).

3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8, the American Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et.seq.), and implementing regulations at 28 CFR part 35 or 36, as applicable, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07) as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

4. Will comply with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin and will affirmatively further fair housing; except an applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant

will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

5. Will comply with all applicable Federal nondiscrimination requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR §§ 5.105(a) and 5.106 as applicable.

6. Will not use Federal funding to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) mandates, policies, programs, or activities that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws.

7. Will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24 and, as applicable, Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(d)) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 42, subpart A.

8. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et.seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property.

9. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all subawards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

I/We, the undersigned, certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true, accurate, and correct. WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802; 24 CFR §28.10(b)(1)(iii)).

* Signature:



* Date: (mm/dd/yyyy): 08/11/2025

Public Reporting Burden Statement: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Chief Data Officer, R, 451 7th St SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000. **Do not send completed HUD 424-B forms to this address.** This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to collect this information under the authority cited in the Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant program. The information collected provides assurances and certifications for legal requirements related to the administration of this grant program. HUD will use this information to ensure compliance of its grantees. This information is required to obtain the benefit sought in the grant program. This information will not be held confidential and may be made available to the public in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552).

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- Preapplication
- Application
- Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

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- Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

08/12/2025

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5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

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Altoona

County/Parish:

Blair

* State:

PA: Pennsylvania

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code:

16601-3458

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Community Development Dept.

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mr.

* First Name:

Eric

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Luchansky

Suffix:

Title:

Community Development Director

Organizational Affiliation:

Community Development Department

* Telephone Number:

814-949-2471

Fax Number:

814-949-0372

* Email:

eluchansky@altoonapa.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Assistance Listing Number:

14.239

Assistance Listing Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan for the HOME Investment Partnership Program.

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant

* b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

* b. End Date:

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="266,494.73"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="266,494.73"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

- Yes
- No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.


Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:
Middle Name:
* Last Name:
Suffix:

* Title:

* Telephone Number: Fax Number:

* Email:

* Signature of Authorized Representative: 

* Date Signed:

Instructions for the HUD 424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual, must provide the following assurances and certifications. The Responsible Civil Rights Official has specified this form for use for purposes of general compliance with 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 146.25, as applicable. The Responsible Civil Rights Official may require specific civil rights assurances to be furnished consistent with those authorities and will specify the form on which such assurances must be made. A failure to furnish or comply with the civil rights assurances contained in this form may result in the procedures to effect compliance at 24 CFR §§ 1.8, 3.115, 8.57, or 146.39.

By submitting this form, you are stating that all assertions made in this form are true, accurate, and correct.

As the duly representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant: [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

*Authorized Representative Name:

Matthew Pacifico

*Title: Mayor

*Applicant/Recipient Organization:

City of Altoona, PA

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the application to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.

2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).

3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8, the American Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et.seq.), and implementing regulations at 28 CFR part 35 or 36, as applicable, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07) as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

4. Will comply with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin and will affirmatively further fair housing; except an applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant

will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

5. Will comply with all applicable Federal nondiscrimination requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR §§ 5.105(a) and 5.106 as applicable.

6. Will not use Federal funding to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) mandates, policies, programs, or activities that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws.

7. Will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24 and, as applicable, Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(d)) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 42, subpart A.

8. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et.seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property.

9. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all subawards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

I/We, the undersigned, certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true, accurate, and correct. WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802; 24 CFR §28.10(b)(1)(iii)).

* Signature:



* Date: (mm/dd/yyyy): 08/11/2025

Public Reporting Burden Statement: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Chief Data Officer, R, 451 7th St SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000. **Do not send completed HUD 424-B forms to this address.** This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to collect this information under the authority cited in the Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant program. The information collected provides assurances and certifications for legal requirements related to the administration of this grant program. HUD will use this information to ensure compliance of its grantees. This information is required to obtain the benefit sought in the grant program. This information will not be held confidential and may be made available to the public in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552).

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and

3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.



Signature of Authorized Official

08/11/2025

Date

Mayor

Title

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2025 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.



Signature of Authorized Official

08/11/2025
Date

Mayor
Title

OPTIONAL Community Development Block Grant Certification

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities which are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.



Signature of Authorized Official

08/11/2025
Date

Mayor

Title

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §§92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;



Signature of Authorized Official

08/11/2025
Date

Mayor

Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.



RESOLUTION

APPROVING THE FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND THE FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF THE PLANS WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)

WHEREAS, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to communities in the prevention or elimination of slums or urban blight, or activities which will benefit low and moderate income persons, or other urgent community development needs; and

WHEREAS, under the HOME Investment Partnership Program created by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, the Secretary of HUD is authorized to extend financial assistance to participating jurisdictions to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has advised the City of Altoona that under Fiscal Year 2025, the City is eligible to apply for an entitlement grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in the amount of \$1,536,368, CDBG Program Income in the amount of \$80,000, and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program in the amount of \$266,494.73; and

WHEREAS, the City of Altoona's Department of Community Development has prepared a FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan which proposes how the entitlement grant funds will be expended to address the housing and community development needs identified in the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan; and

WHEREAS, a draft of the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan, was on public display from July 8, 2025, through August 7, 2025, and the City held a series of public meetings and hearings on the said Plans and the comments of various agencies, groups, and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final documents.

Roll Call	Yeas	Nays		Yeas	Nays
Beatty	✓		Ickes	✓	
Butterbaugh	✓		Kelley	✓	
Clinich	✓		Mayor Pacifico	✓	
Ellis	✓				
				7	0

AUG 1 1 2025

Adopted _____



Mayor

AUG 1 1 2025

Date Signed

Attest: 

City Clerk

AUG 1 2 2025

Date Recorded

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan are hereby in all respects APPROVED and the City Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of said Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2025 with the Official Minutes of this Meeting of this Council.

SECTION 2. That the City is cognizant of the conditions that are imposed in the undertaking and carrying out of the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program with Federal financial assistance, including those relating to (a) the relocation of site occupants, (b) the prohibition of discrimination because of race, color, age, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin, and other assurances as set forth under the required HUD Certifications.

SECTION 3. That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, is authorized to file an Application for financial assistance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which has indicated its willingness to make available funds to carry out the CDBG Program in the amount of in the amount of \$1,536,368, CDBG Program Income in the amount of \$80,000, and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program in the amount of \$266,494.73; and its further AUTHORIZED to act as the authorized representative of the City of Altoona to sign any and all documents in regard to these programs.

SECTION 4. That the Mayor, on behalf the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, is authorized to provide assurances and/or certifications as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; and any other supplemental or revised data which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development may request in review of the City's Application.

AUG 11 2025

Adoption Date _____

City Clerk's Initials 

Mayor's Initials 



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



**FIRST PUBLIC
HEARING**

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, Blair County, PA will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 5:00 PM**, prevailing time, in the City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601. The City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers are accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate citizens in order for them to participate in the public hearing, please call Ms. Diana White, Director, Department of Planning & Community Development, City of Altoona, at (814) 949-2470 or via email at dwhite@altoonapa.gov to make those arrangements, or for the hearing-impaired call the TTY relay system at 7-1-1.

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather information for the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029, the Annual Action Plan for FY 2025, and the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (A.I.), which the City must prepare and submit the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs. Additionally, the hearing will be used to solicit the views and comments of individuals and organizations concerning any impediments to fair housing choice in the City and what steps should be undertaken to affirmatively further fair housing.

The City of Altoona anticipates based on last fiscal year's allocation that it may receive an estimated CDBG entitlement grant in the amount of approximately \$1,587,983 for FY 2025; and \$307,458 in HOME funds for FY 2025. These funding levels are contingent upon the final approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2025. In order to receive those funds, the City of Altoona must prepare a Five-Year Consolidated Plan and a One Year Annual Action Plan for the use of the CDBG and HOME funds. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons living in the City of Altoona. In preparing its CDBG and HOME application the City intends to afford citizens, local agencies, and interested parties the opportunity to become involved in the planning process.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program: Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities, including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

The following types of activities may be eligible for HOME funding; acquisition of real property; rehabilitation of housing; new construction of housing; downpayment and closing cost assistance; tenant based rental assistance; and other miscellaneous activities.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG and/or HOME funds.

The Analysis of Impediments will focus on the status and interaction of six (6) fundamental conditions within the community:

- The sale or rental of dwellings (public or private);
- The provision of housing brokerage services;
- The provision of financial assistance for dwellings;
- Public policies and actions affecting the approval of sites and other building requirements used in the approval process for the construction of publicly assisted housing;
- The administrative policies concerning community development and housing activities, which affect opportunities of minority households to select housing inside or outside areas of minority concentration; and
- Where there is a determination of unlawful segregation or other housing discrimination by a court or a finding of noncompliance by HUD regarding assisted housing in a recipient's jurisdiction, an analysis of the actions which could be taken by the recipient to remedy the discriminatory condition, including actions involving the expenditure of funds made available under 24 CFR Part 570.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the needs of the City of Altoona and the use of CDBG and HOME funds to address those needs over the next five (5) years. Written comments may be addressed to Ms. Diana White, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Altoona, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601 or via email at dwhite@altoonapa.gov.

Matt Pacifico, Mayor
City of Altoona

Publish on: Monday, August 19, 2024

Proof of Publication Requested

Altoona Mirror

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

See Proof on Next Page

STATE OF New York
COUNTY OF Orange

Ayesha Carletta M Cochran-Worthen, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Altoona Mirror, a newspaper printed and published in the City of Altoona, County of Blair, State of Pennsylvania, and that this affidavit is Page 1 of 2 with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and the hereto attached:

That said newspaper was established as a daily newspaper of general circulation the Thirteenth Day of June 1874, since which date said newspaper has been published daily in the City of Altoona; that copy of printed notice hereto attached, is exactly as the same was printed and published in the regular edition of the daily Altoona Mirror published on the following date(s), viz.:
Aug. 19, 2024

The affiant further deposes and declares that he is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice of publication and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place and character of publication are true.

(Signed) Ayesha Carletta M Cochran-Worthen

VERIFICATION

State of New York
County of Orange

LAUREN A PREDMORE
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
Registration No. 01PR0000070
Qualified in Orange County
Commission Expires February 1, 2027

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 08/19/2024



Notary Public
Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Meeting Notice

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

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The City of Altoona anticipates based on last year's allocation that it may receive an estimated CDBG entitlement grant in the amount of approximately \$1,587,983 for FY2025; and \$307,458 in HOME funds for FY 2025. These funding levels are contingent upon the final approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2025. In order to receive those funds, the City of Altoona must prepare a Five-Year Consolidated Plan and a One Year Annual Action Plan for the use of the CDBG and HOME funds. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons living in the City of Altoona. In preparing its CDBG and HOME application, the City intends to afford citizens, local agencies, and interest parties the opportunity to become involved in the planning process.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program: Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities; including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; homeownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

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- The provision of financial assistance for dwellings;
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- The administrative policies concerning community development and housing activities, which affect opportunities of minority households to select housing inside or outside areas of minority concentration; and
- Where there is a determination of unlawful segregation or other housing discrimination by a court or a finding of noncompliance by HUD regarding assisted housing in a recipient's jurisdiction, an analysis of the actions which could be taken by the recipient to remedy the discriminatory condition, including actions involving the expenditure of funds made available under 24 CFR Part 570.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the needs of the City of Altoona and the use of CDBG and HOME funds to address those needs over the next five (5) years. Written comments may be addressed to Ms. Diana White, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Altoona, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601 or via email at dwhite@altoonapa.gov

Matt Pacifico, Mayor
City of Altoona

August 19, 2024



**PUBLIC NEEDS HEARING FOR THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Thursday, August 22nd, 2024, at 5:00pm

City Hall Conference Room 1301
12th Street, Fourth Floor, City Hall
Altoona, PA 16601

Opening Remarks – Ms. Diana White

Department of Planning and Community Development

Overview –

- What is a Five-Year Consolidated Plan, an Annual Action Plan, and an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

Eligible CDBG Activities –

CDBG funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- acquisition of real property;
- relocation and demolition;
- rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures;
- construction of public facilities and improvements, such as water and sewer facilities, streets, neighborhood centers, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes;
- public services, within certain limits;
- activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources; and
- provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.

Ineligible CDBG Activities –

Generally, the following types of activities are ineligible:

- acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of buildings for the general conduct of government;
- political activities;
- certain income payments; and
- construction of new housing by units of general local government.

Eligible HOME Activities –

HOME funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- new construction of affordable housing, rehabilitation of affordable housing, reconstruction of affordable housing, conversion to affordable housing;
- site improvements related to the development of affordable housing;
- refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable;
- acquisition costs (improved or unimproved); purchase of property by home buyers;
- soft costs such as architectural, engineering, and related professional services;
- costs to provide information services such as affirmative marketing and fair housing information;
- CHDO costs such as cost of project-specific technical assistance and site control loans;
- relocation costs for displaced households;
- administrative and planning costs.

Ineligible HOME Activities –

HOME funds may not be used to:

- Provide project reserve accounts, except for new construction or rehabilitation of an initial operating deficit reserve during the period of project read-up (not to exceed 18 months)
- Provide tenant-based rental assistance for the special purpose of the existing Section 8 Program
- Provide non-Federal matching contribution required under another Federal Programs
- Provide assistance for uses authorized by Public Housing Capital and Operating Funds
- Prepayment of Low-Income Housing Mortgages
- Provide assistance to a homebuyer to acquire housing previously assisted with HOME funds during the period of affordability
- Provide funds for the acquisition of property owned by the participating jurisdiction (PJ) except for property acquired by the PJ with HOME funds, or property acquired in anticipation of carrying out a HOME project
- Pay for delinquent taxes, fees or charges on properties to be assisted with HOME funds

- Pay for any cost that is not listed as eligible under the HOME Regulations

Estimated FY 2025 Allocations –

The City of Altoona anticipates that it will receive an allocation of CDBG funds in the approximate amount of \$1,587,983 and allocation of HOME funds in the approximate amount of \$307,459. This amount is preliminary and subject to change based on the approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2025.

Entitlement Funds	Estimated Amount
FY 2025 CDBG Funds	\$1,587,983*
FY 2025 HOME Funds	\$307,459*
Total:	\$1,895,442

*Note: *Amount subject to change based on HUD’s allocation of funds.*

Review of Past Performance –

The City of Altoona prepares its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) each year. This report is submitted within ninety (90) days after the start of the new program year.

The FY 2023 CAPER, which is the fourth CAPER for the FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, is in the process of being prepared and the FY 2022 CAPER statistics are presented for review. The City of Altoona’s CDBG Program expended 83.8% of the funds to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. A total of 15.7% of the funds were expended for program administration. The City expended 1.9% of the funds on public service activities and 0.1% of the funds on Slum and blight activities.

The City of Altoona’s HOME Program allocated 105 of the HOME allocation for administration and 15% of the funds for CHDO activities with the balance allocated for housing related projects. The City rehabilitated 25 affordable housing units with HOME funds.

Public Comments –

What do you believe are needs in the City, related to housing; community development – streets, water, sewer, etc.; public services including services for the homeless and special needs populations; economic development needs; other?

Open discussion on needs –

Adjournment – Ms. Diana White

Department of Planning and Community Development



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

§570.201 - 206

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

Eligible Public Facility & Improvement Projects	CDBG Conditions
Sewer and Water Facilities Streets and Sidewalks Curb and Gutters Parks and Playgrounds Senior Citizens' Center Parking Lots or Garages Utility Lines Recreation Center	<p>These projects may be undertaken on an interim basis in areas exhibiting objectively determinable signs of physical deterioration where it was determined that immediate action is necessary to arrest the deterioration and that permanent improvements will be carried out as practicable to repair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Streets; ➤ Sidewalks; ➤ Parks; ➤ Playgrounds; ➤ Publicly owned utilities; and ➤ The execution of special garbage, trash, and debris removal, including neighborhood cleanup campaigns, but not the regular curbside collection of garbage or trash in an area.
Police or Fire Station in which services to the public are actually provided (as opposed to administrative offices).	<p>Fire protection equipment including fire trucks, fire fighters' protective clothing, "jaws of life," and other life-saving equipment are eligible for CDBG funding under Public Facilities and Improvements as this equipment is integral to the fire protection facility.</p>
Aesthetic amenities on public land such as landscaping (trees, sculptures, pools of water and fountains and other works of art).	<p>These include all improvements and facilities that are either publicly owned or that are traditionally provided by government, or owned by a non-profit, and operated so as to be open to the general public.</p>
Jails or Prisons	<p>Jails are considered to benefit the entire community served by the facility and thus would qualify under the low-moderate income (LMI) benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.</p>
Library	<p>Public facilities that serve the entire jurisdiction of the grantee, a main library for example, may qualify under the LMI benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.</p>
Special Assessments	<p>Special Assessments are used to recover the capital costs of a public improvement through a fee levied or a lien filed against a parcel of real estate either as, 1) a direct result of a benefit derived from the installation of a public improvement or 2) a one-time charge made as a condition of access to an improvement. Sewer tap-in fees are an example of a special assessment.</p>
Privately Owned Utilities- 570.201 (I)	<p>CDBG funds may be used to acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, or install the distribution lines and facilities for privately owned utilities. A privately-owned utility refers to a service that is publicly regulated and is provided through the use of physical distribution lines to private properties. Examples of eligible utilities are electricity, telephone, water, sewer, natural gas and cable television.</p>
Other	<p>The City is willing to consider other public facility projects not listed above. It is highly recommended that applicants contact the City to discuss new projects ideas prior to submitting a grant application.</p>

REAL PROPERTY AND HOUSING PROJECTS

Eligible Real Property & Housing Projects	CDBG Conditions
Acquisitions of land or buildings - 570.201 (a)	<p>CDBG funds may be used for acquisition of real property, either in whole or in part, by purchase, long-term lease, donation, or otherwise for any public purpose.</p> <p>Examples include land, air rights, easement, water rights, rights-of-way and buildings.</p> <p>Examples of ineligible activities include costs of moveable equipment and acquisition of newly constructed housing or an interest in construction of new housing.</p>
Disposition - 570.201 (b)	<p>CDBG funds may be used to dispose of property acquired with CDBG funds through sale, lease, donation, or other means.</p> <p>Property must have a reuse plan that meets a National Objective.</p> <p>The property may be disposed of at less than fair market value.</p> <p>Costs may include preparation of legal documents, surveys, marketing, financial services, transfer of taxes or ownership.</p>
Clearance Activities - 570.201 (d)	<p>Demolish buildings and improvements.</p> <p>Remove rubble and debris after demolition.</p> <p>Remove environmental contaminants or treat them to make them harmless.</p> <p>Move structures to other sites.</p>
Code Enforcement - 570.202 (c)	<p>Code enforcement activities are eligible provided that the enforcement takes place in a deteriorated or deteriorating area and the enforcement effort is accompanied by public or private improvements or service and can be expected to arrest the decline of the area.</p> <p>Eligible costs include costs incurred for inspections for code violations (including salaries and overhead) and the enforcement of code requirements (including legal proceedings).</p> <p>Both residential and commercial structures may be included in code enforcement activities.</p>
Historic preservation - 570.202 (d)	<p>CDBG funds may be used for the rehabilitation, preservation, or restoration of historic properties, whether publicly or privately owned.</p> <p>Historic properties are those sites or structures that are either listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, listed in the Pennsylvania or local inventory of historic places, or designated as a Pennsylvania or local landmark or historic district by appropriate law or ordinance.</p> <p>Examples of eligible activities include historic preservation plans, rehabilitation of the property, relocating residents while preservation work is performed.</p> <p>Historic preservation is not authorized for buildings used for the general conduct of government.</p>
Renovation of closed buildings - 570.202 (e)	<p>CDBG funds may be used to renovate closed buildings, such as closed school buildings, for use as an eligible public facility or to rehabilitate or convert closed buildings for residential and commercial uses.</p> <p>Examples of ineligible activities include creation of secondary housing units attached to a primary unit and costs of equipment, furnishings or other personal property that are not integral structural fixtures, such as window air conditioners or clothes washers.</p>
Lead-based paint (LBP) hazard, evaluation and reduction, and clearance - 570.202 (f)	<p>Cost associated with the evaluation and reduction of LBP. Examples of eligible activities include inspecting buildings for LBP hazards, testing surfaces abatement of lead hazards and payment of temporary relocation costs for residents on which their home is receiving abatement services.</p>

Handicap Accessibility - 570.201	Removal of materials and architectural barriers that restrict the accessibility or mobility of elderly or handicapped persons. Activities must take place on existing structures.
Energy Efficiency - 570.201	Examples of eligible activities include weatherization of home or apartment building, installation of solar or wind equipment, finance energy – efficient rehab, provision of free insulation or home energy audits, and preparation of comprehensive community energy use strategies.
Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements eligible for rehabilitation assistance - 570.202 (a)	CDBG may be used to finance the rehabilitation of privately –owned homes, publicly – owned residential housing, nonresidential buildings owned by nonprofits, and manufactured housing when it is part of the permanent housing supply.

PUBLIC SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND “OTHER” ACTIVITIES	
Activities	CDBG Conditions
Relocation - 570.201 (i)	Relocation of payments and other assistance for permanently and temporarily relocated individuals, families, businesses, non-profit organizations and farm operations.
Loss of Rental Income - 570.201 (j)	Compensation to property owners for the loss in rental income incurred while temporarily holding housing units to be used for the relocation of individuals and families displaced by CDBG-assisted activities.
Public Services - 570.201 (e)	<p>CDBG funds may be used for a wide range of public service activities including, but not limited to, job training, crime prevention, public safety, childcare, health services, substance abuse services, fair housing counseling, education programs, energy conservation, senior citizen services, homeless person services, subsistence payment service and recreational services.</p> <p>In order for a first-time public service application to be considered the applicant must prove that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the service is a new initiative for the agency (new service); OR 2) the service existed but was not provided by or on behalf of a government agency with funding from that government agency; OR 3) there was a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service within the 2013 calendar year.
Micro-Enterprise Assistance - 570.201 (o)	<p>The provisions of assistance to facilitate economic development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing credit, including, but not limited to, grants, loans, loan guarantees, and other forms of financial support, for the establishment, stabilization, and expansion of micro-enterprises; • Providing technical assistance, advice, and business support services to owners of micro-enterprises and persons developing micro-enterprises; and • Providing general support to owners of microenterprises and persons developing microenterprises including childcare, transportation, counseling, and peer support groups. <p>A microenterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise that has five or fewer employees, one or more of whom owns the microenterprise business.</p>

The table below provides eligible Planning & Administration expenses.

Eligible Planning & Administration Projects 570.205 & 570.206
➤ Preparation of general plans such as the Consolidated Plan
➤ Functional plans such as housing plans
➤ Neighborhood plans and general historic preservation plans
➤ Policy planning, management, and capacity building activities
➤ Monitoring



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

§570.207

(a)	General Rule – Any activity that is not authorized as an “eligible activity.”
(b)	Government Buildings – Funds cannot be used for improvements to a public building used for the general conduct of government.
(c)	General Government Expenses – Funds cannot be used for expenses that are considered the regular responsibilities of the local government.
(d)	Political Activities – Funds cannot be used to finance the use of facilities or equipment for political purposes or to engage in other partisan political activities.
(e)	Purchase of Equipment – The purchase of equipment is generally ineligible, which includes construction equipment, motor vehicles, furnishings, or personal property. The only exception is fire equipment assigned to a low- and moderate-income area.
(f)	Operating and Maintenance Expenses – The general rule is that any expense associated with repairing, operating, or maintaining public facilities, improvements, and services is ineligible.
(g)	New Housing Construction – Funds cannot be used for the construction of new permanent residential structures or for any program to subsidize or consist of such new construction except by a CBDO. However, the cost of site assemblage, clearance, and site improvements are eligible activities.
(h)	Income Payments – Funds cannot be used for subsistence-type grant payments for food, clothing, housing, or utilities.



CDBG NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

National Objective Subcategory	Conditions for Eligibility	Example
Low-Moderate Income (LMI) Area Benefit	<p>A facility or improvement will be used for a purpose that benefits all residents in a defined area primarily residential in which at least 51% are LMI households.</p> <p>Paying all or part of a special assessment on behalf of LMI Households qualifies under this objective.</p>	<p>The Installation of paved streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters in a predominantly LMI household neighborhood.</p> <p>CDBG funds pay the assessment made to Low-Mod Income household homeowners when a new water/sewer system is installed in their neighborhood.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Limited Clientele	<p>The majority of public service activities qualify under this national objective.</p> <p>Services provided to a specific group of people who are comprised of at least 51% LMI households.</p>	<p>Homeownership counseling is provided to a group of LMI individuals.</p> <p>Renovation or expansion of a food pantry.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Housing	<p>The facility or improvement exclusively benefits housing to be occupied by LMI households.</p>	<p>A parking lot and landscaping are improved on the site of a rental property with 51% LMI households paying affordable rents.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Jobs	<p>Public improvement is for an economic development project that creates or retains permanent jobs.</p> <p>In order for a CDBG funded economic development activity to qualify as an activity that benefits low- and moderate-income persons, at least 51% of the jobs created or retained (full time equivalent basis) will be held by or made available to low- and moderate-income persons.</p>	<p>A new water tower will enable factory expansion and owners to commit to hiring at least 51% of new permanent jobs to LMI persons.</p>
Area Blight	<p>Public improvements and facilities are in a designated blighted area and activity addresses conditions that contributed to blight.</p>	<p>An outdated fire hall is rehabilitated, and equipment is updated to prevent further loss of life and property due to fires.</p>
Spot Blight	<p>Public improvements or facility is outside designated blighted area and activity is limited to eliminate specific conditions of blight or decay.</p>	<p>An historic library building located outside a designated area is rehabilitated.</p>
Urgent Need	<p>Acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of a public facility or improvement that is designated to alleviate recent serious and imminent threat to public health and safety and no other funds are available.</p>	<p>A storm sewer system is reconstructed after a severe flood damaged it. All other funding sources are unavailable or exhausted.</p>



HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

ELIGIBLE HOME ACTIVITIES

- **Hard Costs**
 - New construction of affordable housing
 - Rehabilitation of affordable housing
 - Reconstruction of affordable housing
 - Conversion to affordable housing
 - Site Improvements related to the development of affordable housing
- **Refinancing of existing debt secured by a housing project that is being rehabilitated w/ HOME Funds**
 - Refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable
- **Acquisition Costs**
 - Improved or unimproved
 - Purchase of property by home buyers
- **Soft Costs necessary for the financing, development, rehabilitation or acquisition of housing using HOME Funds**
 - Architectural, engineering, and related professional services
 - Costs to process and settle the financing for a project such as lender origination fees, appraisal fees, etc.
 - Project audit costs and certification of costs by a CPA
 - Costs to provide information services such as affirmative marketing and fair housing information
 - Costs of funding an initial operation deficit reserve during the period of initial project rent-up but not to exceed 18 months
 - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out the project such as work specifications, loan processing inspections, housing consultation, etc.

- Cost for the payment of impact fees that the local jurisdiction changes for all housing projects
- Cost of environmental review and release of funds
- **CHDO Costs**
 - Cost of project-specific technical assistance and site control loans
 - Project feasibility costs, consulting fees, legal fees, architectural and engineering fees, property options, site control, and title clearance
 - Project specific seed money loans for preconstruction costs that are customary and reasonable such as costs of obtaining firm financing, construction loan commitments, architectural plans and specifications, zoning approvals, legal fees, etc.
- **Relocation costs for displaced households**
 - Relocation payments and other relocation assistance for persons displaced by the housing project
 - Replacement housing payments, moving expenses and payment for reasonable out-of-pocket costs incurred in the temporary relocation of persons
 - Other relocation assistance such as staff and overhead costs directly related to providing advisory and other relocation services to displaced persons
- **Administrative and planning costs**
 - General management, oversight and coordination
 - Staff and overhead costs
 - Public information costs in the planning and implementation of projects
- **Other Costs**
 - Fair housing activities to affirmatively further fair housing
 - Downpayment and closing cost assistance
 - Indirect costs as part of a cost allocation plan
 - Preparation of the consolidated plan
 - Compliance and reporting in reference to Federal requirements
 - Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA)
 - Rental assistance and security deposit payments
 - Utility deposit assistance only if rental or security deposit payments are made
 - Cost of inspecting the housing and determining income eligibility of the household

- Troubled HOME-assisted rental housing projects
 - Applies to only an existing HOME assisted rental project
 - Project is no longer financially viable during the HOME 20 year affordability period for rental projects
 - Operating costs significantly exceed the operating revenue
 - HUD must approve this cost to preserve an affordable rental project
 - Additional HOME Funds and original HOME Funds may not exceed the maximum amount of per-unit subsidy [Section 221 (d)(3)(ii)]

INELIGIBLE HOME ACTIVITIES

- **HOME funds may not be used to:**
 - Provide project reserve accounts, except for new construction or rehabilitation of an initial operating deficit reserve during the period of project read-up (not to exceed 18 months)
 - Provide tenant-based rental assistance for the special purpose of the existing Section 8 Program
 - Provide non-Federal matching contribution required under another Federal Programs
 - Provide assistance for uses authorized by Public Housing Capital and Operating Funds
 - Prepayment of Low Income Housing Mortgages
 - Provide assistance to a homebuyer to acquire housing previously assisted with HOME funds during the period of affordability
 - Provide funds for the acquisition of property owned by the participating jurisdiction (P.J.) except for property acquired by the P.J. with HOME funds, or property acquired in anticipation of carrying out a HOME project
 - Pay for delinquent taxes, fees or charges on properties to be assisted with HOME funds
 - Pay for any cost that is not listed as eligible under the HOME Regulations



**FIRST PUBLIC HEARING – CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN, FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN,
AND ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

City Hall Conference Room 1301, 12th Street, Fourth Floor

Thursday, August 22nd, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Bette Fischer	City	814-949-2470	bfischer@altoonapa.gov
Diana White	City	814-949-2471	dwhite@altoonapa.gov
Mary Johnson	City	814-949-2475	mjohnson@altoonapa.gov
Adam McCoy	City	814-949-2427	amccoy@altoonapa.gov
James Tzexler	City	814 949 2473	jtsexler@altoonapa.gov
Jonathan Willett	City	814-949-2468	jwillett@altoonapa.gov
Nate Taylor	City	814-949-2113	ntaylor@altoonapa.gov

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
DAVE BUTTSBAUGH	CITY	—	—
BILL KIBLER	MIRROR		
Dave Jordan	HDV		



**FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
FY 2025-2029 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

Thursday, August 22nd, 2024, at 5:00pm

City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers,
1320 Washington Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601

Broadcast live on Breezeline Cable Channel 14

Live-streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxOuFIADuVMHKVQCGZVECdQ>

Attendance:

- *Diana White, Director, Department of Community Development*
- *Mary Johnson, Deputy Director, Department of Community Development*
- *James Trexler, Housing Program Manager, Department of Community Development*
- *Adam McCoy, Accounting Manager, Department of Community Development*
- *David Jordan, Urban Design Ventures, LLC*
- *William Kibler, Altoona Times Mirror*

The hearing was Broadcast live on Breezeline Cable Channel 14 and live-streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxOuFIADuVMHKVQCGZVECdQ>.

Summary of Hearing:

Ms. Johnson, Deputy Director, Department of Community Development opened the Public Hearing at 5:00 PM.

- Ms. Johnson introduced the purpose of the First Public Hearing, the CDBG and HOME programs, and the Borough's Consultant.

- Mr. Dave Jordan introduced himself and explained the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan process. He also reviewed the eligible and ineligible activities of both CDBG and HOME.
- Mr. Jordan reviewed the time schedule and the approximate allocation of funds the City could receive for the FY 2025 Program Year.
- He provided an overview of the City of Altoona's prior year accomplishments using both CDBG and HOME funds. He described how the City prepares a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to be submitted to HUD within ninety (90) days after the start of the new program year.

Mr. Jordan asked if there were any public comments or questions.

Public Comments:

Mr. Kibler opened the discussion with questions related to how the programs benefit residents of the City and previous uses of funds.

Ms. Johnson adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:40 p.m.



**SECOND PUBLIC
HEARING**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND DISPLAY OF PLANS
 FOR THE FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
 FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND
 FY 2024 SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, Blair County, PA has prepared a Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029, Annual Action Plan for FY 2025 and FY 2024 Substantial Amendment. In accordance with the regulations and requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the drafts of these plans will be on public display for a period of 30 days, beginning Tuesday, July 8, 2025, through close of business on Thursday, August 7, 2025. They will be on display at the following locations: the Altoona Housing Authority, 2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard; the Altoona Area Public Library, 1600 5th Avenue; City Hall in the City Clerk’s Office and the Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street; and online at <https://www.altoonapa.gov>. Any person who would like to receive an electronic copy of these draft documents may email planning@altoonapa.gov.

Written or oral comments will be accepted through close of business, Thursday, August 7, 2025. Comments may be directed to Ms. Diana White, Deputy Director/CDBG Manager by phone at (814) 944-2477 or 711 for TTY/TDD, or email at planning@altoonapa.gov, or mail or in person at 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601.

The City will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA, and will also be live-streamed through the City’s website, <https://www.altoonapa.gov>. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the Draft FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the City’s housing and community development needs and the Draft FY 2025 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$1,536,368.00, CDBG program income in the amount of \$80,000, and HOME Investment Partnership Program funds in the amount of \$266,494.73 and Substantial Amendment for FY 2024. If residents require special arrangements to accommodate their participation in the public hearing, please call Ms. Diana White, Deputy Director/CDBG Manager at (814) 944-2477 or 711 for TTY/TDD services, or email planning@altoonapa.gov to make those arrangements.

These amendments to the Annual Action Plans are necessary as the City is proposing the following changes in funding to the FY 2024 CDBG Annual Action Plans:

Transfer from:			Transfer To:		
Program Year	Activity	Amount	Program Year	Activity	Amount
2024	Blighted Property Program	\$186,435.38	2024	8th Street Curb and Sidewalk Project	\$205,331.88
2024	Program Income	\$18,896.50			

The Draft FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan and FY 2024 Substantial Amendment were prepared after conducting a public hearing on housing and community development needs, meetings with stakeholders, meetings with housing and service provider agencies, meetings with City staff and officials, and the result of a community wide survey questionnaire. The City will submit the Final FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan and FY 2024 Substantial Amendment to City Council at the regularly

scheduled Council Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025, for authorization to submit the documents to HUD no later than August 15, 2025.

If the City undertakes an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, the City will utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG Funds.

All interested persons, groups, and organizations are encouraged to participate in this public hearing and will be given the opportunity to present comments concerning the proposed plans and use of Federal funds under the FY 2025-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan and FY 2024 Substantial Amendment.

Written comments or oral comments may be addressed to Ms. Diana White, Deputy Director/CDBG Manager, Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601. Phone: (814) 944-2477 or email: planning@altoonapa.gov. Persons with hearing and/or speech impediments may contact the City via 711 for TTY/TDD services.

Matt Pacifico, Mayor
City of Altoona

Publish on Monday, July 7, 2025
Proof of Publication Requested

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND DISPLAY OF PLANS
 FOR THE FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
 FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND
 FY 2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN - SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

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The City of Altoona previously adopted its FY 2024 Annual Action Plans and Budgets for the use of these CDBG funds. In accordance with CDBG program regulations, the City is allowed to make substantial amendments to its Annual Action Plan and Budgets in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan.

The City has determined that it is necessary to amend the approved CDBG budget for the previously approved program year of FY 2024. The funds will be reprogrammed from cancelled projects/activities to new projects/activities.

These are considered substantial amendments in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan as the following applies: the scope of the work, purpose, and the location of the project activity may have changed, and/or projects or activities may be deleted or new projects/activities created.

These amendments to the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan are necessary as the City is proposing the following changes in CDBG funding:

Transfer from:			Transfer to a New Project Activity:		
Program Year	Project/Activity	Amount	Program Year	Project/Activity	Amount
2024	Blighted Property Program	\$186,435.38	2024	8th Street Curb and Sidewalk Project	\$205,331.88
2024	Program Income	\$18,896.50			

The Draft FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan were prepared after conducting a public hearing on housing and community development needs, meetings with stakeholders, meetings with housing and service provider agencies, meetings with City staff and officials, and the result of a community wide survey questionnaire. The City will submit the Final FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan - Substantial Amendment to City Council at the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025, for authorization to submit these documents to HUD no later than August 15, 2025.

If the City undertakes an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, the City will utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG Funds.

All interested persons, groups, and organizations are encouraged to participate in this public hearing and will be given the opportunity to present comments concerning the proposed plans and use of Federal funds under the FY 2025-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan - Substantial Amendment.

Written or oral comments may be addressed to Ms. Diana White, Deputy Director/CDBG Manager, Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601. Phone: (814) 944-2477 or email: planning@altoonapa.gov. Persons with hearing and/or speech impediments may contact the City via 711 for TTY/TDD services.

Matt Pacifico, Mayor
 City of Altoona

July 7, 2025

PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN ALTOONA MIRROR

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND DISPLAY OF PLANS
 FOR THE FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
 FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND
 FY 2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN - SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

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Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, Blair County, PA has prepared a Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029, Annual Action Plan for FY 2025 and a Substantial Amendment to the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan. In accordance with the regulations and requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the drafts of these plans will be on public display for a period of 30 days, beginning Tuesday, July 8, 2025, through close of business on Thursday, August 7, 2025. They will be on display at the following locations: the Altoona Housing Authority, 2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard; the Altoona Area Public Library, 1600 5th Avenue; City Hall in the City Clerk's Office and the Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street; and online at <https://www.altoonapenn.gov>. Any person who would like to receive an electronic copy of these draft documents may email planning@altoonapenn.gov.

Written or oral comments will be accepted through close of business, Thursday, August 7, 2025. Comments may be directed to Ms. Diana White, Deputy Director/CDBG Manager by phone at (814) 944-2477 or 711 for TTY/TDD, or email at planning@altoonapenn.gov, or mail or in person at 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601.

The City will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA, and will also be live-streamed through the City's website, <https://www.altoonapenn.gov>. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the Draft FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the City's housing and community development needs and the Draft FY 2025 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$1,536,368, CDBG program income in the amount of \$80,000, and HOME Investment Partnership Program funds in the amount of \$266,494.73. In addition, the City will present the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan- Substantial Amendment for the use of CDBG funds. Should residents require special arrangements to accommodate their participation in the public hearing, please contact Ms. Diana White, Deputy Director/CDBG Manager at (814) 944-2477 or 711 for TTY/TDD services, or email planning@altoonapenn.gov to make those arrangements.

The City of Altoona previously adopted its FY 2024 Annual Action Plans and Budgets for the use of these CDBG funds. In accordance with CDBG program regulations, the City is allowed to make substantial amendments to its Annual Action Plan and Budgets in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan.

The City has determined that it is necessary to amend the approved CDBG budget for the previously approved program year of FY 2024. The funds will be reprogrammed from cancelled projects/activities to new projects/activities.

These are considered substantial amendments in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan as the following applies: the scope of the work, purpose, and the location of the project activity may have changed, and/or projects or activities may be deleted or new projects/activities created.

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Matt Pacifico, Mayor
 City of Altoona


July 7, 2025

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Sworn to and subscribed before me the 8 day of July, 2025


 Debra D. Miller, Notary Public

My Commission expires

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
 Debra D. Miller, Notary Public
 Blair County
 My commission expires July 25, 2025
 Commission number 1112043
 Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN ALTOONA MIRROR

**STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF BLAIR**

Daniel N. Slep, being duly sworn says: That he is the Publisher of the ALTOONA MIRROR, a newspaper of general circulation, published at Number 301 Cayuga Avenue, Township of Logan, City of Altoona, County of Blair, and State of Pennsylvania.

That said newspaper was established as a daily newspaper of general circulation on the Thirteenth Day of June 1874, since which date said newspaper has been published daily in the City of Altoona; that a copy of the printed notice, hereto attached, is exactly as the same was printed and published in the regular edition of the daily ALTOONA MIRROR published on the following date(s), viz:

July 7, 2025

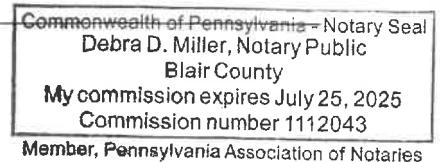
The affiant further deposes and declares that he is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice of publication and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place and character of publication are true.

Daniel N. Slep

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 8 day of July, 2025.

Debra D. Miller
Debra D. Miller, Notary Public

My Commission expires





**Second Public Hearing
CDBG and HOME Programs
FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan
And
FY 2025 Annual Action Plan**

Wednesday, August 6, 2025, 5:00 p.m.
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 1301 12th Street

Opening Remarks – Ms. Diana White

FY 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan Schedule:

- **The City and UDV develop a list of stakeholders to interview** – Monday, July 29, 2024
- **The City publishes 1st Public Hearing Notice** – Monday, August 19, 2024
- **Resident Survey is posted on the City’s Websites** – Monday, August 5, 2024
- **The City conducts the First Public Hearing** – August 22, 2024
- **UDV holds virtual stakeholder meetings** – September 9 –22, 2024
- **The City Publishes a Notice of Funding Availability for Non-Profits** – October 18, 2024
- **Project Applications Submission for Funding Deadline** – November 22, 2024
- **UDV completes the A.I.** – Thursday, February 20, 2025
- **HUD Releases FY 2025 Allocation Amounts** – Wednesday, May 14, 2025
- **The City Determines its FY 2025 Budget** – Monday, June 16, 2025
- **UDV completes draft Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for review** – Monday, June 30, 2025
- **2nd Public Hearing Notice sent to newspaper** – Wednesday, July 2, 2025
- **Email draft Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to City to print for display** – Thursday, July 3, 2025
- **The City publishes 2nd Public Hearing Notice** – Monday, July 7, 2025
- **Display and Comment Period Begins** – Tuesday, July 8, 2025
- **The City introduces to Council** – Monday, July 28, 2025
- **The City conducts 2nd Public Hearing** – Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall 4th floor Conference Room
- **Display and Comment Period Ends** – Thursday, August 7, 2025
- **City Council Approves Submission of Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan** – Monday, August 11, 2025

The City of Altoona will receive the following Federal funds during the FY 2025 program year:

Entitlement Funds	Amount
FY 2025 CDBG Funds	\$ 1,536,368.00
CDBG Program Income	\$ 80,000.00
FY 2025 HOME CDBG Funds	\$ 266,494.73
Totals:	\$ 1,882,862.73

The City allocated its FY 2025 CDBG and HOME funds as follows:

#	Project Name	Project Description	Amount to be Funded
CD-25-01	CDBG Project Administration	Operational budget for the Department of Community Development for general management, monitoring, coordination, oversight and evaluation of projects within the Community Development Block Grant Program and monitoring of activities necessary for effective planning implementation. Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of Federal, State, and local funded programs and activities.	\$287,596.00
CD-25-02	Fair Housing	Fair housing activities include eliminating housing discrimination through the promotion of fair housing using educational programs, monitoring, research and community investment.	\$30,000.00
CD-25-03	Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program	Continued funding of the City-wide homeowner rehabilitation program. Provide zero percent interest housing rehabilitation loans to income eligible residents.	\$400,000.00
CD-25-04	Single Family Owner-Occupied Emergency Repair Program	Provide no-interest, deferred forgivable loan funds amortized over four years to low-moderate income homeowners up to \$5,000 to correct exterior code violations, excluding mowing, and up to \$20,000 for emergency repairs to heating, plumbing, and electrical system failures or other repairs as determined necessary by City inspectors to pose an immediate threat to health and safety and do not trigger lead paint remediation beyond de minimis treatment. New construction, routine maintenance and full rehabilitation projects are ineligible and will be referred to the single-family direct loan program. Structure demolition	\$50,000.00

		(garages, additions, etc.) will be referred to the City demolition program.	
CD-25-05	Emergency Roof Repair Program	Continued funding of the City-wide Emergency Roof Replacement Program. Provide zero percent interest housing rehabilitation loans to income eligible residents that convert to a grant after 4 years.	\$110,000.00
CD-25-06	Street Reconstruction	Funding will support street reconstruction in low-to moderate-income areas to be determined in the City of Altoona.	\$200,000.00
CD-25-07	8th Street Sidewalk Project	This project is for the construction/replacement of sidewalk, curb (as necessary), ADA accessible ramps, and street trees on 8th Street between 6th Ave and Crawford Ave. This project would improve accessibility and increase the safety of the area by replacing the uneven sidewalks and providing ADA accessible ramps.	\$415,557.00
CD-25-08	Operation Safe Space	Operation Safe Space is a program that will temporarily relocate persons requiring immediate need due to condemnation, structural failure, or otherwise unsafe conditions of a property. The program will be administered by the Codes and Inspections Department, the Altoona Fire Department, and the Altoona Police Department. The funds requested will fully support the program and no additional funding source is being utilized.	\$5,000.00
CD-25-09	The Salvation Army - Assistance with Rent, Utility, and Heating Fuel Payments	As a social services organization, The Salvation Army provides low-income individuals and families with basic needs assistance with things like food, housing, utility, and clothing. Over 19% of the residents of Altoona are living in poverty and inflation continues to cause hardships for many individuals and families. This is creating an increase in the number of families that are seeking assistance from The Salvation Army in order to maintain their housing. Funds would be used to provide qualifying households with emergency, rental, utility, and heating fuel assistance to ensure housing is secure and safe. Applications for financial aid are processed through an intake system to verify income eligibility to ensure that over 51% of	\$25,000.00

		<p>applicants meet the HUD low-income guidelines. Our plan is to specifically assist 120 households with up to \$750 each in assistance to keep essential household utilities and rent secure.</p>	
CD-25-10	Overflow Church - Jefferson Park Meal Program Initiative	<p>Through the Jefferson Park initiative, Overflow Church focuses on building relationships with our community. Being able to provide community meals allows us to connect to our neighborhood and build a stronger community. Eating together provides a space for people to communicate and share life together.</p>	\$33,295.00
CD-25-11	Overflow Church - Warming Center	<p>The Warming Center serves as a winter overnight shelter for individuals aged 18 and older experiencing homelessness due to factors such as domestic violence, mental health challenges, housing shortage, and financial hardship. Last winter, the Center provided shelter to 91 individuals and successfully assisted 75 in securing alternative housing in collaboration with local agencies. However, relying solely on volunteers posed operational challenges, including limited-service continuity. This funding request seeks to introduce a hybrid staffing model, combining paid staff with volunteers, to ensure safe and consistent operations. Funds will cover staffing costs and general operating expenses to maintain and enhance the Center's services throughout the winter season.</p>	\$49,920.00
CD-25-12	Railroaders Memorial Museum - Restoration of Pennsylvania Railroad ALTO Tower	<p>Built in the 1880s by the Pennsylvania Railroad, ALTO Tower is the last remaining interlocking tower in Blair County and one of only a handful left from the PRR era. Over the 100 plus years of constant operation, the tower has physically grown worn and tired. Since its closure in 2012, the tower has remained dormant and vacant. In 2022, Norfolk Southern Corporation transferred ownership to the Railroaders Memorial Museum. The Museum seeks funding to completely restore the exterior of the tower and return it to its 1940's appearance, representing the golden era of railroading in Altoona. This restoration will attract visitors to the museum and enable the partnership with Penn State Altoona's Rail Transportation</p>	\$10,000.00

		Engineering program to expand its logistics, maintenance of way, and track lab courses. The state of Alto Tower is urgent as there are elements such as the front bay window showing extensive deterioration and structural weakness, and community members are concerned that the tower will need to be demolished.	
Total CDBG Budget			\$1,616,368.00
HOME-25-13	HOME Project Administration	Administration allocation from HOME grant of 10% to provide for staffing to oversee HOME funded projects.	\$26,649.00
HOME-25-14	Rental Rehabilitation Program	Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program - Continuation of deferred loan program for the rehabilitation of low-income rental units.	\$131,777.73
HOME-25-15	IDACON Fairview Building Kitchen Replacement	We are requesting funds from the 2025 HOME funds allocation to replace 14 kitchens on the top floor of the IDACON Fairview Building in addition to repainting soffit and fascia on the exterior of the building which will include the dormers and upper window panels.	\$108,068.00
Total HOME Budget			\$266,494.73
Total Overall Budget			\$1,882,862.73

Public Comments on the City of Altoona’s FY 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 CDBG Annual Action Plan

Closing Remarks and Adjournment – Ms. Diana White

CITY OF ALTOONA



City of Altoona, Pennsylvania Second Public Hearing FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan CDBG and HOME Programs

4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 1301 12th Street
Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address
James Trexler	City Hall	2470	jtrexler@altoonapa.gov
Eric Luchansky	City Hall	2471	ELUCHANS@altoonapa.gov
Diana White	City	2477	dwhite@altoonapa.gov
Adam McCoy	City	2427	amccoy@altoonapa.gov
Dad [Signature]	4DU		



**SECOND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
FY 2025-2029 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

Wednesday, August 6th, 2025, at 5:00pm

City Hall Conference Room 1301
12th Street, Fourth Floor, City Hall
Altoona, PA 16601

Broadcast live on Breezeline Cable Channel 14

Live-streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxOuFIADuVMHKVQCGZVECdQ>

Attendance:

- *Diana White, Deputy Director, Department of Community Development*
- *James Trexler, Housing Program Manager, Department of Community Development*
- *Eric Luchansky, Director, Department of Community Development*
- *Adam McCoy, Accounting Manager, Department of Community Development*
- *David Jordan, Urban Design Ventures, LLC*
- *William Kibler, Altoona Times Mirror*

The hearing was live streamed with 3 live views and 14 post meeting views.

Summary of Hearing:

Ms. Diana White, Deputy Director, Department of Community Development, opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Ms. White introduced those present and asked Mr. Jordan if he would start the discussion. Mr. Jordan reviewed the purpose of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan related to the City receiving its annual allocation of CDBG and HOME funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Mr. Jordan stated the City developed Five-Year Consolidated Plan strategies in the following areas: Housing; the Homeless; Other Special Needs; Community Development; Economic Development; and Administration, Planning, and Management. Each with a broad range of goals.

He added the City will receive the following funds for the FY 2025 program year:

Entitlement Funds	Amount
FY 2025 CDBG Funds	\$ 1,536,368.00
CDBG Program Income	\$ 80,000.00
FY 2025 HOME Funds	\$ 266,494.73
Totals:	\$ 1,882,862.73

Mr. Kibler asked about the projects to be funded. Mr. Jordan reviewed the activities listed below to be recommended for funding, pending City Council approval.

The City proposes to fund the following CDBG projects during FY 2025:

#	Project	Proposed Budget
1.	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan	\$ 400,000.00
2.	Single Family Owner-Occupied Emergency Repair	\$ 50,000.00
3.	Emergency Roof Replacement Program	\$ 110,000.00
4.	Street Reconstruction	\$ 200,000.00
5.	8 th Street Sidewalk Project	\$ 415,557.00
6.	Operation Safe Space	\$ 5,000.00
7.	The Salvation Army - Rent, Fuel, and Utility Payments	\$ 25,000.00
8.	Overflow Church - Jefferson Park Meal Program Initiative	\$ 33,295.00
9.	Overflow Church Warming Center - Overnight Shelter	\$ 49,920.00
10.	Railroaders Memorial Museum - ALTO Tower	\$ 10,000.00
11.	CDBG Administration	\$ 287,596.00
12.	Fair Housing	\$ 30,000.00
Total FY 2025 CDBG Funds:		\$ 1,616,368.00

The City proposes to fund the following HOME projects during FY 2025:

#	Project	Proposed Budget
1.	HOME Administration	\$ 26,649.00
2.	HOME Rental Rehabilitation	\$ 131,777.73
3.	IDA-CDC Kitchen Replacement at Fairview Hills	\$ 108,068.00
Total FY 2025 HOME Funds:		\$ 266,494.73

Mr. Jordan also reviewed a Substantial Amendment to the previous Consolidated Plan and FY 2023 and 2024 Annual Action Plans. The purpose of the amendment is to move unexpended funds from completed activities which did not require the total funds requested to the Eighth Street Sidewalk project. Ms. White asked if there were additional comments. Upon receiving

none, she stated for the record that the City had received no comments in writing or via email, fax, or by telephone. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.



RESIDENT SURVEYS

Altoona Residents!

Would you like to let your voice be heard?

The City of Altoona is preparing a document to assess community development needs and Fair Housing issues.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AltoonaCDBG2025-2029>

Take the survey above and let us know about what you'd like to see in your community!

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona’s Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) _____ ZIP Code: _____
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/ Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

Q1 What is the name of the Street that you live on?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 3

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Coleridge	11/4/2024 9:57 PM
2	20th ave	9/24/2024 8:27 PM
3	21st ave	9/24/2024 5:35 AM
4	13th Avenue	9/20/2024 11:44 AM
5	2nd Avenue	9/17/2024 6:53 PM
6	north 4th avenue	9/12/2024 7:46 AM
7	2nd Avenue	9/9/2024 10:26 PM
8	Cherry Avenue	8/29/2024 12:36 PM
9	21st ave	8/25/2024 7:22 PM
10	Dysart	8/24/2024 2:45 PM
11	North 11th Avenue	8/20/2024 2:09 PM
12	Grant Ave	8/19/2024 7:18 PM
13	3rd Avenue	8/18/2024 2:47 PM
14	2nd Avenue	8/14/2024 6:58 PM
15	21st Avenue	8/14/2024 5:57 PM
16	Devney Drive	8/13/2024 1:36 PM
17	Spooner	8/11/2024 8:06 PM
18	North 5th Ave	8/11/2024 2:04 PM
19	Oak Ave	8/11/2024 12:40 AM
20	3902 ,5,th Ave	8/10/2024 2:29 PM
21	North 5th Ave	8/10/2024 11:21 AM
22	15th Avenue	8/9/2024 8:48 PM
23	1st Ave	8/8/2024 10:28 AM
24	Crawford	8/7/2024 1:16 PM
25	25th Ave	8/6/2024 4:43 PM
26	S. KETTLE	8/6/2024 10:47 AM
27	11th Ave	8/5/2024 5:21 PM
28	58th st	8/5/2024 11:48 AM
29	W Chestnut Ave	8/5/2024 8:54 AM
30	Walnut ave	8/5/2024 2:48 AM
31	N/a	8/4/2024 8:18 PM
32	Beale Avenue	8/4/2024 8:04 PM
33	East Penn Ave	8/4/2024 1:38 PM

City of Altoona, PA Confidential Resident Survey FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and
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34	3rd St	8/4/2024 12:47 PM
35	10th Street	8/4/2024 11:52 AM
36	Wehnwood Road	8/4/2024 1:36 AM
37	18th Street	8/3/2024 11:02 PM
38	12th Street	8/3/2024 9:28 PM
39	12th	8/3/2024 9:25 PM
40	19th street	8/3/2024 6:31 PM
41	52nd	8/3/2024 3:45 PM
42	14th	8/3/2024 1:26 PM
43	14th Street	8/3/2024 1:23 PM
44	10th Street	8/3/2024 8:56 AM
45	8th ave	8/3/2024 2:28 AM
46	4th Ave	8/3/2024 2:27 AM
47	14th Ave	8/2/2024 11:19 PM
48	Walton Avenue	8/2/2024 11:09 PM
49	East Bell Ave	8/2/2024 9:49 PM
50	Aldrich Avenue	8/2/2024 8:04 PM
51	South Terrace dr.	8/2/2024 7:50 PM
52	22nd Ave	8/2/2024 7:25 PM
53	126 58th Street	8/2/2024 6:47 PM
54	N. 4th ST	8/2/2024 6:11 PM
55	24th Avenue 16601	8/2/2024 5:13 PM
56	Jefferson Avenue	8/2/2024 4:45 PM
57	1st Ave	8/1/2024 9:21 PM
58	31st street	8/1/2024 5:28 PM
59	North Second Street	7/31/2024 4:43 PM
60	25th Avenue	7/31/2024 3:40 PM
61	20th Avenue	7/31/2024 2:07 PM
62	Shawnee Ave	7/31/2024 2:05 PM
63	22nd Ave	7/31/2024 1:12 PM
64	North 6th	7/31/2024 12:22 PM
65	W. Chestnut Ave	7/31/2024 9:51 AM
66	3rd	7/31/2024 7:29 AM
67	3rd	7/30/2024 7:33 PM
68	Crawford Ave	7/30/2024 3:49 PM

Q2 What ZIP Code do you live in?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 1

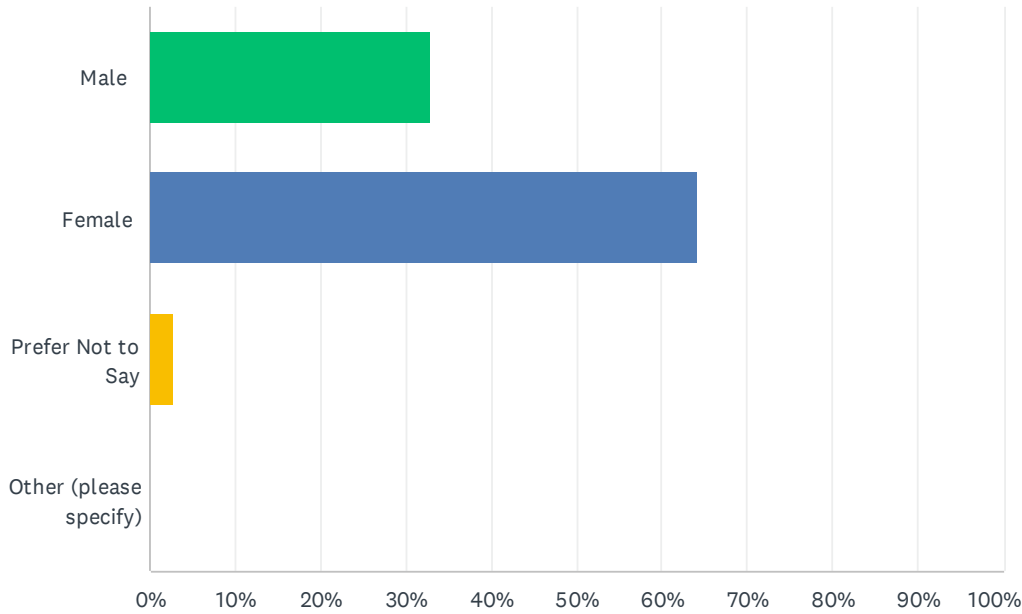
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	16602	11/4/2024 9:57 PM
2	16601	9/24/2024 8:27 PM
3	16601	9/24/2024 5:35 AM
4	16601	9/20/2024 11:44 AM
5	16602	9/17/2024 6:53 PM
6	16601	9/12/2024 11:53 AM
7	16601	9/12/2024 7:46 AM
8	16602	9/9/2024 10:26 PM
9	16601	8/29/2024 12:36 PM
10	16601	8/25/2024 7:22 PM
11	16602	8/24/2024 2:45 PM
12	16601	8/20/2024 2:09 PM
13	16602	8/19/2024 7:18 PM
14	16602	8/18/2024 2:47 PM
15	16602	8/14/2024 6:58 PM
16	16601	8/14/2024 5:57 PM
17	54720	8/13/2024 1:36 PM
18	54720	8/11/2024 8:06 PM
19	16601	8/11/2024 2:04 PM
20	16601	8/11/2024 12:40 AM
21	16602-1611	8/10/2024 2:29 PM
22	16601	8/10/2024 11:21 AM
23	16601	8/10/2024 10:07 AM
24	16601	8/9/2024 8:48 PM
25	16602	8/8/2024 10:28 AM
26	16602	8/7/2024 1:16 PM
27	16601	8/6/2024 4:43 PM
28	1662	8/6/2024 10:47 AM
29	16601	8/5/2024 5:21 PM
30	16602-1120	8/5/2024 11:48 AM
31	16601	8/5/2024 8:54 AM
32	16601	8/5/2024 2:48 AM
33	16601	8/4/2024 8:18 PM

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34	16601	8/4/2024 8:04 PM
35	16601	8/4/2024 1:38 PM
36	16601	8/4/2024 12:47 PM
37	16601	8/4/2024 11:52 AM
38	16601	8/4/2024 1:36 AM
39	16601	8/3/2024 11:02 PM
40	16601	8/3/2024 9:28 PM
41	16601	8/3/2024 9:25 PM
42	16601	8/3/2024 6:31 PM
43	16602	8/3/2024 3:45 PM
44	16601	8/3/2024 1:26 PM
45	16601	8/3/2024 1:23 PM
46	16602	8/3/2024 8:56 AM
47	16602	8/3/2024 2:28 AM
48	16602	8/3/2024 2:27 AM
49	16601	8/2/2024 11:19 PM
50	16602	8/2/2024 11:09 PM
51	16602	8/2/2024 9:49 PM
52	16602	8/2/2024 8:04 PM
53	16602	8/2/2024 7:50 PM
54	16601	8/2/2024 7:25 PM
55	16602	8/2/2024 6:47 PM
56	16601	8/2/2024 6:11 PM
57	16601	8/2/2024 5:13 PM
58	16602	8/2/2024 4:45 PM
59	16602	8/1/2024 9:21 PM
60	16602	8/1/2024 5:28 PM
61	16601	7/31/2024 4:43 PM
62	16601	7/31/2024 3:40 PM
63	16601	7/31/2024 2:07 PM
64	16602	7/31/2024 2:05 PM
65	16601	7/31/2024 1:12 PM
66	16601	7/31/2024 12:22 PM
67	16601	7/31/2024 9:51 AM
68	16602	7/31/2024 7:29 AM
69	16602	7/30/2024 7:33 PM
70	16602	7/30/2024 3:49 PM

Q3 What is your gender?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 1

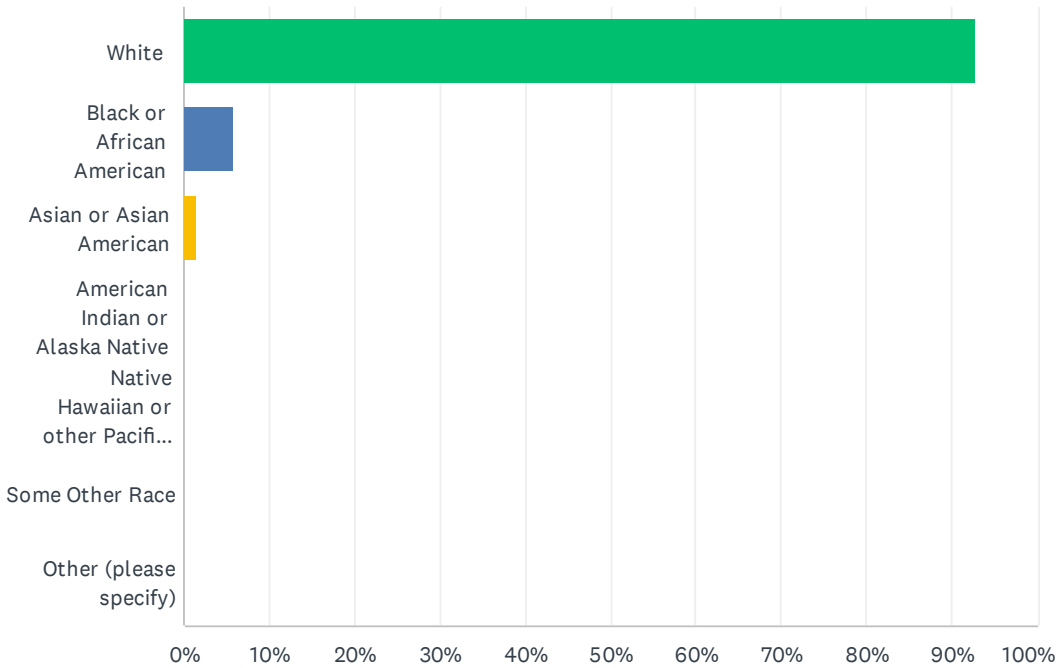


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Male	32.86% 23
Female	64.29% 45
Prefer Not to Say	2.86% 2
Other (please specify)	0.00% 0
TOTAL	70

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q4 What is your race? Please choose all that apply.

Answered: 70 Skipped: 1

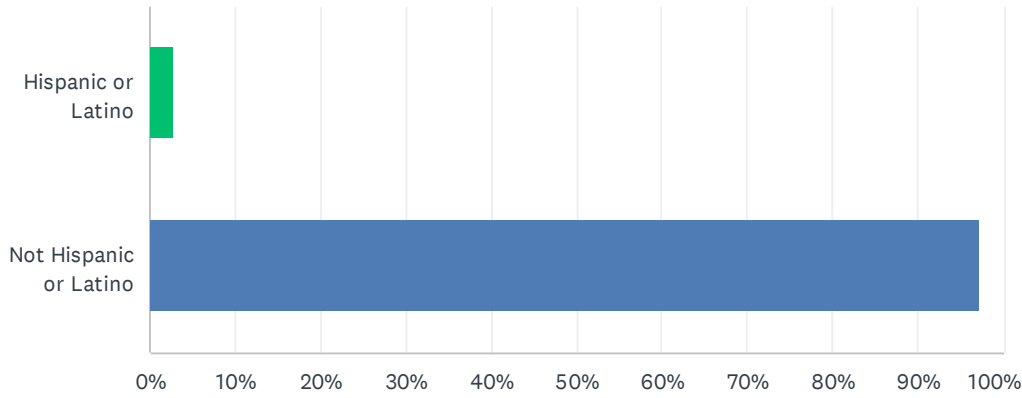


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White	92.86%	65
Black or African American	5.71%	4
Asian or Asian American	1.43%	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.00%	0
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Some Other Race	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 70		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
There are no responses.		

Q5 What is your Ethnicity?

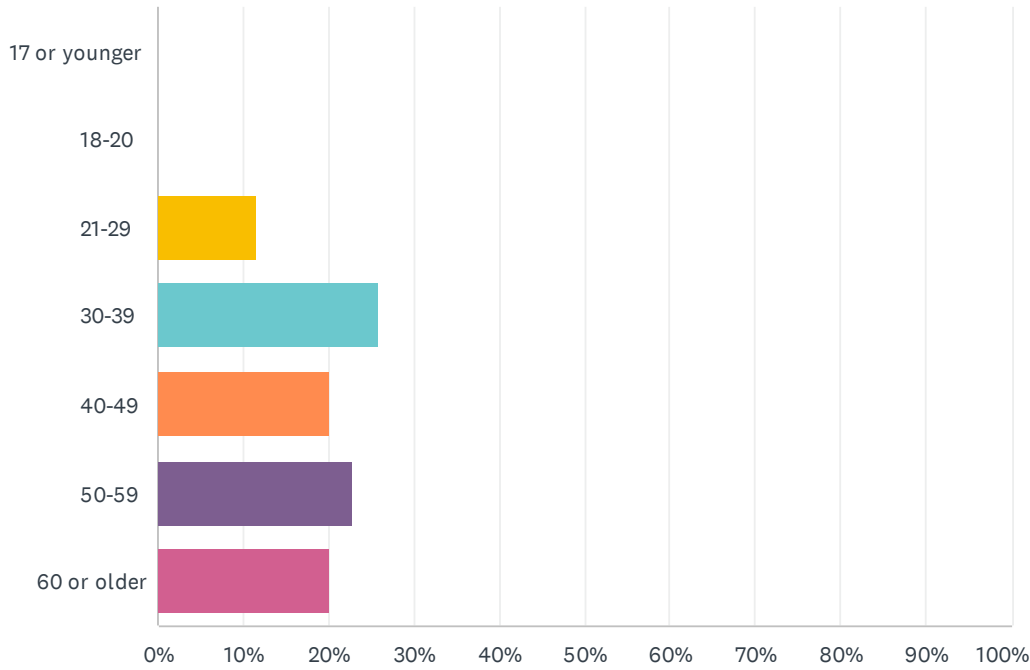
Answered: 70 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Hispanic or Latino	2.86% 2
Not Hispanic or Latino	97.14% 68
TOTAL	70

Q6 What is your age group?

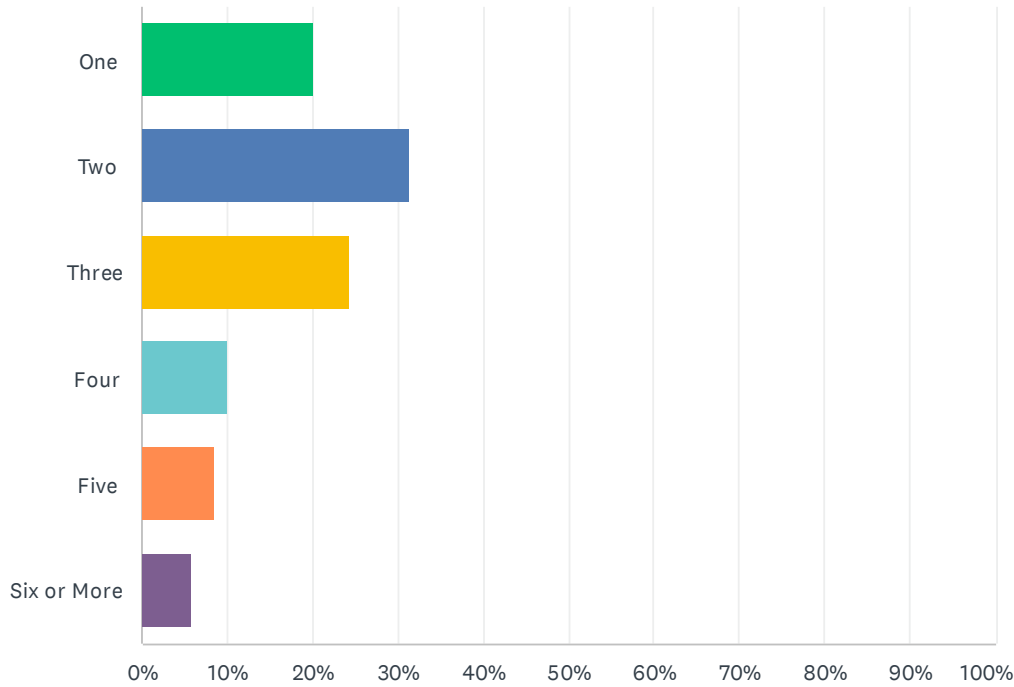
Answered: 70 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18-20	0.00%	0
21-29	11.43%	8
30-39	25.71%	18
40-49	20.00%	14
50-59	22.86%	16
60 or older	20.00%	14
TOTAL		70

Q7 How many people are living in your household?

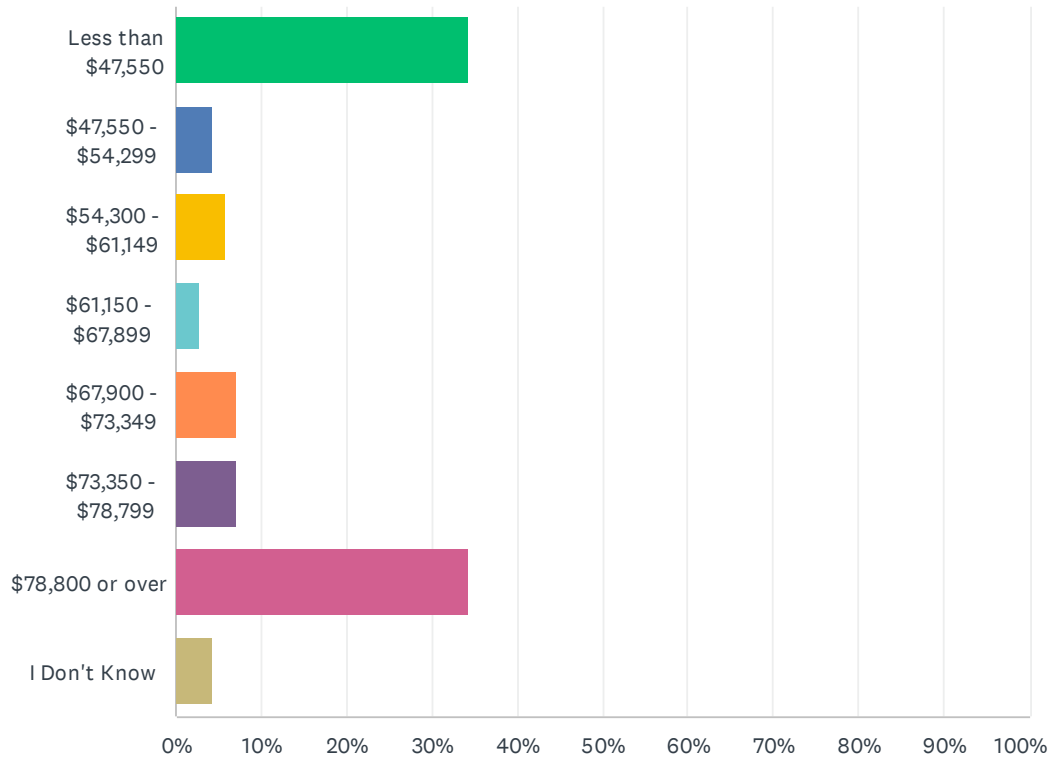
Answered: 70 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
One	20.00%	14
Two	31.43%	22
Three	24.29%	17
Four	10.00%	7
Five	8.57%	6
Six or More	5.71%	4
TOTAL		70

Q8 Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income:

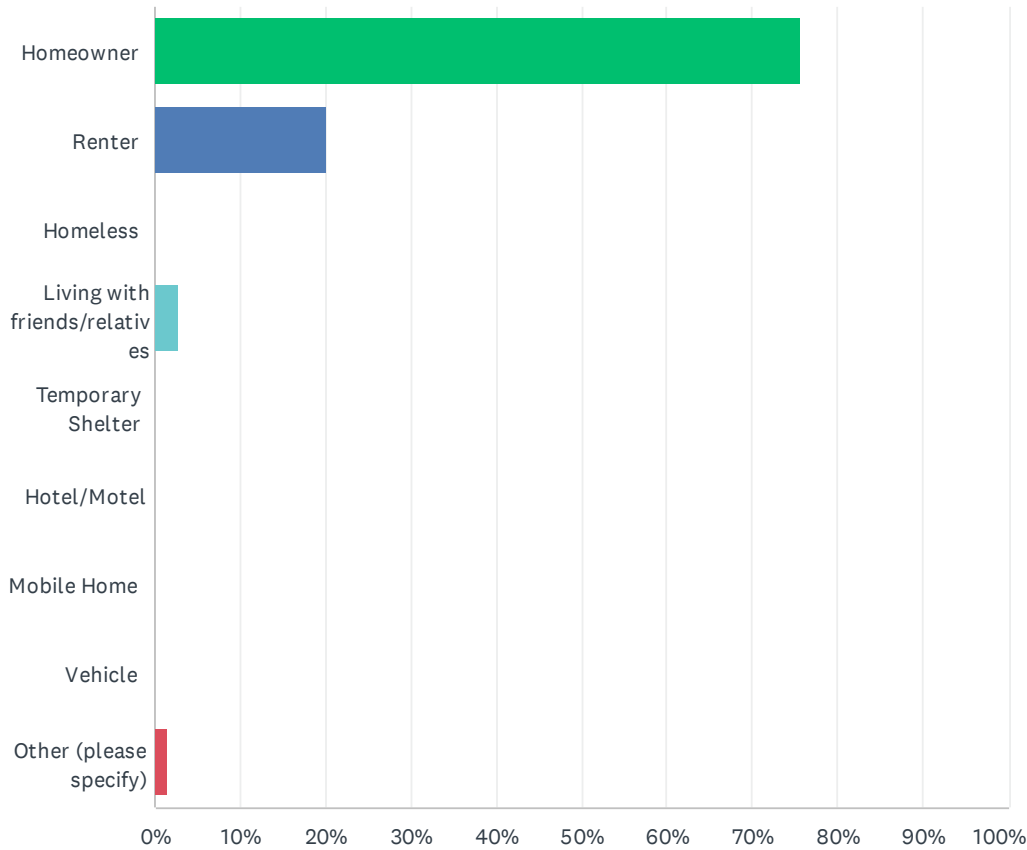
Answered: 70 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than \$47,550	34.29%	24
\$47,550 - \$54,299	4.29%	3
\$54,300 - \$61,149	5.71%	4
\$61,150 - \$67,899	2.86%	2
\$67,900 - \$73,349	7.14%	5
\$73,350 - \$78,799	7.14%	5
\$78,800 or over	34.29%	24
I Don't Know	4.29%	3
TOTAL		70

Q9 What is your living situation?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 1

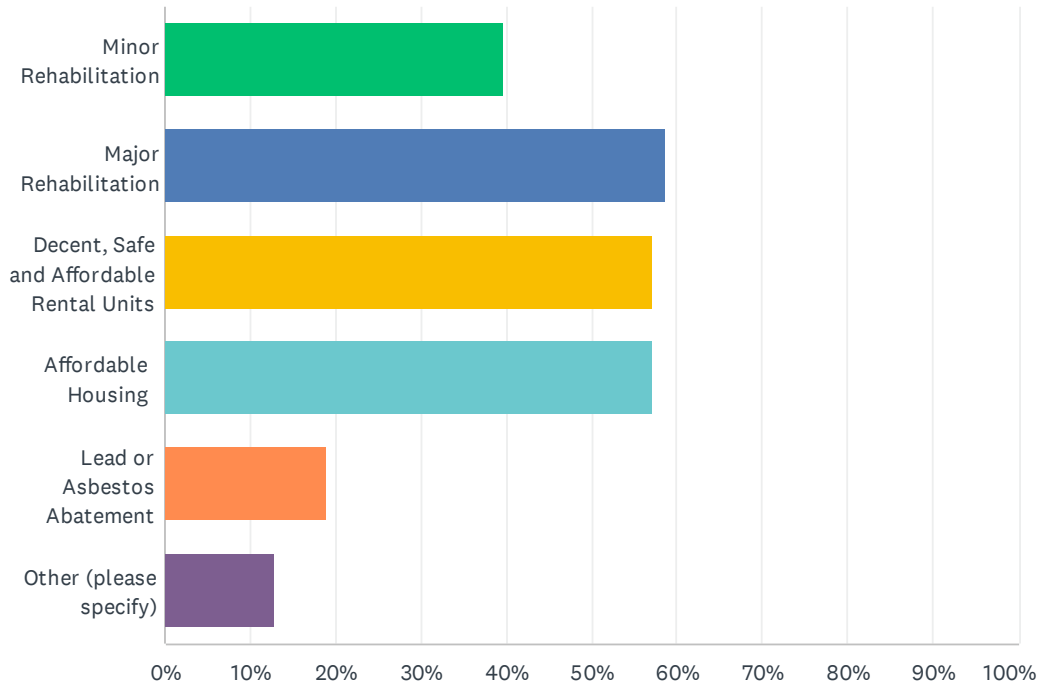


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Homeowner	75.71% 53
Renter	20.00% 14
Homeless	0.00% 0
Living with friends/relatives	2.86% 2
Temporary Shelter	0.00% 0
Hotel/Motel	0.00% 0
Mobile Home	0.00% 0
Vehicle	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	1.43% 1
Total Respondents: 70	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Pay mortgage but loan is in my mother's name	7/31/2024 1:12 PM

Q10 Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:

Answered: 63 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Minor Rehabilitation	39.68% 25
Major Rehabilitation	58.73% 37
Decent, Safe and Affordable Rental Units	57.14% 36
Affordable Housing	57.14% 36
Lead or Asbestos Abatement	19.05% 12
Other (please specify)	12.70% 8
Total Respondents: 63	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	HOUSES AROUND US ARE UNINHABITABLE, Condemned. BUT STILL STANDING	9/12/2024 7:46 AM
2	Focus on rehab of neighborhoods that are in danger of decline instead of random choice of entire city. This approach will be a tangible demonstration of city pride for residents. .	8/14/2024 5:57 PM
3	More "Luxury" rental opportunities	8/11/2024 2:04 PM
4	Landlord regulation and better inspections of rentals	8/11/2024 12:40 AM
5	More luxury rental options	8/10/2024 11:21 AM
6	Flood pro	8/2/2024 6:47 PM

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7	Crack down on slum lords, cap rental amounts so people can have affordable housing, create homeless shelter and group homes for elderly and disabled	7/31/2024 1:12 PM
8	Mold remediation/flood protect	7/30/2024 7:33 PM

Q11 Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:

Answered: 52 Skipped: 19

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I'm a landlord who does my best to maintain and provide nice rental units within the city. There are many homes that are either rentals or owner occupied and are not maintained well. I'm happy that the city has been doing more to enforce code violations over the past few years but I believe more needs to be done to ensure that only people who are responsible landlords and homeowners own properties.	11/4/2024 9:57 PM
2	The wait is to long or we need more homeless shelters for "families"	9/24/2024 8:27 PM
3	Unaffordable housing in an area that has low paying jobs	9/24/2024 5:35 AM
4	Building needs to be safe for everyone and free of bugs especially bed bugs and mice	9/20/2024 11:44 AM
5	For those interested in purchasing a home, is there an office or a resource to help them in learning what the steps are meeting housing code requirements? Is the city meeting with community organizations on a regular basis to learn what the housing needs are in Altoona?	9/17/2024 6:53 PM
6	slum lords	9/12/2024 11:53 AM
7	MAINTENANCE, CODE CANT DO THERE JOB, PEOPLE KNO THEY CAN GET AWAY WITH NOT DOING UPKEEP, LOOKS LIKE BALTIMORE.	9/12/2024 7:46 AM
8	1. Water/Sewer rates in our area are above average compared to even major cities in the state. 2. These rates are incorporated into rent pricing now that landlords are responsible for the bills. This will raise the rent on average by \$100-\$150 monthly - depending on family. If families were paying directly the bill would most likely be less for them. Landlords need to inflate the pricing due to excessive use since the tenants are no longer responsible for the usage. 3. Since housing funds do not incorporate enough in the rent calculation, many landlords do not wish to participate in the housing program. 4. AHA states they determine the amount of rent based on the inspection of the home. The federal guidelines for these monies do not state payment is based on condition of the home. It is a pass/fail system. Either your home meets requirements or it does not. Therefore, landlords do not wish to participate in a system they are not guaranteed to receive the proper amount of rent. Free advice: If your public housing program is failing then look to the leadership and their practices.	8/29/2024 12:36 PM
9	Yes, houses in dis repair need addressed	8/25/2024 7:22 PM
10	There are nice neighborhoods with 1 or 2 houses that are in need of repairs, or they are abandoned & left to rot. It brings the whole neighborhood down, and brings the appraisal rate of the other houses down. The people that own these houses that are decaying need to be held accountable & need to do the repairs.	8/24/2024 2:45 PM
11	There is some major Drug issues that need to clean up housing	8/18/2024 2:47 PM
12	Very little new construction	8/14/2024 6:58 PM
13	There are far too many landlords that contribute to declining city properties. No one does anything about the disrespect for the city they demonstrate by this practice unless there are multiple complaints from neighborhood. Rental properties should be identified and scheduled, routine inspections should be performed on all of these properties.	8/14/2024 5:57 PM
14	Handicap parking for any resident who needs it in their apartment complex. This needs to be made a priority. These spots need to be convient for the handicap tenant, not just at front doors of buildings.	8/13/2024 1:36 PM
15	There are many homes that look abandoned or are for sale that are not selling. These properties are using land that could be repurposed into higher end properties.	8/11/2024 2:04 PM
16	Lack of consideration for historic preservation of key parts of "Old Altoona" like the housing between downtown and the hospital, or intact blocks of original workers homes. There is a	8/11/2024 12:40 AM

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strong need for mixed use buildings since converted wholly into apartments to have their storefronts restored for neighborhood businesses like cafes and stores

17	No Grant's for urban area	8/10/2024 2:29 PM
18	There are a lot of abandoned or dilapidated properties in Altoona. This diminishes value throughout the community. It would be great if these properties were renovated or repurposed to add value back into the communities.	8/10/2024 11:21 AM
19	Rental properties are often not taken care of with substandard conditions and inspections need to be more frequent and cover more than basic heat, electric, etc. such as mold and deteriorating conditions. Out-of-town landlords seem to often be an issue. Also a balance between renter damage responsibility and privacy. Ensuring equal housing opportunity. Help for local residents to rehab empty properties and invest in their own neighborhoods. Better zoning laws that reflect vibrant neighborhoods with the corner grocery store, cafe, small retail, etc. that promote societal interaction and cooperation. Less car centric and wasteful "developments"	8/10/2024 10:07 AM
20	I'm sure there's lots in the whole city	8/9/2024 8:48 PM
21	Cost of home repairs and the cost to purchase homes makes it nearly impossible to fix homes and keep them in good condition which greatly damages the appeal to live in the city.	8/7/2024 1:16 PM
22	Too many Section 8 houses bringing in undesirable residents on welfare. Stop increasing taxes on those that work to pay for those that don't.	8/6/2024 4:43 PM
23	Blight and the current codes and laws not being enforced from grass cutting to snow shoveling. Lack of accessible sidewalks.	8/6/2024 10:47 AM
24	I believe there are too many blighted properties. Offer them to low income residents who want to own their own home.	8/5/2024 5:21 PM
25	Too many run down houses/buildings that need major work or tear down to build new ones. The city doesn't have enough affordable housing. Also rentals/housing need allow pets since so many have them for many different reasons. The homeless need more housing so that they can do better for themselves and the community. The city needs better leadership and guidance to make it better. There is not enough support for the citizens of the community. Children and teens need more safe and fun areas to thrive, make friends, and no fear of being bullied. The halfway houses need to be for just the community and not bring in people from bad areas like NY, Philly, Pitts, etc....	8/5/2024 11:48 AM
26	Need more sidewalks around public housing units, need more play areas for children, need more maintenance workers to pick up trash. Sidewalks and bike lanes around plank rd & union ave to help people get to & from work.	8/5/2024 8:54 AM
27	City should develop and sell off lots for building. City should offer demo assistance to get rid of blight. And the housing prices are too high for a City with nothing to do.	8/5/2024 2:48 AM
28	lack of property tax relief for seniors.	8/4/2024 8:04 PM
29	Lack of consolidated emergency homeless resources - very fragmented, multiple agencies that change programs all the time. Also: many houses look like they should be torn down. Neighborhood blight is resulting in reduced home values. A big cleanup of the city housing needed. Also: Can some decent apartments be created in the downtown Altoona area? And parking to go with it? We keep trying to renovate downtown, but without working residents who are not in low income housing, a long term plan seems unsustainable.	8/4/2024 12:47 PM
30	Restrictions on noise level at night in the Wehnwood area; designated green spaces; bike lanes and public bike rack installation. Thank you.	8/4/2024 1:36 AM
31	Too many slum lords. Rental licensing should be more strict thought out the city.	8/3/2024 6:31 PM
32	I recently purchased a home here I found that most houses are old a d need work and lots are falling apart I assume people cant keep the upkeep should be a program to assist homeowners with housing maintenance and repair so home value improves also more apartments/condos	8/3/2024 3:45 PM
33	There are trees outside of my property line that rest on power lines and hang into my yard substantially	8/3/2024 1:26 PM
34	Trees leaning on power lines that hang over back yards. The power line feeds directly to my	8/3/2024 1:23 PM

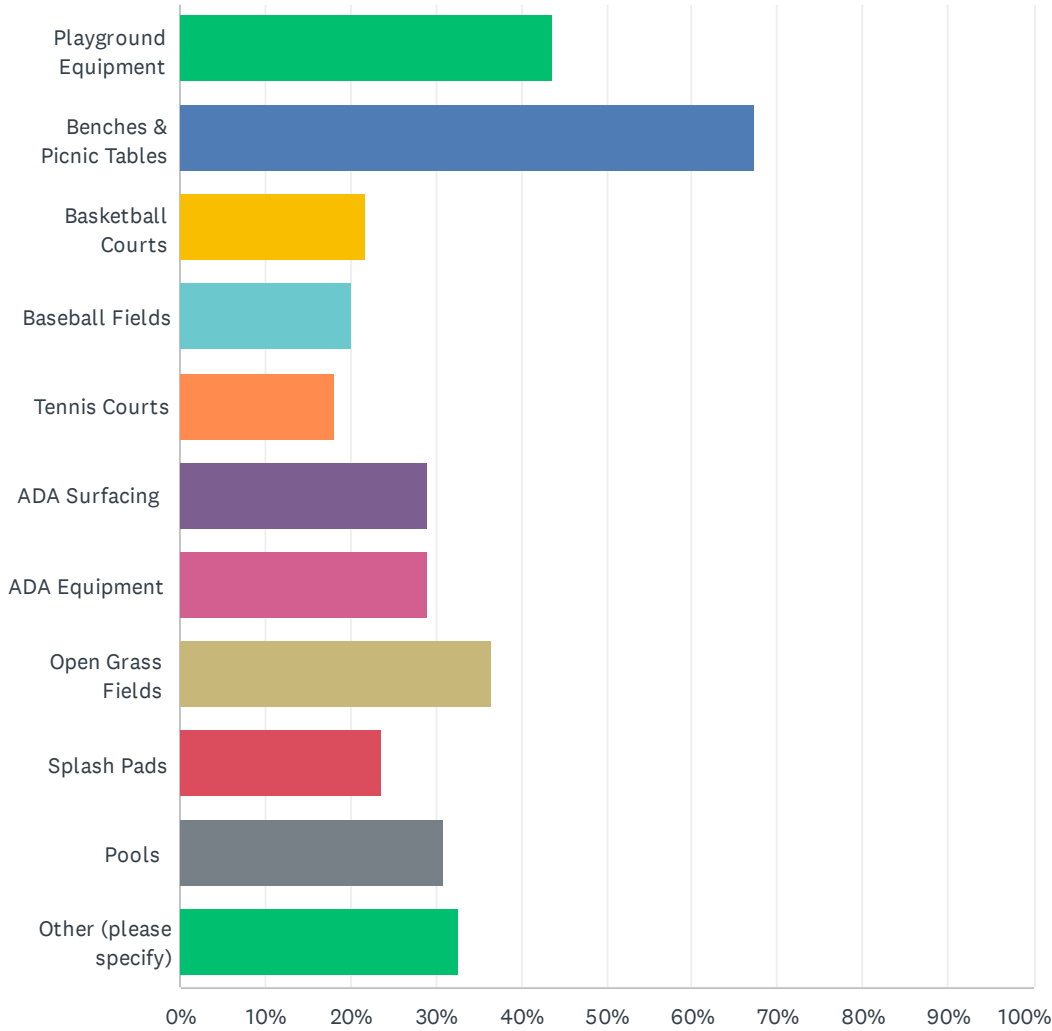
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home. It is attached. If the trees that are leaning on the lines move to hard in the wind, the line could spark and cause a fire hazard to my home.

35	Run down properties	8/3/2024 8:56 AM
36	The city is becoming a rental city. We're losing our own to stay in your house and if you think that's wrong, just look at how Jeff long Business is growing.	8/3/2024 2:28 AM
37	Decent sidewalks in front of houses	8/2/2024 11:09 PM
38	Too much free or section 8 housing is bringing drugs into our area. We have seen such an increase in drug related crimes over the last ten+ years. It's time to put the working citizens of Altoona first again.	8/2/2024 9:49 PM
39	Areas of the city proper have a number of dwellings in need of rehabilitation or removal.	8/2/2024 8:04 PM
40	Reasonable rental options for young adults working jobs that pay under \$15 an hour and are not addicts or otherwise receive rental help.	8/2/2024 7:50 PM
41	Stronger oversight of Section 8 & student housing.	8/2/2024 7:25 PM
42	Taking people off street giving shelter	8/2/2024 6:47 PM
43	There are many 'eyesore' buildings and housing throughout the Altoona area. Altoona is a beautiful city nestled in the mountains. We have only lived here for 6 years but it's so beautiful to us. We think that if alot of these abandoned buildings and housing were rehabbed for low income housing or senior living or torn down and parks and businesses added it would add to the beauty. Also, the current low income housing needs to have some rules regarding how the tenants live in them. Our daughter lives in low income housing and tons of her neighbors treat their areas like a trash dump. It is terrible. Another low income housing by the VA needs cleaned up	8/2/2024 6:11 PM
44	Yes. Appears to be a lack of pride in many homes in the city. Unkept yards, trash accumulation etc. code enforcement needs more contact with property owners.	8/2/2024 5:13 PM
45	Landlords who allow rental properties to deteriorate. Vacant houses sitting and deteriorating for years.	8/2/2024 4:45 PM
46	Rhodents -- groundhogs, opossums, skunks, bats, etc.	8/1/2024 5:28 PM
47	Limited availability of subsidized housing; long waiting lists for many buildings	7/31/2024 3:40 PM
48	Dilapidated homes that. Odes won't do anything about, no affordable housing for the elderly population but plenty for those who choose not to work.	7/31/2024 2:07 PM
49	Pavement of roads	7/31/2024 2:05 PM
50	Code enforcement... house next to mine is like a flop house with too many residents and no known emergency exits. Sex offenders should have to live in a group home that is monitored instead of amongst the general public where they could more easily reoffend.	7/31/2024 1:12 PM
51	Landlords constantly raising rent with no improvements to buildings. Landlords charging upwards of 900 for efficiency sized apartments. Landlords in this area need to be under some sort of eye to over see what is going on in the community	7/31/2024 12:22 PM
52	I think it would be really great if Altoona kept the old brick sidewalks and reset them but have public works take care of the public sidewalk trees and plants. Altoona used to be so beautiful with working class people and it's hard these days to afford much let alone take care of the front walkways after a lot of physical work citizens do during work hours to provide for family. More streetlights would be great. Empty lots could serve as Community gardens in partnership with Penn State agricultural students. There are many hungry people in Altoona and it would foster a better sense of community which I feel Altoona has lost in most recent years. It's a shame because it would otherwise be such a beautiful place again. Thank you for listening...	7/30/2024 7:33 PM

Q12 Identify any needs or improvements to parks/recreational facilities (Choose all that apply):

Answered: 55 Skipped: 16



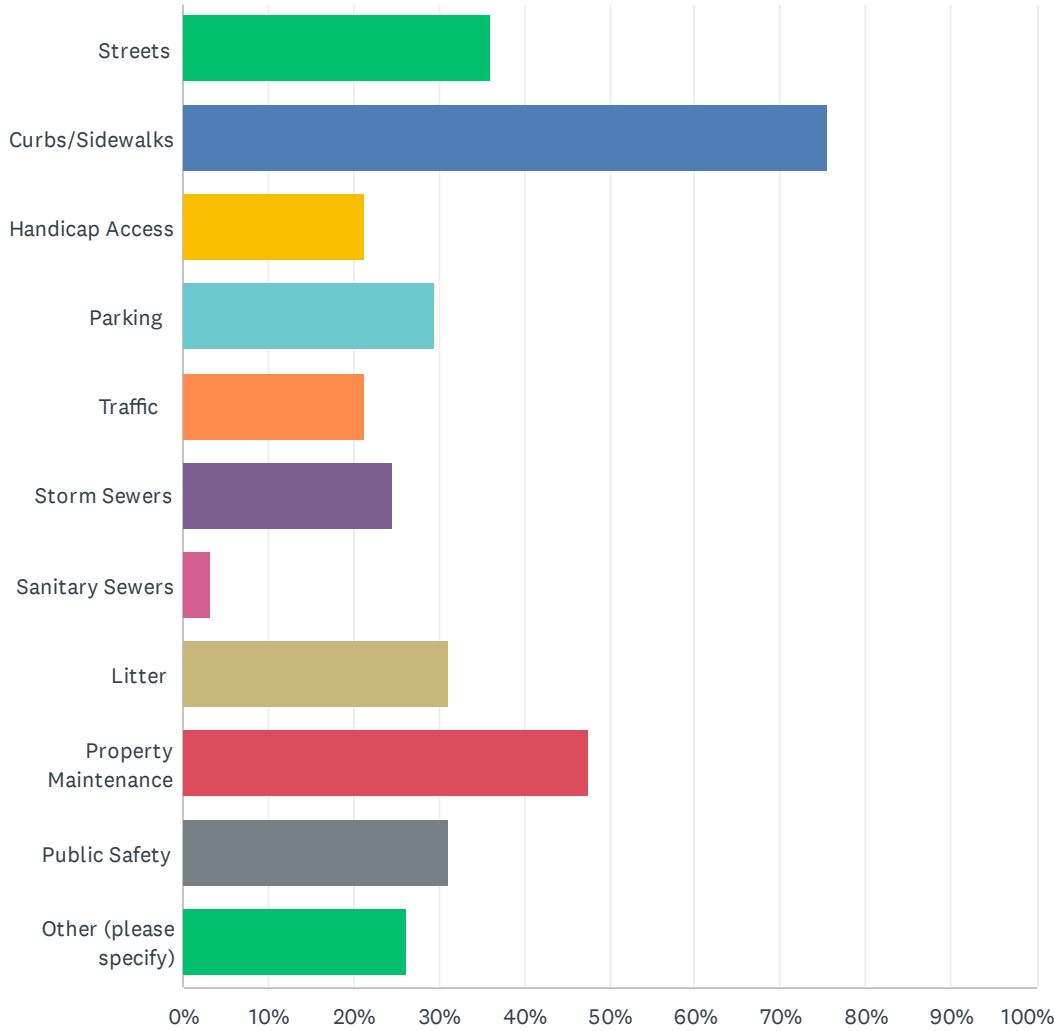
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Playground Equipment	43.64%	24
Benches & Picnic Tables	67.27%	37
Basketball Courts	21.82%	12
Baseball Fields	20.00%	11
Tennis Courts	18.18%	10
ADA Surfacing	29.09%	16
ADA Equipment	29.09%	16
Open Grass Fields	36.36%	20
Splash Pads	23.64%	13
Pools	30.91%	17
Other (please specify)	32.73%	18
Total Respondents: 55		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Honestly not sure	11/4/2024 9:59 PM
2	Just a safe environment for all especially children seniors and the disabled	9/20/2024 11:50 AM
3	Parks for dogs, parks for skaters and bicyclists	9/17/2024 7:00 PM
4	Crosswalks and aesthetically appealing dog parks, tuckahoe would be a great spot. We don't need another sports facility or car wash. We need a shaded and central place where families can spend time and safely cross the street!	9/9/2024 10:33 PM
5	Better cleaning and maintenance of existing parks	8/19/2024 7:21 PM
6	Routine cleaning	8/14/2024 6:16 PM
7	Scenic walking trails and bike paths	8/10/2024 11:28 AM
8	Skateboard park	8/10/2024 10:17 AM
9	ATV trail	8/6/2024 4:46 PM
10	CAMERAS, THAT ARE MONITORED TO STOP LOITERING, DRUGS AND DAMAGE	8/6/2024 10:58 AM
11	Not everyone is sports inclined. There needs to be more park/recreational facilities for children/teens to expand their hobbies, talents, and growth.	8/5/2024 11:53 AM
12	Pools for people who can't navigate around lots of kids	8/4/2024 12:53 PM
13	Less drug paraphernalia	8/3/2024 9:27 PM
14	Skate park	8/3/2024 8:58 AM
15	Adding any of these wouldn't help at all nowadays. Too many kids spend too much time to young on phones.	8/3/2024 2:33 AM
16	Have you been to fields like Geesey lately? That field is full trash and smells like Marijuana. Do we have any public tennis courts?	8/2/2024 9:54 PM
17	Skateboard park outdoor	8/2/2024 7:55 PM
18	This town has a lot of waterways, they could see better public use. Many of them have a lot of overgrowth and you cannot see the old waterways and the beautiful stonework that lines them	7/30/2024 7:41 PM

Q13 Are there any problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:

Answered: 61 Skipped: 10



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Streets	36.07%	22
Curbs/Sidewalks	75.41%	46
Handicap Access	21.31%	13
Parking	29.51%	18
Traffic	21.31%	13
Storm Sewers	24.59%	15
Sanitary Sewers	3.28%	2
Litter	31.15%	19
Property Maintenance	47.54%	29
Public Safety	31.15%	19
Other (please specify)	26.23%	16
Total Respondents: 61		

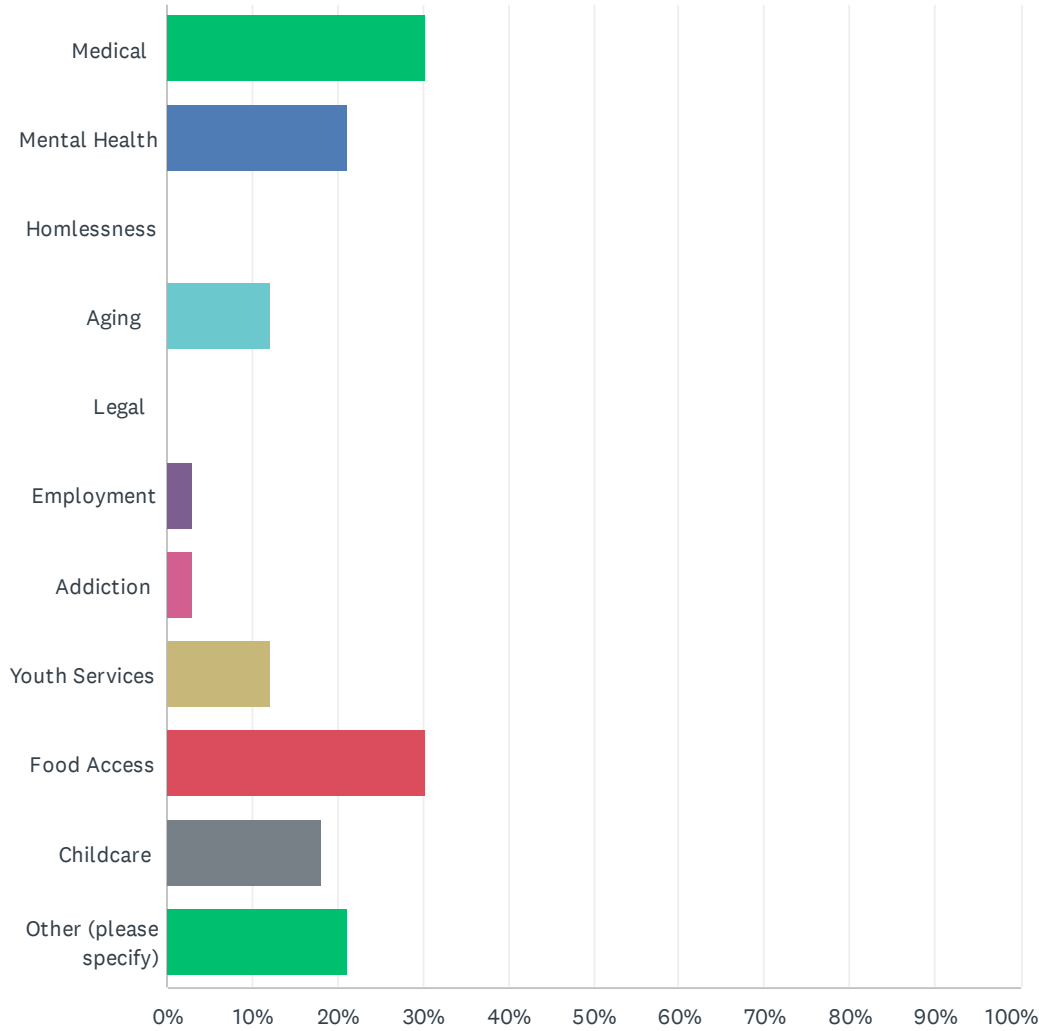
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Speeding traffic, or reckless driving	8/25/2024 7:26 PM
2	The sidewalks are filthy or grass handicap can't use sidewalks. Trash everywhere. Does the city have a street sweeper? Never seen one. Construction companies allowed to leave big holes in road and broke my struts on my car. NOT Happy with the high level of open drug use and selling on the street near bar and coner store!	8/18/2024 2:57 PM
3	There is a school bus stop at the corner of 11th Street and 21st Ave. We have a 25 MPH that is rarely complied with by drivers who do not live in our neighborhood. Their failure to observe the speed limit endangers our children. We need STOP signs on the northeast and southwest corners of 21st Ave and 12th Street to impede speeding vehicles. it.	8/14/2024 6:16 PM
4	A lot of the litter seems to come from sloppy trash collection	8/11/2024 12:51 AM
5	Altoona is not a very walkable and bikeable place and it is dangerous in some areas to get around on foot where there are no sidewalks and light protected cross walks	8/10/2024 11:28 AM
6	lack of code enforcement	8/6/2024 4:46 PM
7	STREET LIGHTING!!!!NO CROSS WALKS, EVEN WITH 2 BUS STOPS AND SCHOOL BUS STOPS	8/6/2024 10:58 AM
8	Need bike, pedestrian lanes!	8/5/2024 9:02 AM
9	Lack of street lights	8/4/2024 12:53 PM
10	Speeding cars on 18th Street	8/3/2024 11:09 PM
11	Ally ways are so bad that it knocks the alignment on my car off. The ally that leads off of 13th street to 14th street is the worst. It is by gospel hill	8/3/2024 1:30 PM
12	It floods in the parking area when a lot of rain falls in a short amount of time. My car has been flooded once due to this drainage issue.	8/2/2024 7:55 PM
13	Flood protection	8/2/2024 6:52 PM
14	Needs more street lighting	8/2/2024 6:13 PM
15	Rain water drainage	7/31/2024 3:46 PM
16	There are many people wandering at night that seem to have a shady intentions. But I believe they actually need services. Many times I have seen people on the street take things that did	7/30/2024 7:41 PM

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not belong to them and store them under other vehicles that were abandoned. There is a heavy police presence in our neighborhood but they can't catch everyone. I believe the street lights I mentioned in the other section would be more beneficial It's hard to do shady things if there is light shown on the street

Q14 Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:

Answered: 33 Skipped: 38



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Medical	30.30%	10
Mental Health	21.21%	7
Homelessness	0.00%	0
Aging	12.12%	4
Legal	0.00%	0
Employment	3.03%	1
Addiction	3.03%	1
Youth Services	12.12%	4
Food Access	30.30%	10
Childcare	18.18%	6
Other (please specify)	21.21%	7
Total Respondents: 33		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	None	9/24/2024 5:38 AM
2	NA	9/12/2024 7:49 AM
3	Senior van	8/10/2024 2:36 PM
4	None	8/4/2024 1:41 AM
5	None	8/3/2024 6:34 PM
6	N/A	8/3/2024 1:30 PM
7	Previously was on social programs and could use some access for working class people	7/30/2024 3:53 PM

Q15 Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

Answered: 33 Skipped: 38

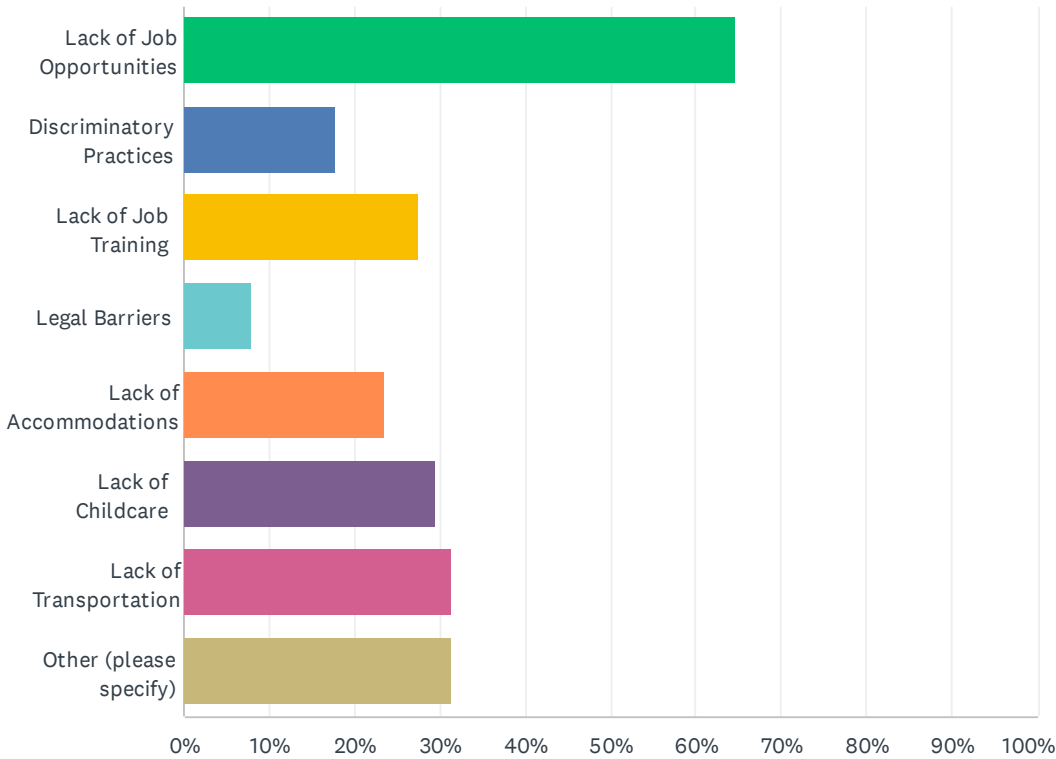
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not sure but there needs to be more things to do for children especially on the weekends to keep them safe and out of trouble and it wouldn't hurt to have more activities for active seminar the disabled	9/20/2024 11:50 AM
2	Unsure.	9/17/2024 7:00 PM
3	NA	9/12/2024 7:49 AM
4	A bicycling coalition, a reduce, reuse, recycle promotion board, a team that targets and promotes understanding of light and sound pollution in this city. The lights and fireworks are too much and are persistently disruptive to wildlife, pets, and mental health.	9/9/2024 10:33 PM
5	Crossing guards are understaffed.	8/25/2024 7:26 PM
6	Rental property inspections is underfunded.	8/14/2024 6:16 PM
7	No housing grants	8/10/2024 2:36 PM
8	I've been told that services are disconnected and difficult to navigate where to go for different types of help.	8/10/2024 10:17 AM
9	Yes, there are missing programs for homeowners. There are so many people that need home renovation and they don't qualify for financing but also don't qualify for any assistance programs.	8/8/2024 10:31 AM
10	Programs to help people with home improvement	8/7/2024 1:18 PM
11	traffic stops to reduce speeding	8/6/2024 4:46 PM
12	THERE HAS TO BE FOR MY ELDERLY NEIGHBOR WHO HAS WORKED HER LIFE AND RENTED THE SAME HOUSE CANNOT GET ANY ASSISTANCE BECAUSE SHE IS "OVER" WITH HER GROSS EVERY YEAR. THAT IS ABSURD, BUT YOUNGER PEOPLE GET A BUNCH OF HELP. WE NEED MORE HELP FOR OUR ELDERLY. SHE HAS EVEN COMPLAINED TO CODES ABOUT CONDITION OF HER RENTAL AND HAS GOTTEN NO HELP	8/6/2024 10:58 AM
13	Transportation systems with bus are confusing for everyone even educated. A lot of young people can not afford a car right now. They NEED sidewalks and bike lanes to get to/ from work, plank rd & union ave! It's unsafe for them, they're still using them at night.	8/5/2024 9:02 AM
14	Services to assist low income or moderate income families with maintenance of their home. Current programs of \$50,000-\$100,000 to service all of Altoona is not enough.	8/4/2024 8:24 PM
15	Boys/Girls Clubs	8/4/2024 8:10 PM
16	Not enough senior services: more transportation and programs or events for seniors that isn't bingo or coloring.	8/4/2024 12:53 PM
17	Bike infrastructure (bike lanes, bike racks, safety)	8/4/2024 1:41 AM
18	Community development is under funded, Police department underfunded	8/3/2024 11:09 PM
19	Parks sidewalks bike lanes local outdoor recreation healthy environment	8/3/2024 3:48 PM
20	N/A	8/3/2024 1:30 PM
21	We need more police officers.	8/3/2024 2:35 AM
22	Public Works	8/2/2024 11:22 PM

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23	Overfunded programs that reward those who don't work. Better funding for CYS. Better resources for homeless rehabilitation.	8/2/2024 9:54 PM
24	Programs for older adults are historically underfunded or unavailable--given the substantial aging population in the area, providing Blair Senior and other local providers with increased funding could assist significantly in reduction of premature nursing home placement, overuse of emergency resources, and misuse or abuse by family members.	8/2/2024 8:08 PM
25	It would be helpful if the city bus ran on Ruskin Drive.	8/2/2024 7:55 PM
26	Underfunded food assistance and affordable vet care (spay and neuter programs).	8/2/2024 7:27 PM
27	Adult with intellectual disabilities	8/2/2024 6:52 PM
28	More programs for kids and better safe drug free areas	8/2/2024 6:13 PM
29	Would love to have you push forward with a sidewalk repair program. Many homeowners would pay half if the city would pay half. Also like the idea of a handyman service to help keep properties repaired.	8/1/2024 5:32 PM
30	Aging services	7/31/2024 3:46 PM
31	Affordable housing	7/31/2024 12:24 PM
32	I feel like children's services need more staff. There are many children in this city that need help and are not getting it in a timely fashion. I don't blame the caseworkers, I blame lack of funding. I believe that the state of Pennsylvania and the city of Altoona should have more Food services and also use the communities grocery stores and see if they have anything left over every night and make sure that nothing goes to waste in the garbage while people in the neighborhood go hungry. I have seen some cities that partner with apps like toogoodtogo to help prevent food waste and redistributed among local population	7/30/2024 7:41 PM
33	Childcare, cool down places (splash pads)	7/30/2024 3:53 PM

Q16 Identify any employment issues in the City of Altoona (Choose all that apply):

Answered: 51 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Lack of Job Opportunities	64.71% 33
Discriminatory Practices	17.65% 9
Lack of Job Training	27.45% 14
Legal Barriers	7.84% 4
Lack of Accommodations	23.53% 12
Lack of Childcare	29.41% 15
Lack of Transportation	31.37% 16
Other (please specify)	31.37% 16
Total Respondents: 51	

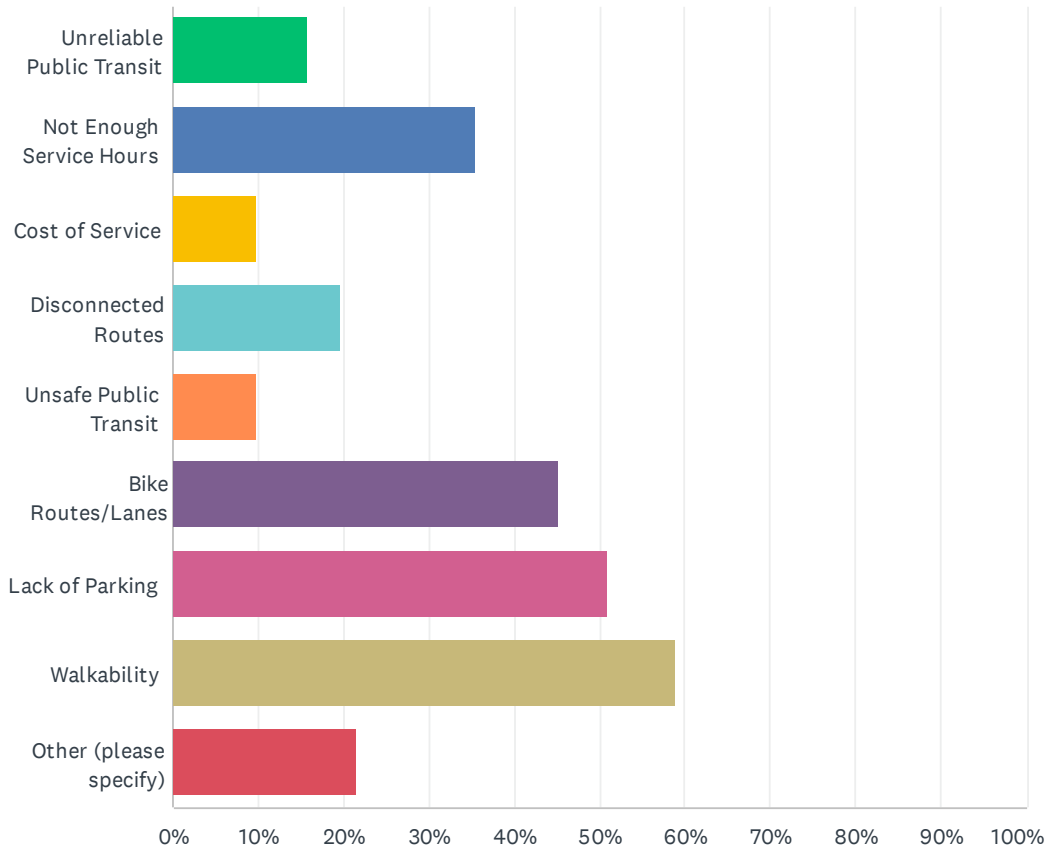
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	The "old white boys" network is perceived as a barrier to those not from the area investing in Altoona.	9/17/2024 7:00 PM
2	NA	9/12/2024 7:49 AM

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3	Diverse representation	9/9/2024 10:33 PM
4	Public housing management discriminates unlawfully against rehabilitated persons with old, non-violent, criminal records.	8/14/2024 6:16 PM
5	Bike lanes, sunday bus service, and more frequent/time efficient routes would help a lot	8/11/2024 12:51 AM
6	Too many employers keep staff at just under full time and avoid benefits. It can be hard for people to maintain stable enough income to buy a first home and maintain it, for example. Stuck in a cycle of barely getting by.	8/10/2024 10:17 AM
7	Lack of well-paying job opportunities	8/7/2024 1:18 PM
8	City taxes drove good jobs out of town. Altoona has highest taxes in area	8/6/2024 4:46 PM
9	WE NEED MORE DIVERSE COMPANIES INSTEAD OF CURRENT LEADERS CLEARING THE PATH FOR THE SAME COMPANIES TO GET FOOTING. WE NEED TO BEING IN MORE BLUE COLLAR JOBS AND OFFER TRAINING. NO WONDER THERE ARE SO MANY DRUG PROBLEMS IN SURROUNDING AREAS AS THEY DO NOT EVEN HAVE TRANSPORTATION TO GET TO ALTOONA EVEN IF THERE WAS A JOB HERE FOR THEM. NOT TO MENTION ALMOST EVERY JOB IS CONTROLLED BY THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY AND BIG BUSINESS THAT WILL PAY CONTRACT WORKERS 10 TIMES WHAT THEY ARE PAYING EMPLOYEES WHO LIVE HERE..THAT IS A HUGE PROBLEM	8/6/2024 10:58 AM
10	We need to bring back factories and more business to thrive. We have enough restaurants, shopping centers, car washes, gas stations, and grocery stores. The city needs to build better employment and wages instead of making it a retirement town.	8/5/2024 11:53 AM
11	Too much of the county not serviced by public transportation	8/4/2024 12:53 PM
12	N/A	8/3/2024 1:30 PM
13	Lack of well paying jobs	8/3/2024 2:35 AM
14	Need jobs for People who come out of rehab	8/2/2024 6:52 PM
15	Low pay; requirements for degrees when the job's tasks do not actually require a degree to be successful	7/31/2024 3:46 PM
16	I think Altoona would benefit from creating or trying to attract people from the tech industry to the city. I also think there should be a scholarship programs for those people. In addition, there was a public works program that benefited Altoona specifically and Blair county in the 30s and 40s. It works program that is a day pick up for people who are otherwise transient or in between jobs to help beautify the city would be a great first start. Then they could get experience And be busy instead of causing crime or feeling hopeless. I believe a food program to provide people lunch like during the times of the depression and immediately after would benefit people who are hungry. A food bag at the end of the day with donated groceries would be nice for them to take home and either have for themselves or share with their family	7/30/2024 7:41 PM

Q17 Identify transportation issues in the City of Altoona (Choose all that apply):

Answered: 51 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Unreliable Public Transit	15.69% 8
Not Enough Service Hours	35.29% 18
Cost of Service	9.80% 5
Disconnected Routes	19.61% 10
Unsafe Public Transit	9.80% 5
Bike Routes/Lanes	45.10% 23
Lack of Parking	50.98% 26
Walkability	58.82% 30
Other (please specify)	21.57% 11
Total Respondents: 51	

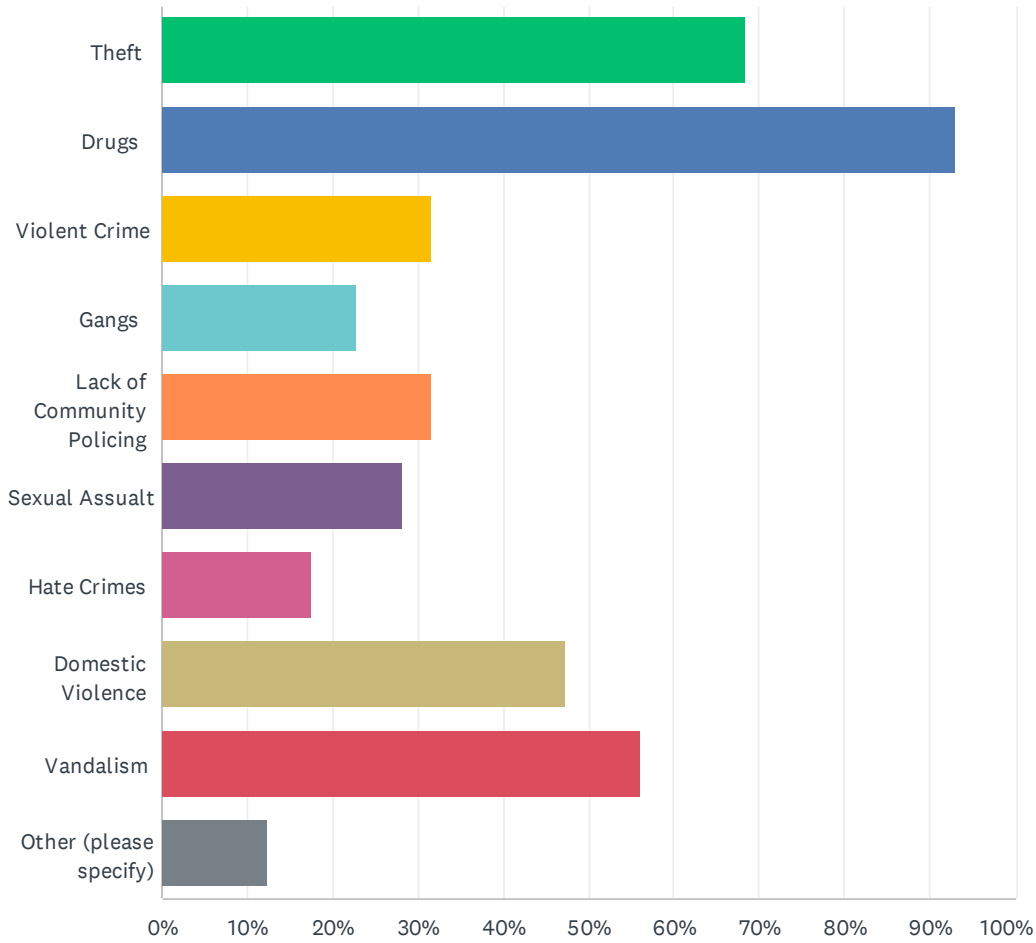
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
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1	No bench or Glass Hut to protect bus riders waiting for bus	8/18/2024 2:57 PM
2	Bus needs sunday service	8/11/2024 12:51 AM
3	The bus system is not stream lined and it can take three times as long to get somewhere on a bus than with biking or driving	8/10/2024 11:28 AM
4	WITH THE AMOUNT OF HOMELESS AND GENERAL LOITERING EVEN THE MAIN BUS TERMINAL DOWNTOWN ALTOONA IS SOMEWHERE I WOULD NEVER WANT TO BE MYSELF. IT NEEDS CLEANED UP AND MONITORED. GREYHOUND BRINGS THEM IN AND IT SEEMS HERE IS WHERE THEY LAY-LITERLY.	8/6/2024 10:58 AM
5	Plank Rd, Union Ave NEED bike lanes & pedestrian lanes/ sidewalks. People need to get to work who do not drive.	8/5/2024 9:02 AM
6	Using grant money to put new sidewalks in areas that are not heavily used, such a Margaret Ave, instead of neighborhoods where families with children live is pointless and a waste of taxpayer money.	8/4/2024 8:24 PM
7	Hazardous road conditions. Too many roads abd alleyways are in desperate need of being replaced	8/3/2024 1:30 PM
8	As stated above, there is not a city bus that services ruskin drive and the route to close stops is not safe or easily naviagable.	8/2/2024 7:55 PM
9	Need more bus routes later at night	8/2/2024 6:13 PM
10	Unregulated e-bikes utilizing roadways; should require license, insurance, and inspection as other vehicles do	7/31/2024 3:46 PM
11	The city could really benefit from improvements of all of the choices above. Some of my neighbors even drive their lawnmowers because they're in between jobs and they can't afford the car with insurance. I believe an electric bike program would also be beneficial	7/30/2024 7:41 PM

Q18 Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Answered: 57 Skipped: 14



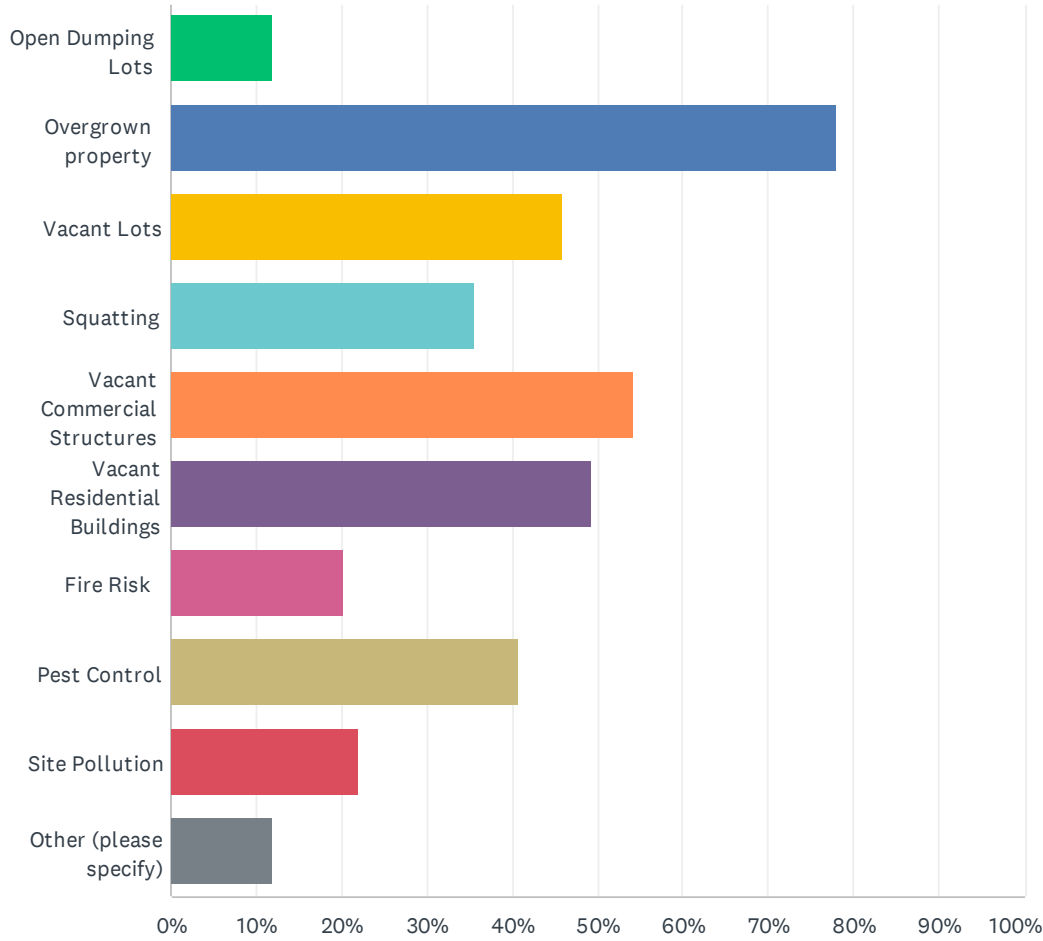
City of Altoona, PA Confidential Resident Survey FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Theft	68.42%	39
Drugs	92.98%	53
Violent Crime	31.58%	18
Gangs	22.81%	13
Lack of Community Policing	31.58%	18
Sexual Assault	28.07%	16
Hate Crimes	17.54%	10
Domestic Violence	47.37%	27
Vandalism	56.14%	32
Other (please specify)	12.28%	7
Total Respondents: 57		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	These all exist everywhere. Until we address the root, it ain't going away.	9/9/2024 10:33 PM
2	I have lived in several big cities. The City of Altoona is not as bad as people who have never left believe it is but it is not without it's fair share of crime. From my perspective, there are way too many children living in poverty in this city.	8/14/2024 6:16 PM
3	Inner City crime is now in Altoona. Thank you Section8 housing	8/6/2024 4:46 PM
4	THE AMOUNT OF SPRAY PAINT ON BUILDINGS IS INCREASING ALONG WITH THE CURRENT DRUG ISSUES FROM THE REHABS AND FROM LACK OF JOBS IS ONLY GETTING WORSE. I USED TO FEEL SAFE BUT EVEN IN MY HOME WITH CAMERAS AND LOCKS ON EVERYTHING I DO NOT FEEL SAFE. LACK OF POLICE HAS CAUSED RESPONSE TIMES AND TIME TO HEAD OFF CRIME HAS ALSO BEEN TAKING ITS TOLL AS THE THUGS KNOW THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH POLICE TO STOP THEM AND OUR COURTS WILL JUST LET THEM GO. THIS IS A HUGE ISSUE THAT SHOULD BE NUMBER 1 FOR THIS PLAN BEFORE MAKING PARKS PRETTIER...THEY WILL JUST GET DAMAGED AND MOST PEOPLE FEEL UNSAFE TO USE THEM	8/6/2024 10:58 AM
5	Gospel hill has many homeless people that leave used needles around. I cannot take my 3 year old and dogs over there to play.	8/3/2024 1:30 PM
6	Transients and homeless have increased, many with clear substance abuse or mental health issues.	8/2/2024 8:08 PM
7	I have read stories about the human trafficking problem. I also think a lot of violent crime would be avoided if people had more treatment programs which are historically underfunded. I don't like that people do drugs but I know they do. So the next step would be to try to solve the problem since what we are already doing doesn't seem to be making a dent	7/30/2024 7:41 PM

Q19 Identify any blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City (Choose all that apply):

Answered: 59 Skipped: 12



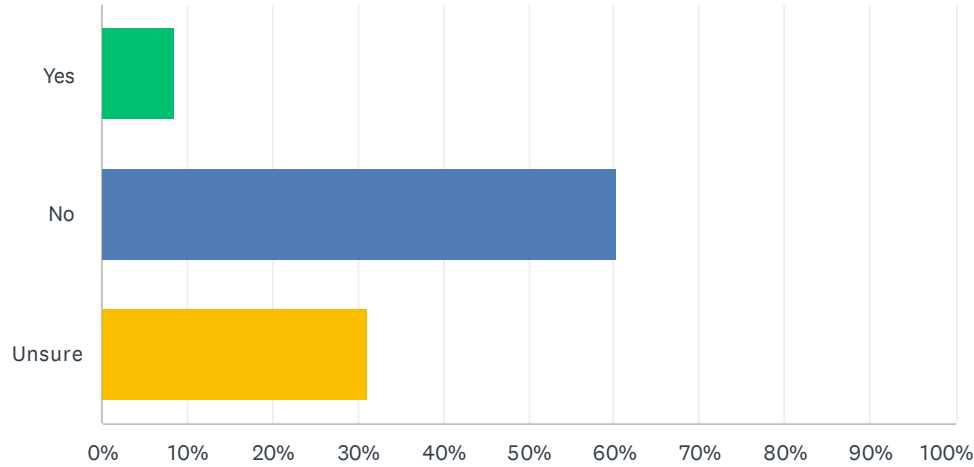
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Open Dumping Lots	11.86%	7
Overgrown property	77.97%	46
Vacant Lots	45.76%	27
Squatting	35.59%	21
Vacant Commercial Structures	54.24%	32
Vacant Residential Buildings	49.15%	29
Fire Risk	20.34%	12
Pest Control	40.68%	24
Site Pollution	22.03%	13
Other (please specify)	11.86%	7
Total Respondents: 59		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Condemned houses that could be used for shelters or low income houses	9/24/2024 8:30 PM
2	The Trap, Neuter, and Release program needs to be reinstated.	9/17/2024 7:00 PM
3	1433 NORTH 4TH AVENUE. TAKE A LOOK	9/12/2024 7:49 AM
4	There is a rental property/irresponsible landlord problem.	8/14/2024 6:16 PM
5	Vacant house full of black mold	8/10/2024 2:36 PM
6	You need to offer assistance to half of Altoona for bedbug infestation	8/4/2024 8:24 PM
7	I believe remediated community gardens would be a great way to not only Bill community but also to grow food like we did long ago people we could teach people to grow food for themselves but also foster good sense of community	7/30/2024 7:41 PM

Q20 In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?

Answered: 58 Skipped: 13



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	8.62%	5
No	60.34%	35
Unsure	31.03%	18
TOTAL		58

Q21 What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

Answered: 44 Skipped: 27

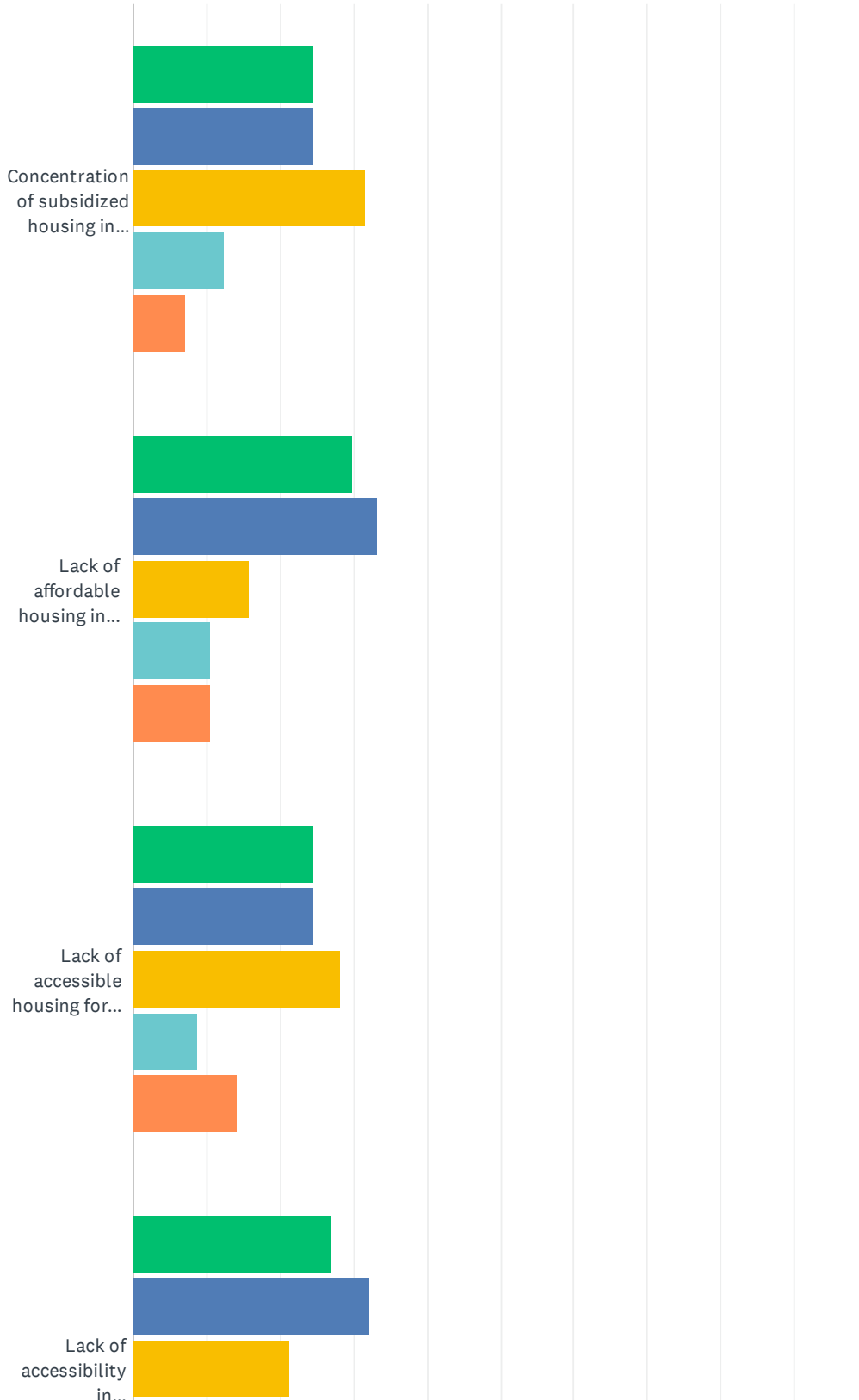
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Doubting complaints will be taken seriously	9/24/2024 5:40 AM
2	Afraid of eviction afraid of being kicked out of section8 and low income housing	9/20/2024 11:53 AM
3	There is no local advisory board associated with the Pennsylvania Humans Relation Commission. It essentially became inactive in 2019.	9/17/2024 7:02 PM
4	PEOPLE DONT CARE	9/12/2024 7:50 AM
5	It's not clearly communicated.	9/9/2024 10:34 PM
6	For fear they will loose their housing	8/29/2024 12:40 PM
7	Nobody cares but wants things to just change	8/25/2024 7:27 PM
8	People are Scared	8/18/2024 2:59 PM
9	There's not a lot of empathy in this city. The folks who live in substandard rental housing are afraid of being disregarded, dismissed, and treated disrespectfully. Some third generation residents here actually believe their streets/neighborhoods don't deserve to be treated equitably because the City has neglected them for so long, even though they, and previous generations of their families, built this city and kept it going through very hard times.	8/14/2024 6:24 PM
10	Nothings done anyway	8/11/2024 8:13 PM
11	City's response viewed inadequate/nobody knows they can or how	8/11/2024 12:55 AM
12	No One corrects the problem	8/10/2024 2:36 PM
13	Because they believe nothing will be done about it so why report it	8/10/2024 11:32 AM
14	Unsure of process or burden of proof. Nothing will be done as other excuses are given for not renting to someone like insisting on ridiculous financial disclosures and requirements, etc.	8/10/2024 10:21 AM
15	FROM WHAT I HAVE HEARD IN THE PAST FROM MY OWN ELDERLY NEIGHBOR, NOTHING WAS EVER DONE! SO PEOPLE FEEL WHY BOTHER	8/6/2024 10:59 AM
16	Lack of information on who to contact or where to go.	8/5/2024 11:54 AM
17	Uneducated, afraid of eviction, housing insecurity.	8/5/2024 9:05 AM
18	People think nothing will change.	8/4/2024 8:26 PM
19	lack of awareness	8/4/2024 8:12 PM
20	It probably stems from lack of awareness and the notion that it would take too much work or be ignored. Also, it may involve some sort of online or long form to fill out -- and lots of people are "digitally challenged." PS...The word "neutral" in the next question is misspelled.	8/4/2024 12:56 PM
21	Liability	8/4/2024 1:42 AM
22	Not many happen	8/3/2024 11:12 PM
23	Unspecified means for reporting.	8/3/2024 9:35 PM
24	Unclear reporting process	8/3/2024 9:29 PM
25	Not sure	8/3/2024 6:35 PM
26	Uncertain	8/3/2024 3:50 PM

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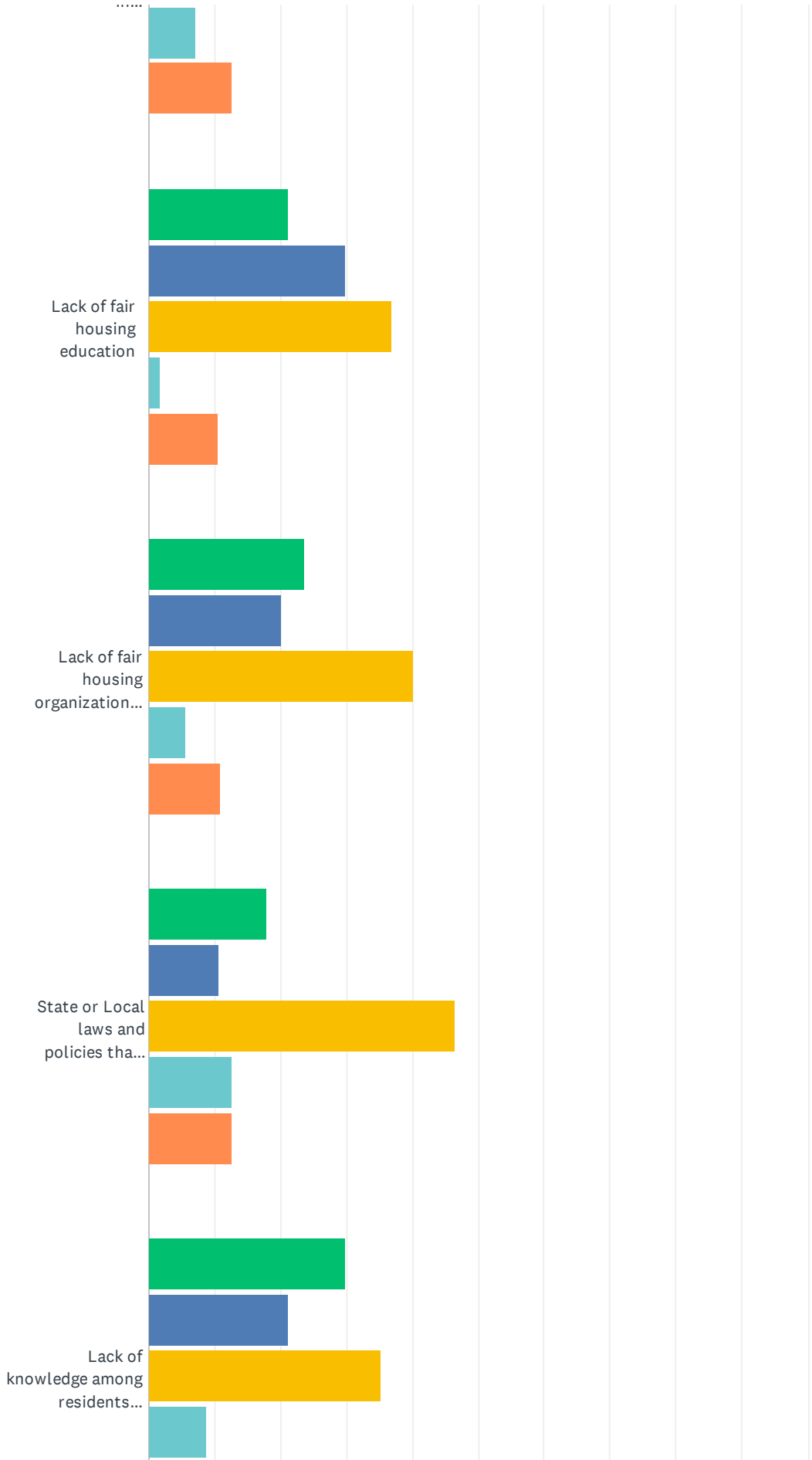
27	People don't know how to report, and they have no faith that the city will do anything to fix the situation in a reasonable amount of time, if at all.	8/3/2024 1:33 PM
28	People are afraid of retaliation.	8/3/2024 1:32 PM
29	Because it wouldn't make a difference. Landlords get away without.	8/3/2024 9:00 AM
30	Because the city has all kinds of help for people who rent and lots of resources for homeless through community action drug alcohol programs. And long as there's that much help in that many areas and that many landlords, that take the money and don't give a crap this will never improve.	8/3/2024 2:41 AM
31	Lack of information on how to report it.	8/3/2024 2:39 AM
32	People either are afraid or don't know how to.	8/2/2024 11:24 PM
33	Folks don't want to lose the affordable places they can survive at. They fear reprisal.	8/2/2024 7:29 PM
34	Unaware of laws	8/2/2024 6:53 PM
35	No one listens or does anything about it	8/2/2024 6:14 PM
36	I don't think there is much to complain about. Those who qualify financially normally are accepted unless they fail criminal checks.	8/2/2024 5:24 PM
37	People are not always aware of who to make the complaint to.	8/2/2024 4:52 PM
38	Don't know who to go to.	8/1/2024 5:34 PM
39	Resources	7/31/2024 4:45 PM
40	People don't know who, where, or how to report these concerns	7/31/2024 3:48 PM
41	No one will listen. I used to work for BCCAP. Case managers would fight for their clients just for rent to be raised after program funding was over. Landlords are very racist in this area. Any time something was reported, it got brushed under the rug. Brian Bender is a huge example. He should not be allowed to rent properties out but the doctors he works for will buy any building he wants. Then he makes rent impossible to pay. He harasses tenants. Threatens them with his fire arm.	7/31/2024 12:27 PM
42	Unsure	7/31/2024 9:56 AM
43	Well I think the first thing is they probably are afraid of retaliation. Second a lot of people are not informed about their rights and therefore do not use them. I think the third reason would be that they have no other choice but to live where they are because they don't have any other options.	7/30/2024 7:43 PM
44	Lack of knowledge and access	7/30/2024 3:55 PM

Q22 Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

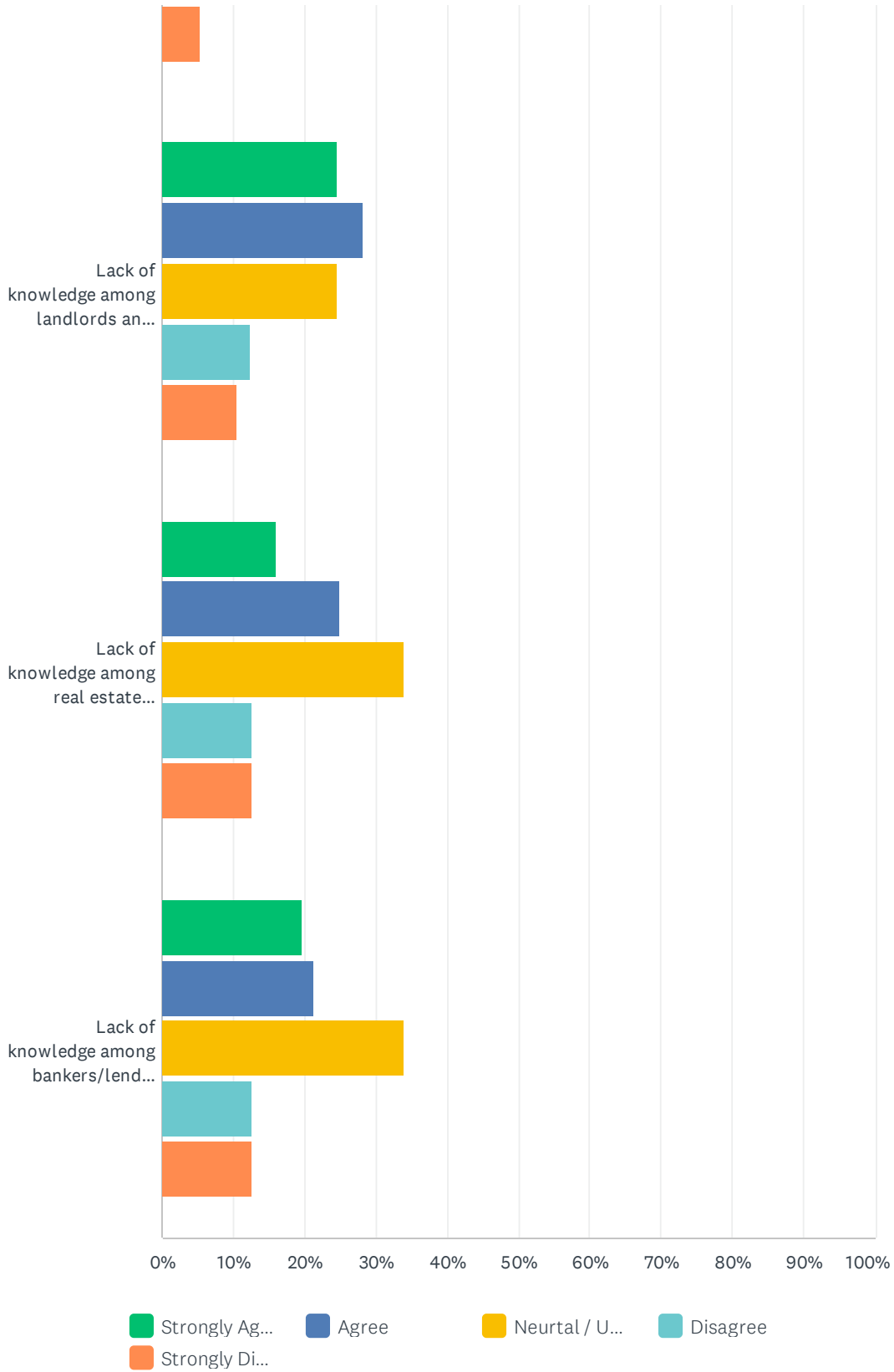
Answered: 59 Skipped: 12



City of Altoona, PA Confidential Resident Survey FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice



City of Altoona, PA Confidential Resident Survey FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice



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	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEURTAL / UNSURE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	24.56% 14	24.56% 14	31.58% 18	12.28% 7	7.02% 4	57
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	29.82% 17	33.33% 19	15.79% 9	10.53% 6	10.53% 6	57
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	24.56% 14	24.56% 14	28.07% 16	8.77% 5	14.04% 8	57
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	26.79% 15	32.14% 18	21.43% 12	7.14% 4	12.50% 7	56
Lack of fair housing education	21.05% 12	29.82% 17	36.84% 21	1.75% 1	10.53% 6	57
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	23.64% 13	20.00% 11	40.00% 22	5.45% 3	10.91% 6	55
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	17.86% 10	10.71% 6	46.43% 26	12.50% 7	12.50% 7	56
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	29.82% 17	21.05% 12	35.09% 20	8.77% 5	5.26% 3	57
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	24.56% 14	28.07% 16	24.56% 14	12.28% 7	10.53% 6	57
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	16.07% 9	25.00% 14	33.93% 19	12.50% 7	12.50% 7	56
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	19.64% 11	21.43% 12	33.93% 19	12.50% 7	12.50% 7	56

Q23 Are there any additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 45

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I'm a 57 year old disabled person whom like me among other seniors that live alone that don't have a lot of money liviving month to month on SSI that are living alone need to feel safe and programs that can help us when we don't have enough for rent food the necessities of everyday living the price of food electricity are high and we need to focus on that and the safety of children	9/20/2024 11:59 AM
2	Will there be an organization in which tenants, house owners, social support programs, landlords, and city officials/staff be established as a result of this outreach?	9/17/2024 7:05 PM
3	SQUATERS AND BLIGHT ARE MAKING THE CITY LOOK RUN DOWN, LOW INCOME, LOOKS LIKE COUNCIL DOESNT CARE	9/12/2024 7:50 AM
4	I'm repeatedly baffled by the lack of coordination around addressing street repair and gas/water issues. Also, on a fun note it would be great to promote and offer some funding for community block parties.	9/9/2024 10:36 PM
5	PS .. out of town landlords are not the issue. Continuously denying purchases of vacant lots is a loss of tax revenue for the city. This action is considered a violation of community development grant policy.	8/29/2024 12:42 PM
6	Please provide children a safe way to cross from the Jr high across 9th Ave to the medical center.	8/25/2024 7:28 PM
7	Making the city less car dependent could greatly help the cities economy. Making it easier and safer for residents to get to retail and restaurants without the need of a car will increase patronage in these business'. Adding more sidewalks as well as protected bus / bicycle lanes would be a good start. Sidewalks along heavily trafficked roadways should be protected with guard rails. Add dedicated pedestrian / bicycle crossing times to traffic lights during which all motor vehicle traffic should be stopped to allow pedestrians and cyclists to safely traverse intersections. On the topic of motor vehicle traffic, all left turn signals should be protected turns. Several intersections in the city feature yellow left turn lights and on multiple occasions there have been accidents at these intersections that could have been avoided if the signal was exclusively a protected left signal without the yellow turn signal.	8/11/2024 2:49 PM
8	the large open field between Mill Run and W Pine Ave would make for a great park. That part of town lacks a nice general use park and the trees on the railroad embankment make for a wonderful backdrop. Parking could be shared with the AAMR building	8/11/2024 12:57 AM
9	I moved here from a major city, I like Altoona a lot and I think it has a lot of potential to grow. I wish it were more walkable and bikeable as not everyone can afford to have a car. The public transportation is consistent with timing but that routes seem disconnected and not efficient. The pedestrian crosswalks are nice but often (on 17th) no one stops when they see someone wants to cross and it can be pretty dangerous for the pedestrian. There are several abandoned and/or neglected properties and I think it would be great to see them renovated or turned into public spaces.	8/10/2024 11:41 AM
10	More awareness of existing programs to help people become responsible homeowners, afford a home with manageable down payments. Better standards for rental properties (not "luxury" to just charge a high price) but safe and clean and decent affordable places to live.	8/10/2024 10:25 AM
11	The city leadership needs to lead and take back the control of our city. People in leadership roles need to be held accountable for actions and lack of action!	8/6/2024 4:51 PM
12	NOT REALLY, BECAUSE AT THE END OF THE DAY THE COMMITTEES WILL DO WHAT THEY WANT WITH OUR HARD EARNED TAX MONEY AND WONT EVER SEE THE BENEFITS OR GET TO USE THEM AS WE ARE TO BUSY WORKING TO SUPPORT THEM	8/6/2024 11:02 AM

City of Altoona, PA Confidential Resident Survey FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

SO THEY UNEMPLOYED AND DRUG ADDICTED CAN ENJOY THEM ANYWAY. KEEP DUMPING MONEY INTO AREAS LIKE 6TH AND 7TH AVE. THOSE SECTIONS HAD BEAUTIFUL SIDEWALKS AND TREES PLANTED NOT LONG AGO, HOW DO THEY LOOK TODAY? WITH ALL THE BLIGHTS, CARS PARKING ON THE SIDEWALKS AND STREETS, CRIMES, TRASH ETC...MIGHT AS WELL JUST USE THAT MONEY FOR T.P AT TOWN HALL.

13	Please add sidewalks, bike lanes for those who don't drive, on Plank Rd, Union Ave & also up to Logan Town Centre would be wonderful. Thank you for your time.	8/5/2024 9:06 AM
14	I think if you continue to build subsidized housing in this area, more and more people will come who require other social services that this area simply cannot accommodate due to lack of funding. I believe you should be promoting more jobs to the area to attract younger people into staying or moving here and build other types of housing that do not require federal subsidies. People do not want government housing in the neighborhoods they worked hard to live in.	8/4/2024 8:32 PM
15	Seniors being forced out of their homes from taxes and restrictions on codes about repairs. Why can't I demolish my deteriorating house and put a mobile home or similar structure on my property?	8/4/2024 8:19 PM
16	Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns! It is unfortunate that many people who would like a voice in this will not be able to access or fill out this survey without significant help due to digital skills limitations.	8/4/2024 12:58 PM
17	No. Thank you for the survey.	8/4/2024 1:43 AM
18	Downtown needs revitalized. Rooftop bar, some nightlife, etc.	8/3/2024 6:35 PM
19	There are several roads that are in much worse condition than roads that were recently fixed. One that immediately comes to mind is the road that passes in front of the new breezeline location.	8/3/2024 1:40 PM
20	There is a lack of police presence in neighborhoods. Gospel hill is a very neglected area with litter and drug activity. Police presence would be a good deterrent. There should also be guest parking so people can park in front of their homes. This would make it safer for people, especially children, to get to their vehicles. This would make people feel safer and make sure and limit accidents	8/3/2024 1:39 PM
21	Take a drive around The city up-and-down the Alleys. avenues. With open eyes, we've created this mess. You should never allow livestock to be allowed in cities Should never allow drug . And alcohol halfway houses in The? inner city, opening Up hope drop in Now we have more and more traveling. Homeless people that we don't keep track of we don't know if there are pedophiles passed through the area or if they're drug dealers. The city has created it. Sometimes you have to be strong firm and hated to make your city great. All cities have changed, but we need to step up to the plate and look at what's been Created The mayor and city council has to remember they need to be the mentor and advocate for the City. The codes department needs to get out and ride around with open eyes and don't be friends. There's too many slum landlords in the city. A lot of things have happened. It's not what it used to be. But the problem is where we're headed.	8/3/2024 3:01 AM
22	Clean up the urban blight. Also, consider having police officers that walk a beat in different neighborhoods.	8/3/2024 2:43 AM
23	Flood protection by Texas hotdogs on 58th Street	8/2/2024 6:54 PM
24	The maintenance people that work on the low income housing need to improve. They repair cheaply and it affects the tenants	8/2/2024 6:15 PM
25	Raising the income guidelines for housing assistance	7/31/2024 7:32 AM
26	My family in some capacity on both of my parents side have been residents of Altoona and Blair County nearby from at least the mid 1800s. It hurts me a lot to see what the city has become but I also understand due to the economy and various other metrics that many towns and cities in the United States are suffering in the same way. However, this problem seems especially bad for the last 15 years and going further downward. I am a person who tries to read the news and I have seen the efforts at revitalization that many people have tried to make for their love of this town and this area. I am really happy to see those things but there are further steps that could be taken. A lot of people are struggling paycheck to paycheck and panic every day. A lot of people are heavily traumatized by events and victimization and need	7/30/2024 7:49 PM

City of Altoona, PA Confidential Resident Survey FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

a lot of help. When they do not get that help I believe they turn to drugs, that does make the problem worse but traumatized people do all kinds of weird things to make sure that they are not feeling the depth of their sorrow. And then the physical addiction takes hold of them. Many people I grew up with are dead young because of the drug issue and tainted drugs like fentanyl. I cannot tell you how many funerals I have had to go to because of that. I don't think we can arrest the way out of the problem but I think social programs go along way to helping people not turn to dubious ways of treating their mental health issue. My believe a lot of people are hurting for basic necessities. I think that Altoona could reach out to some places like Goodwill and see if they will open a warehouse that have bins where people can buy things by the pound including clothes and housewares. It is far less expensive than even the thrift stores themselves because of the bulk nature of this place. I think a lot of people would benefit from this economically and struggle less because they could either find what they need their or resell these items themselves online or otherwise. I have many ideas because our family is very closely tied to this area. And I don't like to see people suffer. But Altoona has so much suffering. I hope the best for it and I hope some of my answers help

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) 27TH AVENUE ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$78,800 or over
 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$73,350 - \$78,799
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment
 Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

FEAR OF RETALIATION

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

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1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) 14th Street ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$78,800 or over
 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$73,350 - \$78,799
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: Permanently with family
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
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18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

For someone who is renting, they may be afraid of being evicted by landlord.

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/ Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS

11/22/2024

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Street (Name Only) N 7th Ave ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
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7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
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9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: Dog Park
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

Homeless

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

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18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

People don't know where to file complaints

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**

Street (Name Only) _____ ZIP Code: _____

2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say

3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**

White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races

Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No

4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older

5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +

6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**

less than \$47,550 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$78,800 or over

\$47,550 - \$54,299 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$73,350 - \$78,799

7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV

Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family

Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____

8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**

Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units

Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: NONE

9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

NONE

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**

Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts

Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play

Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: Need more thing for kids

11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**

Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking

Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance

Other: _____

12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

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Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) Horseshoe Drive ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

Mental Health Services, Better Emergency Care Services,

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) 2528 Broad Ave Ave ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: Things for teenagers
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

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Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) Maryland Ave ZIP Code: 16602
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**
Yes, Slumlords not taking care of tenants needs.
10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

not sure

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

Education and fear of landlord retaliation

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

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Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) Walton Ave ZIP Code: 16602
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**
Slumlords rent to out of town drug dealers
10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: Pickleball courts
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers

Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other Lazy Individuals

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security

Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault

Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds

Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

When a renter is busted for drugs, the landlord should lose his privilege of being able to rent out their property.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) S Terrace Dr ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

Don't know where to report

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601. OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov.** The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024.**

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) Park Blvd ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: new water line
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: Police force
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: delinquent juvenile teens stealing, vandalism
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other *Police force*

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

no one following up and actual doing something about it. just a slap on the wrist

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601**. OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) 24th Ave ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: Live with parents
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**
NO
10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

No

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other No

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other No

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other I don't know

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

I don't know

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

No

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) 722 E Walton Ave ZIP Code: 16602
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: LIVE W/ PARENTS
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) CRAWFORD AVE ZIP Code: 16602
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**
UM YEAH
10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

13. Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other
Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**
 Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**
 Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**
 Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?
LACK OF INFO

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601. OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) 20th St ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$78,800 or over
 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$73,350 - \$78,799
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play
Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

Lack of knowledge.

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) Pennsylvania Street ZIP Code: 16602
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**

10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. **Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:**

14. **Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. **Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other _____

16. **Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. **Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

19. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

See question # 18

20. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/ Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. **Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS**

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at altoonapa.gov**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) 18th Avenue ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$78,800 or over
 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$73,350 - \$78,799
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: _____
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**
People using their yards + sidewalks as junk yards
10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**
 Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction

(Turn Over to Complete)

Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other None

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

More Code enforcement

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
 Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other _____

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
 Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other None that I'm aware of

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
 Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

17. Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

18. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

People are afraid to turn in their landlord

20. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA - CONFIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE
NEEDS IN THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS

FIVE
SEP 13 2024

The City of Altoona is conducting a survey of residents to identify needs in the community. The survey will also identify views on how residents feel HUD Program funds should be spent and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers which may limit the housing choices of families and individuals. The survey will help the City prepare its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Please take a few minutes and complete this **confidential questionnaire**. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip the question.

When completed, return the completed questionnaire to the **City of Altoona's Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601, OR COMPLETE ONLINE at <https://www.altoonapa.gov/departments/community-development/needs-survey>**. The City would appreciate your response by **Friday, September 29, 2024**.

1. **What is the street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street (Name Only) Broad Ave ZIP Code: 16601
2. **Gender:** Male Female Other: _____ Prefer Not to Say
3. **Race/Ethnicity Please check all that apply:**
 White Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Some Other Race Two or More Races
Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **Check the appropriate box which reflects your approximate total yearly household income.**
 less than \$47,550 \$47,550 - \$54,299 \$54,300 - \$61,149 \$61,150 - \$67,899 \$67,900 - \$73,349 \$73,350 - \$78,799 \$78,800 or over
7. **What is your living situation?** Homeowner Renter Mobile Home Camper Trailer/RV
 Hotel/Motel Temporary shelter Vehicle Temporarily with friends/family
 Unsheltered Homeless Other: _____
8. **Does the housing supply need any of the following: Please check all that apply:**
 Minor Rehabilitation Major Rehabilitation Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units
 Affordable Housing Lead or Asbestos Abatement Other: Homeless, HUD guidelines
9. **Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:**
make it hard for some people to be accepted because of their policy of 5 year eviction waiting and criminal history of people. change and just need a chance.
10. **What needs or improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please check all that apply:**
 Playground Equipment Benches & Picnic Tables Basketball Courts Tennis Courts
 Open Grass Fields Baseball Fields ADA Accessible Play Surfacing ADA Accessible Play Equipment Splash Pads Pools Other: _____
11. **Are there problems in your neighborhood with the following? Please check all that apply:**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap Access Parking
 Traffic Storm Sewers Sanitary Sewers Litter Property Maintenance
 Other: _____
12. **Do you use social service programs available in the City? Please check all that apply:**

(Turn Over to Complete)

- Medical Mental Health Homelessness Aging Legal Employment Addiction
- Disabled Youth Services Food Access Childcare Other _____

13. Are there missing or underfunded programs or services in the City? Please list:

more help for homelessness (especially the ones who want to help themselves)

14. Are there employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

- Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Barriers
- Transportation ADA Accommodations Childcare Other *no ride to work programs*

15. Are there transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

- Transit Reliability Transit Service Hours Transit Cost Transit Safety & Security
- Parking Walkability Bike Infrastructure Other *no help for homeless to get transport besides work programs*

16. Are there crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all that apply:

- Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Community Policing Sexual Assault
- Hate Crimes Domestic Violence Vandalism Other _____

Are there blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? Please check all that apply:

- Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
- Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Pest Control Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

19. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

Altoona will evict you if you report it and live in Altoona

Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other barriers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Are there additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

*judging people by their past criminal actions - someone years isn't fair
people change habits and move to different areas to start over. However there past follows and 5 years is too long & most people need help ASAP*

Need programs to help to get to work
 Empty homes that could be used for the homeless
 Most people need help ASAP regardless of past criminal actions people change their lives
 Follows and 5 years is too long & most people need help ASAP



**AGENCY/ORGANIZATION
MEETINGS**



NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA

FY 2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

The City of Altoona has begun development of its FY 2025-2029 HUD required Consolidated Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan. In order to facilitate the development of the document the City is soliciting potential projects for funding with FY 2025 CDBG and HOME funds. Applications are available through on the City's website or by contacting Ms. Mary Johnson at the City of Altoona. It is anticipated approved projects will be funded on or about July 1, 2025, pending final approval of the FY 2025 Federal budget.

The application document will be available on **Friday, October 18** to any organization or agency which provides services to low- and moderate-income residents of the city. The funds may be used to provide direct services for City residents or make improvements to facilities where services are provided. Applications will be due to the city by 4:30 p.m. on November 22, 2024.

Contact Ms. Mary Johnson, Deputy Director/CDBG Manager, Community Development Department, City of Altoona, at (814) 949-2447 or mjohnson@altoonapa.gov should you have questions or require additional information. Persons who may have a hearing impediment, please contact 7-1-1 for the TTY/TTD relay.

Publish on: Friday, **October 18, 2024**

Proof of Publication Requested

Altoona Mirror

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

See Proof on Next Page

STATE OF Pennsylvania

COUNTY OF Lancaster

Rachel Cozart, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Altoona Mirror, a newspaper printed and published in the City of Altoona, County of Blair, State of Pennsylvania, and that this affidavit is Page 1 of 2 with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and the hereto attached:

That said newspaper was established as a daily newspaper of general circulation the Thirteenth Day of June 1874, since which date said newspaper has been published daily in the City of Altoona; that copy of printed notice hereto attached, is exactly as the same was printed and published in the regular edition of the daily Altoona Mirror published on the following date(s), viz.:

Oct. 18, 2024

The affiant further deposes and declares that he is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice of publication and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place and character of publication are true.

Rachel Cozart

(Signed) _____

VERIFICATION

State of Pennsylvania
County of Lancaster

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Nicole Burkholder, Notary Public
Lancaster County
My commission expires March 30, 2027
Commission Number 1342120

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 10/18/2024

Nicole Burkholder

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Notice

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
FY 2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT AND
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAMS**

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October 18, 2024

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting - Banks & Lenders option 1 (09/12/2024, 9:00am)

Quick recap

The group discussed the City of Altoona's 5 Year Consolidated Plan for receiving CDBG and HOME funds, focusing on the need for affordable housing, infrastructure improvements, and partnerships between banks, nonprofit developers, and for-profit developers. They also emphasized the importance of financial literacy, homeownership education, and the potential of leveraging unique Pennsylvania tax credit programs to attract private sector investment in housing. The conversation ended with strategies to promote growth in Altoona and Blair County, including partnerships with developers, offering tax abatements for redevelopment, and reinvesting in the community.

Participants

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Kaitlyn Tomlinson, First Commonwealth Bank
- Evan Zuverink, First Commonwealth Bank
- Gail D'Angelo, M&T Bank
- Dave Worthing, M&T Bank

Summary

Altoona's Five Year Consolidated Plan Discussion

Dave Jordan discussed the City of Altoona's Five Year Consolidated Plan for receiving CDBG and HOME funds through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, emphasizing the need for citizen participation. Evan Zuverink, who leads the community development banking arm of First Commonwealth, shared his experience in affordable housing and economic development, and his familiarity with HUD consolidated plans. He introduced Kaitlyn, who lives in Altoona and works out of their Hollidaysburg office. Dave Jordan also introduced two additional participants, Dave Worthing and Gail D'Angelo, who are with M&T Banks. Gail D'Angelo, the Community Reinvestment Act Manager for M&T Banks, Pennsylvania region, discussed her role and experience with the bank, expressing interest in the 5 Year Plan and her willingness to participate in the meeting.

City's 5 Year Consolidated Plan and Partnerships

Dave discussed the city's preparation for its Five Year Consolidated Plan, which outlines how the city intends to spend its allocations of \$1.6 million annually in CDBG funds and approximately \$300,000 in HOME funds. He emphasized the potential for partnerships between banks, nonprofit developers, and for-profit developers to produce decent, safe, and sanitary housing. Dave encouraged the group to identify any needs in the community that could be addressed with CDBG funds and to propose potential partnerships.

Population Decline and Infrastructure Improvements

Dave W, Gail, and Kaitlyn discussed the decline in population and the need for housing and infrastructure improvements in their city. Gail expressed concern about the city's aging housing stock and suggested focusing on housing as a basic need, not just affordable housing. She also proposed an initiative to improve gateways and streetscapes, using the neighborhood assistance program tax credit. Kaitlyn shared her experience of a previous revitalization project on 7th Avenue, which was met with negative feedback from residents due to the added responsibility of maintaining the newly improved sidewalks and trees. She sees a need to develop the people before developing the neighborhoods.

Financial Literacy and Affordable Housing Discussion

Continuing from her discussion of the 7th Avenue improvements, Kaitlyn emphasized the importance of financial literacy and homeownership education in the community, suggesting that these could lead to a more positive change in the community in the long term. Evan agreed, suggesting that the Five Year Consolidated Plan should focus on the need for affordable housing and economic development programming. He highlighted the importance of providing safe, affordable housing and good living wage jobs to remove obstacles to economic mobility. He mentioned employers such as DelGrosso Foods providing high-paying jobs without requiring advanced education, which he feels is essential to shifting people from renters to homeowners.

City Planning Process and CDBG Challenges

Dave J. returned to the City's planning process for the upcoming year, emphasizing that the Consolidated Plan is due to HUD by August 15th, 2025. He noted that given the City's upcoming staff turnover due to retirements and the long period until the HUD due date, the City has a unique chance to reprogram its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds and programs. The group discussed the challenges of finding private partners for affordable housing projects and the potential of leveraging CDBG funds for HOME improvements through partnerships with organizations like Habitat for Humanity - State College. Gail suggested utilizing unique Pennsylvania

programs, such as the Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credit, to attract private sector investment in housing and education. The group agreed on the importance of education and housing as basic needs for the community.

Strategies for Promoting Growth in Altoona and Blair County

Gail, Kaitlyn, Dave W., and Evan discussed strategies to promote growth in Altoona and Blair County. Kaitlyn suggested partnering with developers like Jeff Long, which received general approval by the other lenders. She also noted that the Blair County Community Action Partnership's homebuyer grant program has filled homeownership financial needs in the past. Evan agreed that BCCAP (now the Center for Community Action or CCA) has been a great partner. He proposed seeking and offering tax abatements for redevelopment, allocating resources for staff to visit successful communities, and partnering with organizations like the CCA to reinvest in the community. Dave mentioned the Improved Dwellings for Altoona organization and asked its status, and Gail responded that she had once been on the IDA board. While the organization is active, none of the lenders have worked with it recently. Evan compared the Hopper Commons project in Frankstown with a theoretical renovation of the IDA Blair Tower property, and hoped to see more decent, safe, and sanitary housing within City limits.

Next steps

- City of Altoona should explore tax abatement options for redevelopment in specific neighborhoods to attract long-term housing investment.
- City of Altoona should allocate resources for staff to visit and learn from other rust belt communities that have successfully pivoted and evolved.
- Banks (including M&T and First Commonwealth) should explore partnerships and support for housing redevelopment projects in Altoona, potentially utilizing programs like the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP).

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Social Services option 1 (09/12/2024, 11:00am)

Quick recap

After introducing the Consolidated Plan process, the group discussed the ongoing community health needs assessment in Blair County. The discussion touched on significant issues such as lack of affordable housing, the need for more mental health services, the surprisingly large need for utility and rental assistance, and the income cap for assistance. The potential uses of CDBG funds, including housing, public services, and economic development, were also outlined.

Participants

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Billie Kochara, United Way of the Southern Alleghenies
- Maj. Jennifer Blessing, Salvation Army

Summary

Introduction

Dave introduced the Consolidated Planning process, including the potential uses of CDBG and HOME funds for projects such as housing, public services, and economic development. He explained that 15% of the allocation could go towards public service activities, 20% for administration, and the rest for various projects.

United Way and Salvation Army

Billie, representing the United Way of Southern Alleghenies, discussed community needs such as mental healthcare and road infrastructure. She shared that her organization had recently merged with the United Way of Johnstown and that Karen Strubel Myers, the President and CEO, would oversee all functions and programming in the region. Jennifer, representing the Salvation Army's local branch, shared her experience with the CDBG program in Westmoreland County and expressed her concern about the housing needs in Blair County in particular.

Addressing Community Health Needs and Housing

Billie discussed the ongoing community health needs assessment in Blair County, which covers various aspects including economics, safety, and housing. She mentioned that the previous assessments are available on their website and the 2024 assessment will be available to the public in May 2025. Billie also reiterated the significant issue of lack of affordable housing in the county, with many people on waiting lists. Dave then asked for further input on potential needs in the community that could be addressed through projects funded by the CDBG allocation. Billie suggested the need for more mental health services, particularly for children, and the need for repairs to poor alleys and roadways.

Community Needs and Assistance Discussion

Billie and Jennifer discussed the needs of their community, particularly focusing on utility and rental assistance. They highlighted the high cost of rent and the impact of unexpected expenses on individuals' budgets. Jennifer also mentioned the need for transportation, particularly for telehealth appointments, and the lack of urban services in their rural area. The group also discussed the potential need for services for people with disabilities, victims of domestic abuse, and substance abuse, suggesting a conversation with Lisa Hann from Family Services, Inc.

Next steps

- Andrew will reach out to Karen Strubel Myers at United Way of Southern Alleghenies for input on both Altoona's and Johnstown's Consolidated Plans.
- Dave will contact Lisa Hann at Family Services for more information on needs related to the homeless, as well as victims of domestic abuse and substance abuse.
- Billie and Jennifer (both relative newcomers to Altoona) will coordinate their agencies' relief efforts outside of the meeting.
- The City of Altoona should consider allocating CDBG funds for affordable housing initiatives, mental health services, and road/alley repairs based on community feedback.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Faith-based Organizations option 1 (09/12/2024, 2:00pm)

Quick recap

Richard, Aimee, Andrew, and Mike discussed community programs, mental health services, and affordable housing in Altoona. They highlighted the challenges faced by single individuals, the homeless population, and those with mental health issues, and discussed potential solutions such as job training, better access to job fairs, and improved infrastructure. The conversation also touched on the need for financial education, the prevalence of generational poverty, and the importance of addressing blight and small code violations in the City.

Participants

- Mike Long, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Richard Cox, pastor, Overflow Church
- Aimee Burns, assistant pastor, Overflow Church; executive director, NAMI Blair County

Summary

Community Programs and Job Reentry Initiative

Richard and Aimee discussed the community programs available through Overflow Church. Richard mentioned their annual community cleanup day, which aims to address blight and small code violations in their neighborhood. Aimee discussed a 12-week program for individuals reentering society from unemployment, incarceration, or rehabilitation services. The program includes four weeks of cooking and budgeting skills, four weeks of job application and interview preparation, and four weeks of personal growth and basic home skills. Finally, they talked about their meal program, which provides hot meals every Wednesday and is a current recipient of CDBG funding through the City. Richard noted that people attend this meal for a variety of reasons, including mental health issues precluding them from feeding themselves, unemployment, homelessness, loneliness particularly among seniors, individuals in recovery from substance abuse, and "free range kids" who use the space to socialize and play games after school.

National Alliance on Mental Illness Programs and Services

Aimee discussed the National Alliance on Mental Illness's free support and education services, including a program called "The Power of Creativity for Children and Families" to address mental health for families and youth. NAMI also connects clients to mental healthcare in the region. All programs are free, except for their annual conference which acts as a fundraiser.

Addressing the Lack of Affordable Housing in Altoona

Richard and Aimee discussed the challenges faced by younger, single individuals in finding affordable housing in the Altoona region. They agreed that affordable housing was a significant issue in the community, with Richard noting that many of these individuals were working in entry-level jobs but couldn't afford a place to live. He also mentioned that when there is available housing, it is often controlled by slumlords. They also discussed the aging population in the region and the need for better housing stock. Richard and Aimee suggested that smaller, more affordable housing could be beneficial for single people and single moms.

Addressing Housing and Mental Health Challenges

Aimee shared a story about a single mother of four who rented a property despite being unable to afford the rent, in order to provide a temporary home for her children while searching for a more affordable option. The conversation then shifted to discuss the challenges faced by single women in domestic violence situations and those with special needs, including mental health issues. Aimee highlighted the lack of mental health professionals in the area, attributing this to low pay and the prevalence of low-income insurance plans. She discussed the challenges of accessing mental health care in their area, and how her organization, NAMI Blair County, helps bridge this gap by providing support groups and one-on-one assistance in finding providers. Aimee also mentioned a new mental health walk-in clinic that UPMC has opened in Altoona.

Addressing Mental Health and Substance Abuse Issues

Aimee discussed the need for mental health services, particularly for those with co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse issues. They highlighted local resources such as the Walk-in Clinic at UPMC, Blair Drug and Alcohol, Clarion, and Saint Joseph's in Port Matilda. Aimee mentioned a NAMI nationwide study showing that 63% of individuals with a substance abuse issue had a preexisting mental health condition. Andrew suggested Aimee attend the next healthcare meeting to discuss these issues further. Aimee also mentioned having a meeting with the United Way the following day, as United Way's representative had discussed mental health issues in Altoona at an earlier stakeholder

meeting on September 12. Aimee discussed the increasing involvement of schools in addressing mental health issues among children, mentioning NAMI's programs and counseling services available for children. Aimee also mentioned the SAP liaison program, currently only available in public schools. Representing NAMI, Aimee has been to Hollidaysburg Area High School three times in the last three years and has spoken at a meeting of school superintendents and counselors from all over Blair County. She expects to begin working relationships with multiple school districts in the near future.

Addressing Homelessness in Altoona and Solutions

Aimee, Richard, Mike and Andrew discussed the issue of homelessness in Altoona. They agreed that housing is the biggest need for the homeless population, with a particular emphasis on shelters and homeless prevention services like rental assistance. Aimee suggested that a lack of education and understanding of the temporary nature of grants could contribute to homelessness. Richard mentioned the development of the warming center to address the growing need, which was formed by a committee of agencies and churches. They also noted that many homeless individuals are not homeless every night, but rather bounce between couch surfing, staying at hotels, and sleeping on the streets depending on their finances. Both Richard and Aimee agreed that there is a greater need for homeless services than the city can currently handle.

Addressing Challenges with Financial Literacy and Education

Aimee and Mike discussed the challenges faced by students with non-permanent housing, including difficulties in focusing at school and moving between school districts. Aimee mentioned that the number of such students had increased from 70 to 240 by the end of the last school year. Richard and Aimee also discussed the need for financial education, with Aimee sharing examples of individuals struggling with budgeting and understanding how to apply for jobs. Richard added that generational poverty was a significant issue in their city, with many individuals dropping out of high school and lacking the education to improve their lives.

Addressing Economic Development and Infrastructure Needs

The group discussed the economic development needs in the community, particularly focusing on low and moderate-income individuals, the unemployed, and homeless people. Aimee highlighted the lack of connection between job seekers and employers, suggesting a need for job training and better access to job fairs. Richard shared his experience with a young man who was on Social Security and struggled to find employment due to inexperience with the job market and feeling entitled to government assistance. Aimee also mentioned the challenges faced by unemployed individuals in accessing job fairs due to

lack of transportation. The conversation then shifted to the infrastructure needs of Altoona, with Richard expressing concerns about the limited bus routes and schedules, particularly on Sundays. Aimee had to leave the meeting early due to a scheduled appointment.

Sidewalks, Road Conditions, and Downtown Improvements

Richard highlighted the poor condition of the sidewalks as a safety issue. Richard also noted the city's layout is generally good for easy navigation by car but not ideal for bike usage, anticipating an increase in electric bike usage. The group also discussed the improvements in downtown Altoona and other commercial districts, with Richard sharing his observations of the city's transformation over the past 12 years. Richard suggested the neighborhood around the Graystone development as a potential site for community cleanup days, believing that a little work could make a significant difference in its appearance.

Addressing Slumlord Issues and Proactive Solutions

Richard talked about his concerns with slumlords not maintaining properties, leading to issues like fires. He mentioned that some owner-occupants near Overflow Church are buying up neighboring properties to rent out, but he feels this is not for discriminatory reasons and that they tend to take better care of the properties and tenants than do holding companies. On the contrary, he also shared the situation of a senior citizen who is being taken advantage of by a poor-quality absentee landlord, but who can't afford to move. That said, Richard expressed appreciation for the new city leadership's efforts to improve the area and hopes to see more progress.

Next steps

- City of Altoona should explore sidewalk repairs and improvements for bikes throughout the city.
- Andrew will send Aimee an invitation to the upcoming healthcare meeting.
- City of Altoona should investigate potential programs for financial education and job training for low-income residents.
- AMTRAN should consider expanding public transportation routes and hours, particularly on Sundays.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting - Government Agencies (09/17/2024, 9:00am)

Quick recap

The meeting largely focused on housing issues such as affordability and availability. Participants also addressed transportation challenges, food deserts, and the mismatch between available skills and job opportunities. Mental health services, education programs, and economic development were identified as areas needing improvement to benefit the city and its residents.

Attendees

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Dave McFarland, Blair Planning
- Tricia Johnson, Blair County Department of Social Services
- Lee Slusser, Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAPDC)

Summary

City's HUD Entitlement and Agency Introduction

Dave Jordan opened the meeting by discussing the City of Altoona's HUD entitlement grants and outlining the Consolidated Planning process. He then asked the other participants to describe their agencies. Dave McFarland from Blair Planning explained their role as the county's research and development arm, highlighting their focus on transportation planning, hazard mitigation, and stormwater management. Tricia Johnson from the Blair County Department of Social Services mentioned her office's involvement in managing funds and coordinating with community action agencies. Lee Slusser from the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAPDC) described their role as a regional planning agency covering a six-county area, including Blair County. They contribute to regional plans and discuss housing needs. The meeting also touched on the City's planning history and the role of UDV in providing assistance.

Community Needs

The conversation then shifted to discussing the needs in the community, with Dave J. asking about specific needs related to the city or the area around it. Dave M. mentioned that they see some housing gaps and that this was identified in the "Alleghenies Ahead" Comprehensive Plan, followed by a housing strategy. Lee offered to provide physical copies

of the plan to anyone interested. Andrew requested a PDF of the plan, and Lee directed him to download it from the SAPDC website.

Addressing Housing Shortages and Affordability

Dave M. discussed the city's current housing situation and the need for a more balanced approach to address the issue. He pointed out that the City's Comprehensive Plan and Municipal Code are being updated at the same time as the City creates its Consolidated Plan. He also shared that the lack of middle-income housing is causing a shortage in the low-income housing sector, and that the issue is not just a lack of low-income housing, but that middle-income people being pushed into the low-income bracket through lack of midmarket housing. He also highlighted the city's deliberate decision to eliminate multiple-family housing in single-family zones, which is now being corrected. Dave M. further mentioned that the city's licensing issues for contractors are driving up prices and reducing competition, which is affecting the affordability of housing. He proposed adjusting or eliminating the licensing requirements to allow more competition.

Addressing City's Food Deserts and Transportation

Dave M. discussed the issues of food deserts and lack of transportation in the city. He noted that some areas lacked stores with fresh food, and that some areas with fresh food available may not be accessible through transit. He praised the new director at AMTRAN, Josh, for expanding bus hours and routes, but emphasized the need for more services. He also highlighted the need for a more walkable city, citing gaps in sidewalks and the need for better infrastructure as well as a need for increased accessibility to and in homes to allow seniors to age in place while accessing their community. Dave M. suggested the city could be a hub for the Blair County trail network and that parks need to be reinvested in to cater to modern needs, both for residents and for tourism.

Addressing Skill Mismatch, Mental Health, and Housing

Dave M. discussed the growing mismatch between available skills and jobs in the city, which is impacting mental health and job availability. He emphasized the need for more mental health services and education programs to overcome the stigma associated with mental health issues. Dave M. also highlighted the issue of fair housing, suggesting that better alternate transportation could help people age in place. Dave J. asked about the impact of new people coming into the community, to which Dave M. responded that while some are pricing out locals, the new generation is bringing fresh ideas and investment. Lee added that more people are commuting to Blair County from State College and other surrounding counties due to better housing and community services there, and that 35% of the Altoona-area workforce commutes from elsewhere.

Addressing Affordable Housing and Contractor Licensing

Lee discussed the impact of downmarket shifts on affordable housing in Blair County, noting a significant deficit of 3,300 units for low-income households and suggesting that this forces moderate-income and medium-income households to compete for less-expensive housing than they would prefer. He also highlighted that the City requires contractors to be licensed to operate in the City, which contributes to a lack of contractors, more expensive work, City residents forgoing necessary repairs, and a resulting tendency toward urban blight. Tricia agreed, describing the issue as “housing compression”.

Addressing Affordable Housing and Homelessness Challenges

Tricia discussed the challenges of affordable and adequate housing in the city, noting that many affordable housing options are not safe or adequate. She highlighted the issue of people being forced to move out of affordable housing after support services end, leading to homelessness. Tricia also mentioned the difficulty of finding licensed contractors for small repairs due to the requirement of two bids. She emphasized the need for more lower-income housing and transitional housing for the homeless. Tricia also touched on the transportation issue, stating that many people come to the city to access services due to the lack of transportation to other areas. She concluded by expressing the need for more affordable, adequate housing and places to house the homeless.

Next steps

- City of Altoona should review and potentially adjust contractor licensing requirements to increase competition and affordability for housing repairs and maintenance.
- City Planning Department should implement recommendations from recent sidewalk survey to improve walkability and accessibility throughout the city.
- Blair County Department of Social Services should explore options for creating transitional housing with wraparound services for homeless individuals.
- Dave Jordan will individually follow up with participants for economic, homeless, and social services information.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting - Homeless Agencies and Providers (09/17/2024, 11:00am)

Quick recap

The team discussed the city's needs hearing and the public hearing for the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, with a focus on addressing homelessness and affordable housing. They discussed the role of Family Services, Inc. in fighting homelessness in Blair County through shelters and support programs. They also explored the challenges faced by the Altoona VA Hospital in providing services to veterans in central Pennsylvania, including the lack of adequate housing and comorbid mental health and substance abuse issues. Lastly, they discussed various topics related to housing and support services, non-homeless needs of the community, and potential improvements for Altoona.

The main issues discussed were the lack of adequate housing for those at risk of homelessness, temporary housing solutions, and the prevalence of comorbid mental health and substance abuse issues in the homeless community. The team also discussed the need for better case management services and the role of the VA in providing these services. The conversation ended with a discussion on the eligibility criteria for the VA's housing vouchers and the need for education about these services among veterans.

Attendees:

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Lisa Hann, Family Services, Inc.
- Caitlin Miller, Altoona Veterans Administration Hospital
- Jesse Morgret, Altoona Veterans Administration Hospital
- Mary Johnson, City of Altoona

Summary

CDBG and HOME Funds Allocation Discussion

Dave led a discussion about the City of Altoona's Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. He sought input from the participants about their organizations' activities and potential needs in the community that could be addressed using CDBG and HOME funds.

Lisa from Family Services shared her organization's various services, including the only area homeless shelter for men, women, and children, a teen-only shelter and drop-in teen center with laundry facilities, group mental health homes, and services for victims of domestic violence and violent crime. Family Services accesses funds from sources such as donations, CDBG grants, ESG money through the Center for Community Action, and money from the United Way and the Sisters of the Nazarene.

Caitlin and Jesse reviewed the services offered by the Altoona VA Hospital to homeless veterans in the fourteen-county South Central Pennsylvania area. These include shelters, group homes, substance abuse treatment, and medical care. Their group administers 107 VASH housing vouchers for use in the twelve counties that have housing authorities, of which about fifteen are unused at any time, and have six beds for use as bridge housing in Altoona. While the US Veterans Administration provides funding, the program also accepts donations to fund programs such as hotel vouchers and utility assistance.

Lisa brought up the issue of finding affordable housing in Altoona and resulting unfair housing practices. She noted that housing is unavailable at all income levels, so area landlords either raise rents beyond low-mod affordability or allow their rental properties to deteriorate to the point of being red-tagged for code violations. Some apartments are advertised as unsuitable for children, pets, and emotional support animals. There have been instances of agents meeting potential tenants and telling them that their desired apartment has been rented or redirecting them to a less-suitable unit.

Lisa also explained the VI-SPDAT scoring system used by the Continuum of Care, which determines the severity of homelessness and prioritizes individuals for services. Family Services has a waiting list of people who are less needy according to VI-SPDAT, as they may be single as opposed to an entire homeless family or may have a couch to sleep on rather than being unsheltered. All participants agreed that there are not enough beds available in the area, even with seasonal offerings like Overflow Church's warming center.

The group then discussed specific needs within the homeless community. Lisa brought up that Family Services has a Victim Services program which focuses on providing housing and support, primarily to women and families who have left their homes for reasons related to domestic violence. Jesse noted that while the VA does help domestic violence victims, their homeless clients are more likely to have been evicted due to committing abuse.

Lisa, Jesse, and Caitlin all agree that a large majority of homeless individuals in the Altoona area have comorbid mental health and substance abuse issues. Lisa estimates that over 80% of Family Services shelter users are in this situation. She and Jesse would both like to see enhanced wrap-around case management services offered, to enable someone

receiving psychiatric medication to also receive comprehensive counseling, housing, and transportation. Lisa noted that without case management, a person who successfully entered housing would be very likely to lapse back into homelessness.

The group discussed the availability of temporary housing units for veterans in Altoona, with specific stipulations such as no children and no aggressive behavior. They also touched on the issue of pets when accommodating homeless or at-risk persons, with Jesse noting that pet owners would rather live on the street than give up a pet. Dave mentioned a shelter in Columbia, SC that allows pets to stay with their owners. Lisa added that Family Services has investigated a pet-friendly homeless shelter, but faces a lack of funding.

Lisa and Dave discussed the annual operating budget of Family Services, Inc., which was estimated to be over \$200,000 but still uncertain due to not having tenants for their attached apartments. Lisa mentioned that they had served over 550 people since opening their doors in February 2023. Dave asked if Family Services would consider creating more affordable housing if funding was available, to which Lisa responded affirmatively. Mary shared that the City had a project to build affordable housing for veterans on Lexington Avenue, with a budget of over a million dollars, and had also provided \$30,000 to the Veterans Leadership Program. However, the City did not provide funding to general homeless services from the HOME-ARP program, only veteran-specific ones.

Finally, the group addressed non-housing issues that have affected the clients of Family Services and the VA. Lisa stated that though Family Services has a central location in downtown Altoona and its clients are able to access most services on foot, their services are functionally inaccessible to those who live further outside of the city core and don't own a car. She also noted that food deserts exist in Altoona, particularly in the City's West End (ZIP code 16601). Mary expressed concern about the lack of interest in community programs and the absence of attendees at recent public hearings. The group agreed to keep in touch regarding the needs of the homeless community in Altoona.

Next steps

- Lisa will explore options for expanding case management services to support individuals in maintaining housing after leaving the shelter.
- Mary Johnson and her successor will investigate strategies for increasing community engagement and attendance at public hearings and meetings.
- Jesse and Caitlin will continue to publicize VASH as an option for veterans.
- The City of Altoona will improve food access in areas with limited fresh grocery options like the West End.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Housing Agencies and Organizations (09/17/2024, 2:00pm)

Quick recap

Dave and Shelly discussed the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan, the role of Improved Dwellings for Altoona (IDA), and the community's needs as regards housing availability and fair housing. The potential conversion of public housing to voucher-based systems was discussed. Lastly, they discussed the city's development, potential improvements, and potential contacts for their project.

Attendees

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Michelle (Shelly) Peterson, Improved Dwellings for Altoona, Inc. (IDA)

Summary

City's Consolidated Plan and Multifamily Building Needs

Dave and Shelly discussed the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan and the role of Improved Dwellings for Altoona. IDA serves populations including families, the elderly, and those with chronic mental illness. It has over 20 properties with nearly 1,400 units in four counties, with about 11 properties and about 600 units in Altoona. As a long-term Community Housing Development Organization, IDA receives HOME funds annually and typically uses them for rehabilitation of their multifamily buildings. Shelly expressed a need for more service coordinators to help tenants link to services and maintain their housing. Dave confirmed that they will discuss these needs with the Altoona Housing Authority.

Potential Conversion of Public Housing to Voucher-Based Housing

Shelly and Dave discussed the conversion of public housing to voucher-based systems, the official policy of HUD. Shelly, who works closely with the Altoona Housing Authority, confirmed that she had not heard of any plans to implement this change in the Altoona area. Dave explained that in other municipalities, this has allowed the housing authorities to maintain units in good condition and potentially increase the number of units to which

they provide assistance. Shelly also asked about the possibility of housing market-rate tenants in these units, to which Dave was unsure of the regulations.

Housing and Fair Housing Concerns Discussed

Dave, Shelly, and Andrew discussed issues related to housing and fair housing. Shelly shared that IDA often has new clients who have been evicted from past housing for uncertain reasons, which could be indicative of fair housing violations. She also shared that IDA conducts fair housing training for new employees, using a program from the Fair Housing Institute in Georgia. Dave asked whether Shelly deals with the Central PA Landlord Association, and if she knew whether they take part in blacklisting of clients. Shelly mentioned that the Landlord Association is active and participates in fair housing workshops with Operation Our Town, but does not know their eviction or tenant policies.

City Development, Improvements, and Funding Discussion

Dave and Shelly discussed other aspects of the City's needs. Shelly believes that the downtown area has progressed significantly since the 1990s and 2000s, and cited a number of housing developments in the area. She also suggested that assistance for homeowners could be beneficial in reducing blight conditions, and that sidewalk improvements would make a significant visual impact. Dave asked whether Shelly was aware of the impact of the City's owner-occupied rehabilitation program, but she was not. Dave and Shelly also discussed the possibility of using CDBG funds for private developers and the potential for tenant-based rental assistance.

Potential Contacts for Consolidated Plan Project

Dave, Shelly, and Andrew discussed potential contacts for their project. Shelly suggested the developers Jeff Long, Chris Cook, and Calibre as potential contacts. Andrew asked whether Shelly had contacts at the Blair Bedford Builders Association, but IDA does not have direct contact with that organization. Dave expressed gratitude for Shelly's input and agreed to keep in touch and share additional ideas and contacts for the Consolidated Plan.

Next steps

- Dave will follow up with Jim Trexler regarding the City's past use of Tenant Based Rental Assistance in the HOME program.
- Dave and Andrew will contact Jeff Long and Chris Cook for additional insights on housing development in the city.
- The City of Altoona should investigate the possibility of a sidewalk improvement program for low and moderate-income households in the city.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting - Healthcare Organizations (09/18/2024, 9:00am)

Quick recap

The team discussed the needs of the community as part of the City's FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan, and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, focusing on issues such as homelessness, transportation, housing insecurities, and food insecurities. They also explored potential solutions, including subsidized registered apprenticeship programs, creating transportation hubs, and improving bus routes. The meeting highlighted the challenges faced by the aging population in the community, particularly in relation to healthcare and transportation, and the need for more employment opportunities and public engagement.

Attendees:

- Michael Long, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Donny Beaver, Gloria Gates Care
- Ira Sockowitz, Gloria Gates Care and Hope Gap Institute
- Amy Marten-Shanafelt, Blair Health Choices
- Bob Strawser, UPMC Altoona
- Jessica Bressler, UPMC Altoona

Summary

Stakeholder Consultation for Five Year Consolidated Plan

Michael introduced the purpose of the stakeholder consultation, which was to understand the needs of the community so the City of Altoona can prepare its FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan, and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, Choice. The meeting was part of a series of meetings with stakeholders such as social service providers, City departments, and housing organizations in and around Altoona.

Michael explained the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) programs, both of which are Federal entitlement programs administered by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that are

meant to serve low- and moderate-income residents or areas of a grantee municipality. Altoona receives approximately \$1.6 million a year for CDBG and \$300,000 a year for HOME. He noted that the draft plan has not been written yet, and the consultation process is ongoing. The plan is forecast to go on public display for 30 days next April.

Michael also mentioned that funding applications will be sent out between now and April. Ira asked about the use-it-or-lose-it component of the prior year's funding, to which Michael responded that there are timeliness requirements but also flexibility for multi-year projects. He also mentioned that the city does monitoring.

Addressing Homelessness, Transportation, and Food Insecurity

After introducing themselves and UPMC Altoona, Bob and Jessica discussed the significant increase in homelessness and transportation issues in the city which are affecting patients and community members. Jessica also highlighted the issue of housing insecurities and behavioral health, and mentioned that the community health needs assessment revealed food insecurities as a major problem in the outlying parts of the community.

Ira from Gloria Gates Care introduced their organization and their partnership with UPMC, discussing their extensive primary care programs and the challenges they face due to CMS rules. Ira also highlighted the growing issue of food insecurity and the need for more comprehensive solutions. Amy Martin Shanifeld from Blair Health Choices introduced her organization's role in managing Medicaid contracts for behavioral health services in Blair County, and discussed their efforts to reduce hospitalizations and readmissions, reinvest savings into community activities, and provide supportive housing for homeless individuals.

Addressing Housing Crisis and Supportive Housing

The team discussed the housing crisis in their area, focusing on affordability, quality, and safety issues. They agreed that the issue is a national problem and that the community needs more affordable and well-maintained housing options. They considered using CDBG funds to improve the tenant experience, reduce homelessness, and rehabilitate housing. The team also discussed the increasing trend of families doubling up and tripling up to maintain shelter, with Andrew mentioning that the Altoona Area School District had identified 31 homeless families and hundreds of children who were at risk of homelessness. A project for supportive housing was proposed, involving a continuum of housing from immediate needs to congregate living with shared spaces. The team also considered a potential partnership with community agencies to apply for grants to renovate a vacant building into housing units.

Addressing Community Health Needs and Challenges

The meeting focused on the major health needs and struggles in the community, particularly in Altoona. Transportation was identified as a significant issue, with many people struggling to access healthcare services due to lack of transportation options. Nutrition was also highlighted as a major concern, with many patients coming in malnourished and struggling to afford healthy food. The lack of home health care options and the low pay for home health aides were also discussed as significant challenges. The team also discussed the issue of food deserts, where families have to travel greater distances to find nutritious food in places that accept EBT cards.

Workforce Development and Economic Growth Discussion

Ira and Michael discussed the potential for workforce development and economic growth in their community, focusing on the healthcare sector and training programs. Ira proposed subsidized registered apprenticeship programs and combining CDBG dollars with Federal training dollars from the Workforce Innovation Opportunities Act. Michael agreed to bring up these ideas to the City to discuss with major employers. Jessica added that Blair County is facing an aging population, increasing the need for healthcare and infrastructure, but struggles to retain younger generations due to a lack of job opportunities.

Addressing Aging Population Challenges

The meeting focused on the challenges faced by the aging population in the community, particularly in relation to healthcare and transportation. The participants noted the strain on resources and the lack of support for the aging population. They highlighted transportation issues, including limited taxi availability and bus system limitations. The Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) was discussed as a potential solution, but its limitations were noted. The team agreed to follow up on these issues and explore potential solutions, such as creating transportation hubs aside from and improving bus routes.

Fair Housing Challenges and Accessibility Solutions

Amy, Bob, and Michael discussed the challenges of fair housing and accessibility for people with disabilities. They highlighted the issue of landlords purchasing multiple properties without maintaining them properly, leading to substandard living conditions for tenants. The team also noted the increasing number of complaints about fair housing, particularly in relation to income and disability accommodations. They discussed a successful partnership with community-based organizations to operate a warming center during the winter months and planned to repeat this in the upcoming year. Amy also shared her experiences of tenants being taken advantage of and the challenges of helping

transient individuals find housing and get the help they need. The team agreed on the need for public engagement and more employment opportunities.

Michael finished by noting that the Consolidated Plan is still in its early stages and the funding application process for CDBG or HOME funding will be sent out later this year or early in 2025. He and Andrew thanked the participants for their assistance and opinions before concluding the meeting.

Next steps

- City of Altoona to send out funding applications for CDBG and HOME programs between now and April.
- Jessica and Bob to complete and submit an additional agency survey for UPMC Altoona.
- Amy to provide data from the warming center project to inform housing and homelessness initiatives.
- City of Altoona to explore options for improving public transportation and creating a transportation hub.
- City of Altoona to investigate ways to address fair housing issues, particularly regarding substandard housing conditions.
- City of Altoona to consider workforce development initiatives, particularly for home health aides and behavioral health workers.
- Meeting participants to distribute resident surveys to clients and community members.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Social Services option 2 (09/18/2024, 11:00am)

Quick recap

Mike Long and Andy Stephens discussed the planning process for various funding plans, while Lisa from Blair Senior Services highlighted the challenges faced by the elderly in Blair County, particularly in Altoona. The conversation also covered the difficulties faced by older adults in finding safe and accessible subsidized housing, the challenges faced by in-home care providers due to staffing shortages, and the economic development needs in the area. Lastly, the process and timeline for CDBG funding applications was discussed.

Attendees:

- Michael Long, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Lisa Moyer, Blair Senior Services

Summary

CDBG Planning and Senior Housing Challenges

Mike Long and Andy Stephens discussed the planning process for the City of Altoona's FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, which are required for the City to receive CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) and HOME Investment Partnership Program funding. Mike noted that there would be funding applications released later in 2024 or in 2025 for CDBG.

Lisa introduced Blair Senior Services and highlighted the challenges faced by the elderly in Blair County, particularly in Altoona. This includes funding issues, difficulty in finding affordable housing, and high demand for nutrition programs. She also noted the need for supportive services for older relatives raising children and the difficulty of managing expenses on a fixed income. The conversation concluded with a discussion on the broad housing needs of the senior community.

Addressing Housing and Home Modification Challenges

Lisa discussed the challenges faced by older adults in finding safe and accessible subsidized housing, highlighting the high cost of home modifications and the limited availability of resources. She also noted the difficulties faced by homeowners in maintaining their properties and the poor conditions of some rental properties. The conversation also touched on the challenges faced by homeless individuals, particularly those with pets, and the shortage of in-home services for the elderly and disabled. Andrew suggested reaching out to the local animal shelter for assistance with housing pets for homeless individuals, as other communities had met with success by offering to house pets of these individuals until they obtained pet-friendly housing.

Addressing Staffing and Accessibility Challenges

Lisa discussed the challenges faced by in-home care providers due to staffing shortages, particularly in direct care worker positions. She highlighted the low pay rate for these positions, leading to high turnover rates and difficulty in hiring enough staff. She and Mike also discussed the accessibility and transportation needs of clients, particularly in rural areas where public transportation is limited. Lisa mentioned that their shared ride program can provide transportation to these areas, but it operates within a limited timeframe. They also discussed the accessibility of sidewalks in Altoona, with Lisa noting improvements in her area and in more populated areas, but still lacking in some neighborhoods.

Addressing Economic Development and Housing Challenges

The three participants discussed the economic development needs in their area, focusing on attracting businesses, increasing pay for important jobs, and providing job training and financial education. They also addressed the issue of vacant business properties and the potential for repurposing them. Lisa expressed concern about the economic reasons behind building new structures instead of rehabilitating existing ones, which tended to draw investment away from downtown and destroy the historic fabric. They also discussed the challenges faced by low-income and elderly individuals with disabilities in housing situations, highlighting the problem of unscrupulous landlords and the lack of understanding and resources to deal with their specific needs. The conversation ended by identifying insufficient funding as a recurring impediment to addressing these problems.

Funding Applications and Five Year Consolidated Plan

Mike, Andy, and Lisa discussed the process and timeline for funding applications in Pennsylvania. Lisa expressed interest in potential funding for the Blair Senior Services Protective Services Department crisis housing needs, and Mike advised her to contact the City Community Development Department for more details. He also mentioned that they are currently working on the Five Year Consolidated Plan and associated documents and

will put it on public display for 30 days in spring 2025. Lisa was encouraged to reach out to the City Community Development Department for further information.

Next steps

- Lisa to share information about upcoming CDBG funding applications with the Protective Services and Transportation departments at Blair Senior Services to consider what programs might be eligible for funding.
- Lisa to contact the City's Community Development Department to discuss potential CDBG funding opportunities for crisis housing needs and home accessibility programs.
- Blair Senior Services to explore CDBG funding options for expanding in-home services and addressing staffing shortages for direct care worker positions.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting - Fair Housing (09/18/2024, 2:00pm)

Quick recap

Marty, Michael and Andrew discussed the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the potential for CILSCPA to obtain funding, as well as the needs of people with disabilities in terms of affordable and accessible housing. They also highlighted the challenges faced by homeless individuals, veterans, and people with disabilities in accessing basic amenities, employment, and childcare services. The conversation concluded with discussions on the need for literacy programs, transportation options, and fair housing.

Attendees:

- Michael Long, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Marty Dombrowski, Center for Independent Living of South Central Pennsylvania (CILSCPA)

Summary

CDBG Program and Center for Independent Living Discussion

The discussion started with Michael introducing the Consolidated Plan process, the CDBG and HOME grants, and the application process. Marty's organization, the Center for Independent Living of South Central Pennsylvania (CILSCPA), had previously applied for CDBG funding but was not awarded due to the onset of COVID-19. The organization supports people of all ages and disabilities, covering seven counties in rural south-central Pennsylvania. They are charged with five activities: advocacy, information and referral, peer counseling, and transition services from formal education to community living and from long-term care facilities to community living. The discussion also touched on the potential for future funding and the organization's role in community development.

Discussing Needs of People With Disabilities

Marty discussed the needs of people with mental and physical disabilities in Altoona and the rest of south-central Pennsylvania, especially those with substance abuse and

recovery issues. She highlighted the importance of affordable and accessible housing, with a focus on bathroom and kitchen modifications. She also mentioned their collaboration with the Blair County Area Agency on Aging and the federal Administration for Community Living. The conversation concluded with the recognition of CILSCPA clients facing difficulties especially in terms of housing accessibility and affordability.

Tenant Eviction and Communication Challenges

Marty emphasized the importance of effective communication in landlord-tenant relationships. She noted an example of a tenant who was threatened with eviction due to being unable to place his trash in the dumpster with only one arm, but CILSCPA was able to mediate with the landlord and create accommodations. However, Marty also noted an elderly couple that recently moved to Altoona with their autistic grandson, and whose landlord was rapidly changing housing rules to the point of potential discrimination. Marty discussed the living arrangements of the people CILSCPA serves, noting that most live with their families due to difficulties in finding affordable and suitable housing. Additionally, they highlighted the challenges faced by people with pets and emotional support animals as many housing units and shelters do not allow animals or charge a rental premium, leading to people choosing homelessness over giving up their pets.

Addressing Challenges in Homeless Shelters and Recovery Centers

Marty, Michael and Andrew discussed the challenges faced by individuals with significant disabilities in homeless shelters and recovery centers. They noted that these individuals often have co-occurring conditions such as substance abuse, mental health issues, and homelessness. Marty shared that their organization started delivering food to these individuals' doorsteps during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also mentioned that CILSCPA will receive calls from people with disabilities as soon as the weather starts to get cold.

Addressing Homelessness and Supporting Veterans

Marty discussed the challenges faced by homeless individuals, including food and nutrition insecurity, lack of access to basic amenities like washers, dryers, and showers, and the need for employment and childcare services. She suggested the need for programs that connect employment with access to basic amenities and childcare. Marty also highlighted the difficulties faced by veterans in accessing benefits due to literacy issues and lack of connectivity or access to computers. She mentioned a program at her organization that provides support for veterans in filling out benefit software.

Discussing Literacy Programs and Community Partnerships

Marty, a former teacher and Board Chair for the Blair County Library System, noted that none of the 7 libraries in Blair County offer literacy programs. She suggested that programs could be more effective if held in housing complexes, such as the Altoona Housing Authority Towers downtown. She also discussed the potential for offering brain health classes and emergency preparedness classes in these locations. Marty also mentioned her work with a team of independent living specialists and various community partners.

Transportation Challenges for People With Disabilities

Marty discussed the challenges faced by people with disabilities in Pennsylvania, particularly in terms of transportation. She emphasized that transportation is the biggest need for people with disabilities, as it affects their ability to access jobs, social events, and other opportunities. She highlighted the limitations of public transportation, such as buses, and the lack of accessible transportation options in some areas. Marty also mentioned the difficulty of using ride-sharing services like Uber for people with power wheelchairs. Andrew brought up the issue of buses not running on Sundays and the lack of transportation options on weekends. Marty shared a story about a veteran who needed to get to the VA to get his medicine but was having trouble due to his unique power chair. Marty helped him by driving to his apartment, riding the bus with him, and even calling the next bus to ensure they could transfer. They successfully reached the VA, and Marty praised the bus drivers for their kindness and efficiency. UDV expressed interest in getting in touch with Jeff Baker at Amtran to discuss their work and route structure.

Fair Housing Challenges for People With Disabilities

UDV and Marty discussed the issue of fair housing and the challenges faced by people with disabilities in finding suitable housing. Marty mentioned a meeting with the Altoona Housing Authority, highlighting their various programs and initiatives. She also shared experiences of families with children with autism facing noise-related issues and the need for reasonable accommodations. The group also mentioned their interactions with fair housing law people and regional coordinators through PA Link. Marty highlighted a specific case of an elderly couple with significant disabilities who were evicted from their previous housing due to their grandson's autism and the changing rules set by their new landlord.

Next steps

- UDV team to send Marty the link to the Survey Monkey resident survey.
- Marty to share the resident survey with clients and coworkers, particularly with the brain injury, adults with autism, and cerebral palsy group meeting tomorrow.
- UDV team will contact AMTRAN for input on transportation issues in Altoona.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Major Employers (09/19/2024, 9:00am)

Quick recap

The City of Altoona's FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice was discussed, with a focus on economic development needs, workforce challenges, housing affordability, and outdoor recreational facilities. The team also addressed the issue of homelessness, the needs and services for special populations, and the potential for an economic impact study. The next steps for the project include a series of community meetings, resident surveys, and the composition and public review of the Consolidated Plan.

Attendees:

- Michael Long, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Grant Shaffer, Sheetz, Inc.
- Ron McConnell, ABCD Board, Operation Our Town, Curry Companies among others
- Derek Martin, Weber Advisors, former Altoona Curve general manager

Summary:

Altoona's Five Year Consolidated Plan Discussion

Mike Long and Andy Stephens, consultants with Urban Design Ventures, led a discussion on the City of Altoona's FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan, and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. They are in the early planning stages, seeking input from local stakeholders on community needs and priorities. Derek, Ron, and Grant participated and shared their experiences, expressing interest in assisting with the planning process.

Altoona's Downtown Development and Infrastructure Needs

The meeting focused on the economic development needs of Altoona, with a particular emphasis on downtown parking, housing, and blight removal. The participants agreed that parking remains a significant issue in the downtown area, despite some improvements. They also discussed the need for more affordable housing, with the city planning to

address this through a combination of infill development and the use of land bank funds. The city is also working on removing blight and improving infrastructure, such as curbs and sidewalks. The participants expressed satisfaction with the city's efforts to address these issues, and with acting city manager Nate Kissell for playing a key role in allocating funds and guiding these initiatives.

Addressing Workforce Challenges in Altoona

The discussion revolved around the challenges of finding and retaining skilled workers in Altoona and the surrounding areas. The participants described that the work-from-home mentality has made it harder to find suitable employees, and felt that many applicants lack a strong work ethic. They also noted that many skilled workers are not native to the area, with some coming from as far as Ohio, Michigan, and the Carolinas. The conversation then shifted to reasons people do not want to settle in Altoona, with the general consensus being that many people are unaware of what Altoona has to offer and are deterred by the lack of knowledge about the area. The discussion also touched on the need for retraining programs to address the skills gap in the local workforce.

Addressing Housing Challenges in Altoona

The team discussed the challenges of housing in the Altoona area, particularly for professionals. They noted that the cost of living in Altoona is significantly lower than in other areas, which is a selling point for attracting employees. However, the availability of housing aimed at professionals (as opposed to affordable housing for low-income households, or executive-level housing on large lots) has become a challenge due to recent inflation and a lack of suitable properties. The team also discussed the need for more affordable city housing and the potential for attracting people with amenities like walking trails and parks.

Improving Outdoor Recreational Facilities in Altoona

The group discussed the need for improvement in outdoor recreational facilities in the city of Altoona. Ron mentioned that the city does a good job in allocating funding for road repairs and sidewalks, but there is a need for more outdoor recreational assets. He also mentioned that they have been working with the Blair County Commissioners to form a trail authority for biking, hiking, and other outdoor activities. The team agreed that it would be beneficial for the city to work with other local boroughs and townships to develop a comprehensive plan for outdoor recreation. Ron also mentioned that there is a discussion about reallocating the Blair County bed tax to asset development for outdoor recreation.

Operation Our Town Community Initiative Success and Public Safety

Steve and Ron discussed the success of Operation Our Town, a community initiative in Altoona that raises funds for scholarships and police departments. They highlighted the efforts of local business leaders and the positive impact on public safety. Ron mentioned that the city of Altoona currently has a shortage of officers, but the situation is not dire. Steve expressed that people generally feel safe in the area, and both he and Ron agreed that the community has made significant progress in addressing drug problems and ensuring public safety.

Addressing Homelessness in Altoona

Steve shared his observations about an increase in homelessness in Altoona, noting that it was a topic of discussion in a recent meeting. He mentioned that there were groups working on providing housing for the homeless, but there were safety concerns due to some homeless individuals sneaking into buildings. Ron and Grant also shared their perceptions, agreeing that there had been a noticeable increase in homelessness in the area. Ron mentioned that there were community leaders and organizations working on the issue, including a local social services organization that had opened a homeless shelter. The group concluded that while homelessness was not a major issue in their area, it was becoming more noticeable.

Special Populations, Walkability, and Beautification Discussion

Michael, Andrew, Ronald, Derek, and Grant discussed the needs and services for special populations such as the elderly, physically and mentally disabled, and victims of domestic violence. They agreed that the current social service network in the city and county is fairly robust. The team also discussed the importance of walkability and beautification in the city, with Ronald suggesting that CDBG funds could be used for these purposes. Grant emphasized the impact of cleanliness and landscaping on the perception of the city.

Michael described the next steps for the Consolidated Plan process including a series of community meetings and resident surveys. The team also discussed the potential for obtaining data from an economic impact study.

Next steps

- City Council to address housing needs, particularly in the 250k-400k range and affordable city housing.
- Economic Development Group to work on implementing the recently received NAP grant for housing infill.

- City of Altoona to continue efforts on curb and sidewalk improvements in low and moderate income areas.
- Blair County Commissioners to consider reallocating bed tax towards outdoor recreation asset development.
- Derek Martin to contact Steve McKnight regarding potential economic impact study for the Altoona Curve ballpark.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Blair Alliance (09/19/2024, 10:30am)

Attendees

- Karl Haglund, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Steve McKnight, Blair Alliance (Altoona Blair County Development Corporation)
- Tom Seasultz, Blair Alliance (Altoona Blair County Development Corporation)
- Jennifer Fleck, Blair Alliance (Blair County Chamber of Commerce)

Summary

Introduction

Karl and Andrew introduced the Consolidated Planning process to the attendees, touching on the requirement that the City publish such a plan in order to receive HUD CDBG and HOME funds. Karl noted that if the Blair Alliance has ongoing projects that are eligible for Federal funding, they should share the goals with the City and with UDV to ensure they are included in the Five Year Consolidated Plan's goals and objectives.

Tom then introduced the Blair Alliance, which was created as a merger of the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD) and the Blair County Chamber of Commerce. Blair Alliance leads or contributes to development and redevelopment projects throughout Blair County. It offers multiple below-market-rate rotating loan funds which provide capital for a wide variety of residential, commercial and industrial projects. Some of its missions include brownfield redevelopment, land banking of blighted properties, coordinating State and Federal funding, providing microloans from both its own and USDA funds for capital startup costs, running the Enterprise Zone program that covers many properties throughout the County (including all non-residential-zoned properties within Altoona), and incentivizing development. Steve and Jennifer added that merging with the Blair County Chamber of Commerce allows Blair Alliance to leverage the Chamber's membership and promote its funding opportunities to businesses in all corners of the County and City.

Housing Needs within the Community

Karl asked the group to describe the economic needs within the community. Steve and his colleagues described the need for housing as the first and foremost need. Blair Alliance is focused on filling in market-rate housing, aiming for a price point above affordable housing

to help move homebuyers and renters upmarket. Steve believes that this initiative will help attract young people to Altoona by giving them a place to settle, rather than limiting their housing choices to old housing stock in poor condition or forcing them to commute long distances from places like State College, PA for instance. He noted developer uncertainty as a factor in the lack of such housing, but also noted an ABCD study that found a need for at least 300 to 400 new market-rate housing units per year. Steve pointed out that the loan programs managed by Blair Alliance, some of which have terms as generous as 20 years at 1% interest, are effective as a way to attract developers to projects that would otherwise not be profitable.

When asked about other factors that get in the way of new housing or commercial development, Steve said that there are both perceived issues and actual issues. One perceived issue is that the cost of living in Altoona is about 85% of the state average, leading developers to think that profits would be low. In reality, the cost of living is only low because of the extremely low cost and poor condition of housing. One can purchase a house for \$20,000, but they're usually over 90 years of age and often uninhabitable. Much of the housing is purchased by investors and managed by absentee landlords who provide minimal maintenance, reinforcing the blight issue. Blair Alliance attempts to get ahead of absentee out-of-town landlords by purchasing blighted tax auction properties and land-banking them (often demolishing the structures) in order to assemble large blocks for redevelopment.

Beyond the "slumlord" conditions mentioned, there is an influx of buyers coming to Altoona with cash offers for housing. These are sometimes people who are working remotely and have decided to relocate for a lower cost of living, and Steve has also noted an influx of veterans whose income is not taxed in Pennsylvania and who are able to take advantage of the services at the Altoona Veterans Administration Hospital.

Economic Development Conditions

When not considering the artificially low cost of housing, Altoona's cost of living is similar or higher than the rest of the state, due to post-COVID-19 inflation. Tom brought up the actual issue of construction cost, which in his experience as a former lender is far higher than in prior years. As a silver lining, he noted that prevailing wage restrictions on state-funded projects were not as limiting due to the rise in overall area wages, but that material costs have also risen sharply and not decreased. Developers that had been sitting on projects waiting for better financial conditions have started to accept that the economy has stabilized, and are moving forward with Blair Alliance's help.

Blair County has a relatively low unemployment rate of 3.2%. Employers are having a harder time recruiting employees, and have emphasized on-the-job training rather than formal education as a way to get employees in the door and on the team. However, Altoona has a hard time attracting new workers due to the lack of housing and, to an extent, the need for amenities and infrastructure repairs.

Special Needs Communities

Steve spoke frankly about the gap between haves and have-nots in the Blair County area. Residents who were well-off prior to 2020 have cemented their financial positions and have plenty of disposable income, while poorer residents have continued to get poorer with the rise in consumer prices and rental rates. He pointed to the rise in visible homelessness and placed a great deal of blame on drug addiction issues. Steve also wondered whether portable HUD vouchers allowed people to move from places like Philadelphia to take advantage of relatively cheaper housing and safer communities. While public safety in Altoona is generally good, he also thinks that many of the City's youth have fallen through the educational cracks and are struggling with drug addiction.

Fair Housing Awareness

When asked by Karl if they knew of Fair Housing violations in Altoona or the area, none of the Blair Alliance participants were aware of any and didn't expect that they were common. Steve said that Blair Alliance primarily deals with developers, lenders, and political figures, rather than residents who would be more likely to encounter fair housing violations. Andy informed them of some anecdotal examples that were shared in other stakeholder meetings and encouraged them to direct people to Summit Legal Aid, the City's fair housing provider.

Karl thanked Steve, Tom, and Jennifer for their insight and closed the meeting at 11:30am.

**Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Realtors and Insurers
(09/19/2024, 2:00pm)**

No stakeholders attended this meeting.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Center for Community Action (09/24/2024, 9:00am)

Quick recap

The team discussed the FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Altoona's CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) and HOME Investment Partnership Program funding, focusing on the homelessness issue in the Altoona area and the wider regional trends. They also explored the specific needs of the homeless population, the need for affordable housing, and the challenges faced by childcare providers in dealing with children's mental health issues. Lastly, they emphasized the need for infrastructure development, better transportation links, and improved accessibility and safety measures in the city.

Attendees

- Michael Long, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Wendy Melius, Center for Community Action
- Jodi Williams, Center for Community Action
- Erica Matko, Center for Community Action

Summaries

Five Year Consolidated Plan and Homelessness Discussion

Mike Long and Andy Stephens introduced the Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Altoona's CDBG and HOME funding. Wendy and Jodi from the Center for Community Action discussed their familiarity with the programs and their focus on social determinants of health. The meeting focused on the homelessness issue in the Altoona area and the wider regional trends, with Wendy and Jodi highlighting the significant waitlist for housing and the shortage of housing and landlords. They also expressed concern about the potential negative impact of city revitalization efforts. The team agreed to further explore these issues and consider potential solutions.

Addressing Homelessness in Blair County

Wendy, Mike, and Jodi discussed the homelessness situation in Blair County, particularly in the city of Altoona. Jodi noted that an average of 250 to 300 households are experiencing homelessness in the county, with the majority being adult-only households. The reasons for homelessness were attributed to evictions and high housing costs. Andrew requested more specific data to use for the Consolidated Plan such as breakdowns by ZIP Code, which Jodi agreed to provide.

Addressing Homelessness in Altoona and ERAP

The meeting focused on the specific needs of the homeless population in Altoona, particularly the demand for more shelter space and low-barrier shelters. The team discussed the success of their warming center initiative and the seasonal dimensions of homelessness. They also highlighted the impact of the Eviction Relief Assistance Program (ERAP) on homelessness, noting that while well-intentioned, it lacked necessary support systems to help individuals and families improve their financial situations. The conversation underscored the need for comprehensive support systems to address homelessness effectively.

Affordable Housing Challenges and Solutions

Jodi and Wendy discussed the need for affordable housing in their area, particularly for low-income households and those with specific needs. They noted the surplus of high-end housing and the challenges of attracting developers to build affordable housing, especially in rural areas. Wendy suggested a Permanent Supportive Housing model for chronically homeless individuals and emphasized the need for a mix of housing types in State College. She also highlighted the need for more resources for special needs populations, such as those with mental health or substance abuse issues. Jodi added that there are housing programs for individuals with opioid use disorder.

Addressing Mental Health in Childcare and Economic Development

Wendy discussed the challenges faced by childcare providers in dealing with children's mental health issues, including the expulsion of children due to disruptive behavior and the lack of mental health providers willing to work with children. She emphasized the need for more mental health providers and support services for both children and childcare providers. Wendy also highlighted the importance of childcare as a foundation for economic development and mental health support, and identified housing, transportation, and food insecurity as significant economic development needs in the region. She suggested that housing should be prioritized first, followed by childcare and transportation.

Improving Infrastructure in Business Parks and Lower-Income Areas

Wendy emphasized the need for infrastructure development in business parks and lower-income areas of Altoona, focusing on better transportation links and accessible sidewalks for all. She also highlighted the importance of maintaining commercial spaces and retail areas in the outskirts of the city. Jodi and Erica agreed on the poor state of the city's infrastructure, including its roads and sidewalks, and noted the lack of sidewalks in some areas, posing risks to pedestrians. They agreed on the need for improvements in these areas to enhance the quality of life for residents and workers. The CCA team discussed the safety concerns of certain bus stops, particularly those in Pleasant Valley, and the need for improved accessibility and safety measures as some stops are not ADA compliant.

Community Employment and Public Safety Needs

Mike and Andy inquired about the employment situation in Altoona and the surrounding communities, and whether it matched the skill set and abilities of the people within the community. Wendy mentioned that many jobs available require minimal skill sets, and there's a growing need for technology and AI-related training. She also highlighted the need for non-traditional hours and childcare services. Wendy also discussed the need for more firefighters and EMTs, and the potential for training programs to address this. Mike also asked about public safety needs and street lighting, to which Wendy and Jodi responded that they didn't have specific information but could pass on the inquiries. Lastly, Mike mentioned the upcoming funding application for CDBG and HOME funds, and the ongoing process of writing the FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan before thanking the participants for their time.

Next steps

- Erica Matko to send detailed homelessness data for Blair County and Altoona, including breakdowns by zip code and demographics, to the consultants.
- City of Altoona Community Development Department to release funding applications for CDBG and HOME funds in the coming months.
- Center for Community Action to spread the resident survey to their clients to gather feedback on community needs.
- Consultants to include information on the need for low-income affordable housing, especially one-bedroom units, in the Consolidated Plan.
- City of Altoona to consider addressing infrastructure issues, particularly sidewalks and bus stops, in future planning.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Education and Cultural Institutions (09/25/2024, 2:00pm)

Quick recap

The meeting discussed the challenges of economic growth in Altoona, particularly the scarcity of middle-class housing and the need for better access to food and transportation. The speakers also highlighted the social and human services needs within the city, the importance of partnerships and collaborations, and the challenges faced by families due to the lack of jobs providing a livable wage. The conversation concluded with a discussion on fair housing policies, the timeline for the FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, and the potential for hosting a resident survey and public presentations at the library.

Attendees:

- Zachary Laros, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Jen Knisely, Altoona Area Public Library, Executive Director
- Brad Hatch, Altoona Area School District, Superintendent

Summary

CDBG and HOME Funding and Community Development Projects

UDV discussed the City of Altoona's CDBG funding from the Federal Government, which is used for community development projects, as well as its HOME Investment Partnership funding that can be used for affordable housing initiatives. Jen, the executive director of the Altoona Area Public Library, explained the library's services and an auxiliary site downtown. Brad, the superintendent of the Altoona Area School district, emphasized the District's partnership with the library and city, and shared his perspective on unmet housing needs in Altoona.

Addressing Housing and Economic Challenges

Brad and Jen discussed the challenges of economic growth in their area, particularly the scarcity of single-family home housing in the middle to upper-middle class market. They noted that the availability of land for new developments is limited, and the housing market has skyrocketed, making it difficult for families to afford homes. They suggested that

improving the market for middle-class housing could attract more families and increase enrollment in their school district. Jen also mentioned the high cost of rent for young adults, making it difficult for them to start their careers. Brad and Jen agreed that the lack of green spaces and outdoor recreation areas is a significant unmet community development need, which could also attract new residents and generate income.

Addressing Food Deserts and Access Challenges

The discussion revolved around the availability of quality fresh food in certain neighborhoods and what would constitute a “food desert”. Brad and Jen discussed the unequal distribution of food outlets throughout the area that are accessible by public transportation, walking, or private transportation. Jen highlighted the decline of small neighborhood stores and the need for healthier food options in these areas. Brad mentioned the school district's community eligibility for free breakfast and lunch to all students. Jen also mentioned the work of the Center for Independent Living in teaching people to utilize available food, and the efforts of churches and nonprofits in providing food banks and pickups.

Transportation Barriers and Infrastructure Challenges

Jen and Brad discussed the transportation barriers faced by certain individuals, particularly the elderly and those with limited mobility. They highlighted the challenges of navigating AMTRAN public transportation systems and the need for alternative means of transportation. Brad shared his knowledge of the City's public transportation system, noting its comprehensive nature but also its limitations, such as the need to walk significant distances to reach a bus stop in some areas of the City. He also commented on the state of roads and sidewalks and the need for ongoing improvement and funding. The group also discussed the adequacy of street lighting near bus stops in residential areas, with Brad noting that while main travel points are well-lit, areas between them can be poorly lit, posing a safety risk, especially for children using public transportation.

Addressing Social and Human Services Challenges

The discussion revolved around the social and human services needs within the city, with a focus on the challenges of attracting and retaining personnel in these fields. Brad and Jen highlighted the importance of partnerships and collaborations with various organizations to meet these needs. They also noted the difficulty of accessing mental health and other social services in some areas. The conversation ended with an agreement on the strong collaboration and cooperation among service agencies, with an emphasis on their shared goal of ensuring people have what they need.

Economic Development, Housing, and Workforce Discussion

The conversation moved on to the economic development of the city, with a focus on housing and workforce development. Brad highlighted the City's service sector-oriented nature and the need for higher-paying jobs, suggesting that affordable housing could be a key factor in attracting industry. He also mentioned the growth of retirement communities and the need for more housing for young families. Jen added that the City's history as a railroad town meant it was used to a different cost of living and wage structure, which could be a factor in current economic development.

Challenges of Small Businesses and Job Creation

Jen discussed the challenges faced by families due to the lack of jobs providing a livable wage, leading to two people working to make ends meet and the need for childcare. Andy suggested that the City could promote small businesses, but Jen countered that starting a small business is risky due to the current economic climate. Brad confirmed that the local Development Authority is trying to promote small businesses by offering low-interest loans but noted that there is a shortage of mid-tier businesses. He also mentioned that larger corporations have moved their operations to other areas outside of Altoona due to the lack of available land and suitable locations. The conversation concluded with the challenges of repurposing industrial sites for non-industrial uses, as they are often contaminated and located next to other industrial sites.

Fair Housing Policies and Community Needs Discussion

Jen and the UDV team discussed fair housing policies, with Jen sharing resources on anti-discrimination practices. Zach provided a definition of fair housing and its protections against discrimination. Brad and Jen praised the City Council and mayor's community involvement. Andy outlined the timeline for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, including stakeholder interviews, a public review period, and a resident survey to identify community needs. Jen offered to post the survey and hold public presentations at the library, which also houses the local PA CareerLink workforce development program office.

Next steps

- City to explore initiatives for developing affordable middle-class housing in the \$150,000-\$300,000 range.
- City officials to assess opportunities for creating more green spaces and outdoor recreation areas to attract residents and improve quality of life.
- UDV team to distribute resident surveys to the library and school district for community feedback on city needs and development priorities.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Pennsylvania State University at Altoona (10/29/2024, 9:00am)

Quick recap

Representatives from Urban Design Ventures met with Peter Moran, a dean at Pennsylvania State University at Altoona, to discuss Altoona's FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan, and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. This conversation focused on HUD fund expenditure and potential CDBG opportunities for Penn State Altoona. The meeting covered various community issues, including student needs, rental unit conditions, drug and alcohol dependency services, and regional “brain drain”. Participants explored potential collaborations between institutions to address these challenges and improve community support.

Attendance

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Peter Moran, PSU-Altoona

Summary

Altoona's Five Year Consolidated Plan

Andrew Stephens and Dave Jordan from Urban Design Ventures are consultants with the City of Altoona helping to draft their FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2025 Annual Action Plan, and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Dave explained the process to Peter, which involves gathering data from various sources and community residents to prepare documents for submission to HUD. Altoona receives approximately \$1.5 million in CDBG funds and \$350,000 in HOME funds annually. The funds can be used for community facilities, public facilities, and housing activities. The aim is to create a roadmap for the expenditure of HUD funds and identify potential opportunities for the university to apply for and receive CDBG dollars.

Penn State Altoona Overview and Majors

Peter provided an overview of Penn State Altoona, an independent university within the Pennsylvania State University system rather than a remote campus managed from the State College campus as in other smaller Pennsylvania cities. The university has around 2,400 students, primarily from Pennsylvania and the northeastern United States. It offers associate and bachelor's degree programs, with nursing being the largest major. Other popular majors include accounting, business, engineering technology, mechanical engineering, kinesiology, psychology, and criminal justice. Peter mentioned that the percentage of students from Pennsylvania has decreased due to changing demographics in the region. The service area of their institution primarily includes five counties around Penn State Altoona: Blair, Bedford, Somerset, Huntington, and Cambria Counties. He mentioned that they cater to a diverse student population, including traditional and adult students.

Peter also highlighted the increasing prevalence of issues among students, such as the need for food pantries, and suggested that providing community support could be beneficial. Dave suggested that they could refer students to local food pantries and asked about the number of students living on campus. Peter stated that they have 911 on-campus beds which are mostly full and that Penn State Altoona is primarily a commuter campus.

Rental Unit Maintenance and Housing

Dave, Peter, and Andrew discussed the condition of rental units in their area. Dave expressed concern about the maintenance of these units, suggesting that landlords might not invest enough in upkeep. Peter, however, believed that most housing operators that cater to students, including one who is on their Advisory Board, have been good partners and maintain their properties well. They also discussed the need for low-income housing in their community, with Peter mentioning that conversions of disused industrial and commercial space into housing have become popular and pointing out one warehouse that was converted to low-income housing.

Addressing Addiction and Brain Drain

Peter and Dave discussed the need for stronger services in drug and alcohol dependency fields, as well as the importance of economic prospects for the younger generation to prevent addiction. Peter shared his personal experience with addiction in his family and his plans to roll out a certificate program at Penn State Altoona to train people in these fields. They also touched on the issue of brain drain in Altoona, where individuals leave to pursue better opportunities elsewhere. Peter suggested that this has a negative impact on the community's overall development and is interested in reversing this trend.

Leveraging Reputation for Funding Partnerships

Dave, Peter, and Andrew discussed the potential for collaboration between Penn State Altoona and other area institutions. Dave suggested that Penn State's strong reputation could be leveraged to attract funding for specific programs, particularly those targeting adult students. Peter agreed, emphasizing the need for resourcefulness and creativity in partnerships. They also discussed the nursing program's strong reputation and its potential impact on the local healthcare industry. Dave mentioned the possibility of providing assistance for home repairs or purchases, but noted that infrastructure projects might be difficult to fund. The team agreed on the importance of partnerships and resourcefulness in overcoming challenges.

Next steps

- Peter to provide an enrollment report with demographic breakdowns to Andrew and Dave.
- Peter to explore potential partnership opportunities with the city for programs that could benefit adult students or address specific community needs.
- Dave to investigate if there are any CDBG funding opportunities that could support Penn State Altoona's adult students or community-focused initiatives.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Altoona Housing Authority (11/06/2024, 9:00am)

Quick recap

Dave and Brad discussed changes in leadership and structure, the use of CDBG funds, and the challenges of managing housing in Altoona. They also touched on the Housing Authority's pet policy, Capital Fund Budgets, and potential grants from HUD. Lastly, they discussed the importance of fostering a better relationship between the Housing Authority and the City to improve the community at large.

Attendance:

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Brad Kanuch, Altoona Housing Authority

Next steps

- Brad to apply for a CDBG grant for upgrading kitchens at Pleasant Village location.
- Altoona Housing Authority to continue working on the window and door replacement project at 11th Street Tower using 2023 CDBG funds.
- Altoona Housing Authority to proceed with the roof project for its moderate-income property.

Summary

CDBG Funds and Leadership Changes

Dave and Brad discussed changes in leadership and structure, and how these might impact their use of CDBG funds. Brad mentioned his good relationships with the current City leadership and his involvement in trainings on housing development activities. However, he clarified that there were no immediate plans to expand their activities beyond their current housing development. They also discussed the possibility of the Altoona Housing Authority joining HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program and converting portions of its housing stock to Project-Based Vouchers, but Brad shared that they had decided against it for now due to concerns about market rates and staff handling.

The Housing Authority concluded that their current financial situation did not necessitate a change in their approach.

NSPIRE* Inspection Scores and Vandalism Discussion

Brad and Dave discussed the Housing Authority's NSPIRE* property inspection scores, with their two towers scoring the same and their family site scoring slightly lower. Brad expressed that their sites scored well and that the NSPIRE* inspections were not as difficult as they had anticipated, though they did have an issue with a trip hazard at a swing set, which had been a 7-point hit. Brad mentioned that they had 9 Section 8 units, with 7 or 8 currently in use. They also touched on the topic of vandalism, with Brad stating that they don't deal with it often and that they take care of any issues promptly.

Managing Housing in Altoona Challenges

Dave and Brad discussed the challenges of managing housing in Altoona, including the need for more affordable housing and the impact of increasing rents. Brad mentioned that they have a good relationship with the city and have worked on various projects, such as window and door replacements, roof projects, and concrete and asphalt work at Fairview Hills. They also discussed the issue of landlords raising rents due to the influx of more affluent jobs in the area. Brad expressed concern about the potential displacement of lower-income residents and the stigma associated with Section 8 housing.

Addressing Homelessness and Veterans Support

Brad and Dave discussed their lack of relationship with Improved Dwellings for Altoona (IDA), despite both organizations working in similar areas. Brad mentioned plans to apply for a CDBG grant to upgrade the kitchens at their Pleasant Village location, a community built for veterans post-World War 2. They also discussed the increasing homeless issue in Blair County, which Brad attributed to a combination of housing affordability and quality issues, substance abuse prevalence, and mental health problems. Dave agreed, noting that some homeless individuals prefer not to have permanent housing for many reasons.

Company Pet Policy and Emotional Support

In the meeting, Brad and Dave discussed the Housing Authority's pet policy, particularly regarding emotional support animals (ESAs) and exotic pets. Brad explained that they allow pets with certain restrictions such as size, number and breed, and ESAs are considered on a case-by-case basis. They also discussed the possibility of allowing pets like rats but emphasized that the spirit of the policy would need to be followed as closely as possible. Dave raised the issue of homeless individuals moving in with their pets, to which Brad replied that they would need to follow the pet policy and obtain the necessary approvals.

Capital Fund Budgets and Grants

Brad and Dave discussed the City's and Housing Authority's Capital Fund Budgets and potential grants from HUD. Brad expressed willingness to assist with any necessary tasks and acknowledged the need for environmental reviews for certain projects. Dave shared his experience working with a housing authority in West Virginia and mentioned the possibility of providing CDBG dollars for projects, which would require an environmental review. Brad also noted the city's recent improvements, particularly in the downtown area.

Meeting summary for Five Year Consolidated Plan meeting – Summit Legal Aid (11/07/2024, 2:00pm)

Quick recap

Jaime and Blanche discussed Summit Legal Aid's services, particularly focusing on fair housing cases and evictions, and the funding they receive from HUD grants. They and Dave also discussed the process for organizations to apply for CDBG funds from the City of Altoona. Lastly, the group touched on issues of affordable housing, housing discrimination, and problem landlords in the city, as well as challenges in gathering evidence for fair housing cases.

Attendance:

- Dave Jordan, UDV
- Andrew Stephens, UDV
- Jaime Cameron, Summit Legal Aid
- Blanche Helbling, Summit Legal Aid

Summary

Legal Aid Services and Funding

Dave and Jaime discussed the services Summit Legal Aid provides, particularly focusing on fair housing cases and evictions in Altoona. Jaime mentioned that when they receive referrals in Altoona they usually partner with MidPenn Legal Services for eviction hearings due to their local presence and familiarity with the courts. Dave then brought up the topic of funding, specifically mentioning the HUD CDBG program. Jaime confirmed that they receive CDBG funds through the City of Altoona for their fair housing work. Dave advised Jaime to check the city's website for the application process, as it had started earlier than usual. Lastly, Dave informed Jaime that Mary Johnson, who is involved in the contract with the city, is retiring by the end of the year.

City's CDBG Application and Monitoring

Jaime highlighted issues of affordable housing, housing discrimination, and problem landlords in the city, as well as challenges in gathering evidence for fair housing cases. She noted that substandard housing exists throughout the Summit Legal Aid service area, and

that Altoona was no exception. However, Summit and the City have found it difficult to hold problematic landlords and management companies accountable as tenants often were not willing to risk their housing affordability to make a housing complaint. Additionally, the City of Altoona does not have a straightforward way to prevent landlords from evicting “problem tenants” who make justified complaints. Jamie and Blanche expressed their desire to recruit housing testers to identify problem landlords so Summit Legal Aid could then take legal action against them.

Difficulty with Obtaining and Maintaining Housing

Dave and Andrew asked what issues are most common in obtaining housing in Altoona. Jaime replied that affordability was the root of problems. She noted that problem landlords will often prey on persons who are struggling with poor credit by asking for large security deposits and application fees and then evict those persons within a few months, effectively increasing their income by pocketing the extra deposit and fees. Other issues include applicants who can't obtain housing due to prior evictions or criminal records despite being otherwise qualified, rampant racism and national origin discrimination that is disguised under financial factors, similarly disguised issues with familial status and disability access, and landlord reticence to accept Section 8 vouchers as payment. Often these issues have multiple factors that individually would not meet the standard of a Fair Housing issue but together do constitute a basis for complaint. Jaime also shared that Summit has seen an increase in cases involving sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, and sexual orientation & expression, both in terms of housing and other legal matters.

Fair Housing Seminars and the Landlords Association

Dave asked whether there was an active Landlords Association in Altoona and whether they have been known to blacklist “problem” tenants, and Jaime noted that one does exist but does not know if they make a practice of denying housing to certain applicants. She has spoken with them at Operation Our Town meetings in the past and noted that they have also taken part in Fair Housing seminars hosted by Summit Legal Aid. Jaime described other Fair Housing education provided by her organization, such as a Fair Housing poster contest for secondary school students and a Fair Housing Summit hosted jointly with the Altoona Housing Authority and open to City residents, public housing residents, community leaders and housing providers.

Next steps:

- Jaime to check Altoona's website for the new CDBG application and submit it before the end of the month.
- Urban Design Ventures to discuss with the city about potential changes to the application process for CDBG funds.
- Jaime to continue efforts in developing a testing strategy to gather evidence against problematic landlords in Altoona.



**AGENCY/ORGANIZATION
SURVEYS**

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Blair Senior Services, Inc

Address: 1320 12th Ave, Altoona PA 16601

Contact: Lisa Moyer **Title:** Long Term Living Program Supervisor

Phone: 814-946-1235 **E-Mail:** Lmoyer@blairsenior.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

A wide variety of services to assist adults aged 60 and older (primarily). A few programs/services have younger age requirements.

- Transportation
- In-Home Services (Personal Care, Home Delivered Meals, Care Management, Reimbursement programs)
- Senior Centers
- Protective Services
- Ombudsman (for individuals residing in care facilities)

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?
(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Transportation</u> |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

- Lack of funding for programs and services that allow older adults to remain in their homes.
- Limited respite opportunities for caregivers of all types
- Lack of substantial nutrition programs for all age groups
- Supportive services for older relatives who are raising children, frequently due to the biological parents having drug or legal issues

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

- Safe and affordable housing for individuals with low incomes; there are lengthy waiting lists for subsidized housing
- Affordable and appropriate housing for individuals with criminal backgrounds or history of eviction, resulting in homelessness for those individuals
- Lack of housing repair/maintenance assistance programs to assist lower and moderate income homeowners
- Lack of programs for accessibility modifications/equipment for homes (ramps, bathroom modifications, stair glides)
- Consumer difficulty in affording rising utility expenses
- Moderate income individuals have the challenges of not qualifying for many utility or housing repair/maintenance programs, making housing expenses unaffordable for

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

- Removal/rehab of blighted properties
- Empty business properties not being utilized, while new business structures are being built

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

-Support of small businesses

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

- Some unscrupulous landlords do not maintain their properties, and low income tenants cannot afford the repairs themselves, forcing individuals to live in substandard/unsafe conditions

9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs? Please describe.

Not at this time, due to lack of funding.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

Not at this time.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

Not at this time

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Center for Community Action

Address: 2301 Beale Ave Altoona Pa

Contact: Wendy Melius **Title:** Executive Director

Phone: 8146239129 **E-Mail:** wmelius@ccaofpa.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

Weatherization, Homelessness, Representative Payee, Community Engagement, Employment and Training

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

Affordable housing both rental and purchase. Direct client supports for low income individuals, reentry individuals, Affordable office space with a bus stop. Enhance bus routes and bus stops. Food security.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

Affordable housing for low income and working class. Housing close to supportive services, employment and food access.

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

Bus stop locations, increase routes and times. Housing rehabilitation. Provide incentives to landlords to invest in housing for low income individuals.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

Employment opportunities for individuals with transportation barriers. Micro-enterprise or job opportunities for those that have a record.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

Having low income individuals having equal opportunity for housing that may be passed up because of their economic status.

9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs? Please describe.

Reentry housing opportunities. Look at continued partnership with housing rehab and our weatherization program.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

We are looking at combining both of our offices under one roof.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

Availability of safe affordable housing. My concern is as the City starts to demolish homes with residents, they do not lose the focus of where the displaced individual or family will be located. The vacant homes that are being demolished, the city looks at some of the lots or if an apartment building is going to replace a block of homes that they consider having a certain percent allocated to low income individuals. State College has developed an ordinance that any new development has to have a certain percent of low income opportunities.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission

Address: 2101 5th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602

Contact: Mike Hofer **Title:** Executive Director

Phone: 814-949-2231 **E-Mail:** hofer@cbrcparks.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

The Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission is comprissed of the City of Altoona, Logan Township and the Altoona Area School District. We provide recreation and leisure time programs to the residents of the City and Township. The Commisison also maintans close to 30 properties with the City and Township. We offer numerous programs throughtout the calendar year such as flag football, soccer, volleyball, cheereading, basketball, art and T ball just to name a few.

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Recreation and Parks</u> |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

As far as recreation the vast majority of our program participants are low to mod income level families. We try to keep our program costs as low as possible to ensure that all families have every opportunity possible for their children. Trying to keep these fees low requires creative ways to still cover expenses. If there were more tax dollars available for recreation those fees could be more affordable for our community.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

NA

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

Our community centers and parks lack accessibility due to their age. We have many community parks without sidewalks or access to areas within the parks. Our three community centers also lack ADA access in a variety of ways. There is only so much that can be done with the current landscape.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

If the City had newer more accessible facilities that people would want to travel to and utilize such as an indoor sports complex, that would help. As people would come into the City for recreation they would spend money when here. Altoona could be a destination for sports and recreation with a facility like this driving people into the community.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

NA

9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs? Please describe.

We are always looking at new and existing programs based on community need and want. The expansion of of current programming is limited however due to budget restrictions, staffing shortages and facility availability.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

We are always trying to improve our parks and facilities when we can. It comes down to funding and prioritization of need.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

No

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation

Address: PO Box 89 Altoona, PA 16603

Contact: Jess Brunner **Title:** Executive Director

Phone: 814-949-8838 **E-Mail:** director@ggmf.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

The Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation (GGMF) is a non-profit organization that reaches children from low-income families by providing afterschool programs in Altoona's low-income housing and neighborhoods.

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Education K-6</u> |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

Mental health- trying to get help for anyone, especially youth, experiencing any tpe of mental health condition is hard. The wait time alone is extremely long.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

GGMF does not work closely with housing needs.

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

There is little to no activities for the area youth to participate in. Most youth cannot afford to participate in extracurricular activities, have no means of transportation to get to those activities, and at times families are overwhelmed by the amount of paperwork needed to be filled out for activities.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

GGMF does not work closely with economic development issues in Altoona.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

GGMF does not work closely with housing issues.

**9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs?
Please describe.**

GGMF does have plans to expand the existing afterschool programs over the next few years, finding an area with a need for an afterschool program.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

No plans to add new facilities, but always looking for an organization that will allow GGMF to use their space for another afterschool program.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Altoona Housing Authority

Address: 2700 Pleasant Valley BLVD Altoona, PA 16602

Contact: Cheryl Johns/Brad Kanuch **Title:** Executive Director/Deputy Director

Phone: 814-949-2000 **E-Mail:** brad.kanuch@altoonahousing.org cheryl.johns@altoonahousing.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

The Altoona Housing Authority provides affordable, quality housing that promotes self sufficiency.

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

Wrap around services for Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

There is a need for new housing. The housing stock in Altoona is old and outdated. There needs to be a mix of market rate and low income.

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

Continue to improve public facilities.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

Continue to develop downtown.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

Education, a lot of landlords do not understand the importance of being fair and equal.

**9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs?
Please describe.**

No.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

We have received CDBG money for 11th Street Tower to replace windows and sliding glass doors. Also we received CDBG money the begin roof replacement at Pleasant Village.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

No.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Improved Dwellings for Altoona, Inc.

Address: 1600 8th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602

Contact: Michelle Peterson **Title:** Executive Director

Phone: 814-944-9466 **E-Mail:** mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

We provide affordable housing throughout the City of Altoona and surrounding counties. Currently, we manage a total of almost 600 rental units within City limits.

Website: www.improved-dwellings.org

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?
(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

I feel the City of Altoona has many social service and human service agencies. I would say that based on our experiences, an area that is lacking is teaching young adults how to manage their finances and manage a household.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

The unmet housing need in the City of Altoona is housing for young adults who don't need subsidized housing.

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

I think the City is making progress in the area of improvements to the downtown area. However, I think that more investment is needed to entice people to spend time there.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

We need more jobs that will attract younger people.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

We are very fair housing aware at IDA, but my guess would be that some smaller private landlords may not be as well versed in fair housing laws.

**9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs?
Please describe.**

We are not planning on adding any new programs or expanding existing programs in the near future.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

We are continually planning renovations on our existing facilities. Most of our buildings are over 30 years old, so this is on-going for us.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

No.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Overflow Church

Address: 127 Fifth Avenue

Contact: Richard Cox Title: Pastor

Phone: 814-577-6196 E-Mail: richard@lovealtoona.com

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

We provide a weekly community meal year around, host one of the Gloria Gates Foundation afterschool programs, host the warming center for so that those without housing have a warm place to sleep during the coldest months of the year. We are starting a new program called NEXT helping people take their next step by providing class helping with resume training, life skills, etc.

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

Afordable housing continues to be a big issue for those working etnry level job. This is expecially an issue for single people who have to rely on a single income.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

Lack of affordable housing is the biggest issue.

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

I think sidewalks are a big issue for the city of Altoona. It seems like a small things but it shapes people's preception of our city with the see the poor condition of our sidewalks. Making updates to the sidewalks would make significant change in visitors precption of our city when they come to Altoona. The sidewalks also cause a public safty issue because of the number of uneven brick sidewalks.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

I think starting younger is key. More than anything we need to give youth and young adults reason to dream about better opportunities. There is a large sense of hopelessness among the lower income families in our neighborhood. This is one of the reasons we are partnering with the Gloria Gates Foundation to host the afterschool program. We want the kids in our neighborhood to grow up to finish school and of opportunities for a better life.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

I encoutner a lot of low income individuals who seem to feel like they are being taken advantage of by local landlords who are taking their money but not maintaining their apartments.

9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs? Please describe.

I goal over the next year is to bring strength and stability to the programs we are already hosting. We are looking to expand our annual clean up days to a second location as we look to recruit more volunteers to help with this annual event.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

We do not have plans to add to our building but are looking to make improvements on our building so that we are better equipped to serve our community. We were able to remolded the kitchen this year which is helping with our weekly community meals.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission

Address: 3 Sheraton Drive, Altoona PA 16601-9343

Contact: Lee C. Slusser **Title:** Director Planning and Community Development Division

Phone: 8149496506 **E-Mail:** lslusser@sapdc.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

The Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAP&DC) is a non-profit regional economic and community development organization serving Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon and Somerset Counties. It serves as the region's Local Development District under the Appalachian Regional Commission and its Economic Development District under the Economic Development Administration. SAP&DC is governed by a Board of Directors comprising County Commissioners from each member county and representatives from the private sector. SAP&DC's mission is to address human resource development, encourage the creation and retention of jobs, and to improve the quality of life for residents of the Alleghenies.

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>No distinctions made</u> |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

We're not knowledgeable about the full range of unmet social service needs in the City. We'd just add that affordable housing is an especially dire need in Blair County -- as detailed in our February 2023 study Alleghenies Ahead on Housing (<https://sapdc.org/plans-reports-and-publications/>). Our surveying for our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) noted that housing, blight, and demolition were especially popular concerns in the City of Altoona.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

See pages 78-91 of Alleghenies Ahead on Housing (February 2023). The lack of affordable housing in Blair County was more pronounced than in any of our other five counties, largely due to a substantial proportion of households across the income spectrum buying downmarket from what they could actually afford. This also dampens the demand for new market rate units at the top of the market.

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

We're not qualified to answer this question.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

The availability of new and rehabilitated housing -- in various forms (e.g., townhomes, apartment buildings, single family detached) and across several affordability ranges -- has become a dire economic development concern. With an aging and shrinking population and workforce, importing talent from the outside world has become important to many businesses. Attracting this talent has become difficult with our housing options. So housing is an economic development concern -- in addition to being a humanitarian concern for low-income households.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

We're not in a position to observe fair housing issues in the City.

9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs? Please describe.

We're working with our counties to implement Alleghenies Ahead on Housing. That being said, the City of Altoona implemented several of the tools recommended therein before we even started that study and is well ahead of the rest of the region in addressing housing.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

No.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

No.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2025-2029 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission

Address: 3 Sheraton Drive, Altoona PA 16601-9343

Contact: Lee C. Slusser **Title:** Director Planning and Community Development Division

Phone: 8149496506 **E-Mail:** lslusser@sapdc.org

1. Brief description of programs your agency provides: (Attach any brochures)

The Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAP&DC) is a non-profit regional economic and community development organization serving Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon and Somerset Counties. It serves as the region's Local Development District under the Appalachian Regional Commission and its Economic Development District under the Economic Development Administration. SAP&DC is governed by a Board of Directors comprising County Commissioners from each member county and representatives from the private sector. SAP&DC's mission is to address human resource development, encourage the creation and retention of jobs, and to improve the quality of life for residents of the Alleghenies.

2. Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

(Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Payments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Loans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/CoC | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Justice/Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job Training | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. What clientele does your program(s) serve? (Check all boxes that apply.)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low-Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals | <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood/Target Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>No distinctions made</u> |

4. What are the unmet social service and human service needs in the City of Altoona?

We're not knowledgeable about the full range of unmet social service needs in the City. We'd just add that affordable housing is an especially dire need in Blair County -- as detailed in our February 2023 study Alleghenies Ahead on Housing (<https://sapdc.org/plans-reports-and-publications/>). Our surveying for our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) noted that housing, blight, and demolition were especially popular concerns in the City of Altoona.

5. What are the unmet housing needs in the City of Altoona?

See pages 78-91 of Alleghenies Ahead on Housing (February 2023). The lack of affordable housing in Blair County was more pronounced than in any of our other five counties, largely due to a substantial proportion of households across the income spectrum buying downmarket from what they could actually afford. This also dampens the demand for new market rate units at the top of the market.

6. What are the unmet community development needs in the City of Altoona? (i.e. public facility improvements, infrastructure improvements, public safety, etc.)

We're not qualified to answer this question.

7. What are the unmet economic development needs in the City of Altoona?

The availability of new and rehabilitated housing -- in various forms (e.g., townhomes, apartment buildings, single family detached) and across several affordability ranges -- has become a dire economic development concern. With an aging and shrinking population and workforce, importing talent from the outside world has become important to many businesses. Attracting this talent has become difficult with our housing options. So housing is an economic development concern -- in addition to being a humanitarian concern for low-income households.

8. What Fair Housing Issues do you observe in the City of Altoona?

We're not in a position to observe fair housing issues in the City.

9. Does your organization have plans to add any new programs or to expand existing programs? Please describe.

We're working with our counties to implement Alleghenies Ahead on Housing. That being said, the City of Altoona implemented several of the tools recommended therein before we even started that study and is well ahead of the rest of the region in addressing housing.

10. Does your organization have plans to add new facilities or perform renovations on existing facilities? Please describe.

No.

11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

No.