

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Consolidated Plan is a 5-year plan which describes the City's community development priorities and multiyear goals based on an assessment of housing and community development needs, an analysis of housing and economic market conditions, and available resources.

The Consolidated Plan is carried out through action plans, which are adopted annually. Each Annual Action Plan provides a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan.

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

Overview

The Needs Assessment identifies public facility improvements and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation (both owner occupied and rental), economic development, public services, and program administration as the priority needs for the City.

Public Facility Improvements and Infrastructure

- Provide safe neighborhoods, public facilities, recreational spaces, and cultural opportunities
- Improve public infrastructure and quality of life throughout the city
- Infrastructure improvements such as sidewalk, roadway, park, and water/sewer replacement or expansion
- Assist community organizations in improving their physical structures to ensure they are sufficient in size, accessibility, and safety to meet the organization's goals

Housing

- Support the development affordable housing
- Expand the life of existing housing through rehabilitation or repair

Economic Development

- Support the development of businesses to create new employment opportunities
- Provide technical assistance to existing businesses

Public Services

- Support current programs and organizations that offer activities and services to senior, disabled, homeless, and low-income individuals and other special populations
- Provide Fair Housing activities to residents, housing providers, and local agencies

Program Administration

- Carry out the administrative, implementation, and planning requirements of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

These areas will be focused on during the 2024-2028 plan years by continuing the Housing Rehabilitation Program, constructing new sidewalks, rehabilitating existing sidewalks and/or other street improvements needed in low-income census tracts, completing public facility improvements, and supporting agencies who provide various services to the community.

Other needs identified during the survey and public input process included affordable single-family and workforce housing, transitional housing, more affordable rental housing, mental health services, homeless prevention services and homeless centers, and substance abuse services. The City of Rome is working with the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority, Northwest Georgia Housing Authority (NWGHA), and other housing providers and developers to address housing needs in Rome. Other non-profit agencies in Rome handle the other needs identified and information will be shared with them on the citizen input. Unfortunately, the City of Rome does not receive enough CDBG dollars to address all the needs identified.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Rome manages a very successful CDBG Program. Over the years the City has implemented programs such as housing rehabilitation, sidewalk improvements, public facility improvements, targeted code enforcement, and blight elimination. Housing rehabilitation activities included minor repair, exterior paint, and roof replacement for low-income homeowners. The Housing Rehabilitation Program meets a need in the low-income community and helps older individuals remain in their homes for a longer period. The City will continue to market the program and recruit eligible homeowners.

The sidewalk improvement program will continue to be funded in future CDBG Entitlement Program years. The sidewalks that have been replaced to date have made a positive impact in certain low- and moderate-income (LMI) neighborhoods. Improvements included handicap accessible curbs and brick inlays. The sidewalks currently provide safe walkways for pedestrians and allow them to have access to area resources.

The City facilitated improvements at Rebecca Blaylock Child Development Center and the Floyd Training Center. The Rebecca Blaylock Child Development Center serves children who primarily come from low-income households. The Floyd Training Center serves adults, ranging in age from 21-85 years old, with a diagnosis of developmental disabilities. Both centers underwent extensive renovations to allow them to continue serving their clients in a safe and sanitary environment.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The City of Rome adopted its Citizen Participation Plan in 2004 and the amended version in 2011. The plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program, and the evaluation of the program's annual performance. It encourages all citizens, including LMI residents and those with special needs, to participate in its programs.

In compliance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City received public comments on community needs prior to the creation of the draft 5-year Consolidated Plan. In addition to public comments via social media posts and an online needs assessment survey, the City of Rome's Community Redevelopment Committee meetings that occur once a month were open to the public. These meetings were advertised, and agendas were posted prior to the meeting. The draft plan and budgets were discussed during those meetings.

A public hearing was held on November 29, 2023, for citizen input to proposed activities. Another public hearing was held on June 20, 2024, for review and comment on the draft plan. The formal 30-day public comment period was from May 28, 2024, through June 26, 2024. No public comments were received during this period.

In addition to receiving public comments and consulting with these agencies, the Community Development Department maintains a dedicated page on the City’s website where the Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, and CAPERs are published for review. The page also serves as a platform to post public notices and solicit comments.

5. Summary of public comments

Over the course of the Citizen Participation process discussed above, the Community Development Department staff received comments from and/or consulted with the following agencies:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 100 Black Men of Rome-Northwest Georgia | Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living |
| City of Rome | Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries |
| Davies Shelters | Northwest Georgia Regional Commission |
| Elevation House | Northwest Georgia Housing Authority |
| Exchange Club Family Resource Center | Open Door Home |
| Good Neighbor Ministries Rome, Inc. | Reach Ministries |
| Goodwill Career Center | Rome Floyd Commission on Children & Youth |
| Habitat for Humanity- Coosa Valley | Rome-Floyd Land Bank Authority |
| Hospitality House for Women, Inc. | United Way of Rome & Floyd County |
| Juvenile Court (Floyd County) | Worksource Northwest Georgia |
| LivingProof Recovery | YMCA of Rome & Floyd County |
| Magistrate Court (Floyd County) | |

The Community Development Department developed two needs assessment surveys. One survey was specifically for organizations and nonprofit agencies. The other survey was for the community and area residents. Both surveys were designed to elicit responses relating to local needs and priorities. The surveys asked questions regarding housing, public services, public facilities, and economic development needs. Respondents could list needs based on how they perceived the level of importance. The organization survey was sent out via email to over 50 organizations, non-profit agencies, community leaders, and City of Rome management. It received 27 responses. The link for the community survey was posted on the City of Rome’s social media and website. It received 154 responses. Comments and needs identified during the Citizen Participation process included affordable housing, mental health services, homeless services, and infrastructure improvements.

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

All comments and views were accepted during the Citizen Participation process. There were no agency types intentionally not consulted.

7. Summary

This five-year plan identifies the community’s affordable housing, homelessness, community development, and economic development needs, as well as outlines a comprehensive and coordinated strategy for implementation of programs.

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	Rome	
CDBG Administrator	Rome	Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Rome Community Development Department is the lead agency responsible for planning, implementation, and performance reporting for the CDBG Program that is covered by this Consolidated Plan. The City will be the Administrator of all projects, programs, and other activities funded with annual CDBG entitlement funds.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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To access department information via the City of Rome website, visit the following link and click on the Community Development tab: www.romega.gov.

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

1. Introduction

This section of the Consolidated Plan addresses the City's efforts to consult with other public and private agencies when developing the plan.

The City of Rome's Citizen Participation Plan was adopted in 2004 as one of the first steps in the qualification process for becoming an Entitlement Community. An amended plan was later adopted in 2011. This plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program, and the evaluation of the program's annual performance. As required by the Citizen Participation Plan, the City consulted with a broad spectrum of service providers, nonprofit agencies, and residents in the identification of community needs that may be eligible for consideration as five-year goals for the Consolidated Plan and the CDBG program.

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)).

In conformance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City held the required public hearing and meetings to solicit comments prior to the creation of a draft 5-year Consolidated Plan. They are as follows:

1. Community Redevelopment Committee meetings- These meetings were open to the public. These meetings were advertised, and agendas were posted prior to the meeting.
2. Public hearings- Hearings were held on November 29, 2023, and June 20, 2024, to discuss proposed ideas and review the draft plan. Summaries of the public hearing minutes are provided in the Appendix.

Over the course of the Citizen Participation process discussed above, the Community Development Department staff contacted approximately 50 agencies and/or service providers. The Department received comments from and/or consulted with the following agencies that provide housing services, health services, and mental health services:

- 100 Black Men of Rome-Northwest Georgia
- City of Rome
- Davies Shelters
- Elevation House
- Exchange Club Family Resource Center
- Good Neighbor Ministries Rome, Inc.
- Goodwill Career Center
- Habitat for Humanity- Coosa Valley
- Hospitality House for Women, Inc.
- Juvenile Court (Floyd County)
- LivingProof Recovery
- Magistrate Court (Floyd County)
- Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living
- Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries

Demo

- Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
- Northwest Georgia Housing Authority
- Open Door Home
- Reach Ministries
- Rome Floyd Commission on Children & Youth
- Rome-Floyd Land Bank Authority
- United Way of Rome & Floyd County
- Worksource Northwest Georgia
- YMCA of Rome & Floyd County

The City of Rome has a local housing team with members representing different housing providers in Rome. Representatives from Habitat for Humanity, NWGHA, South Rome Alliance, United Way, and some for-profit housing developers make up Rome's housing team. This housing team was formed in 2009 as part of a State of Georgia housing initiative called the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH). The City's GICH team meets regularly and attends GICH or housing-related training at least twice a year. During these meetings the team discusses Rome's housing needs and any gaps in community services.

The community was also invited to send questions or comments to the department via email or social media.

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

The City of Rome falls under the state of Georgia's Continuum of Care program, which is administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Rome routinely supports local non-profit agencies that seek funding through DCA to assist persons in need, such as those who fall within categories listed above. Some such agencies are LivingProof Recovery and Highland Rivers.

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 Rome is not involved in the decision-making process regarding which agencies receive funding through the State of Georgia's Continuum of Care program administered by DCA. They have a competitive process and receive more funding requests than can be awarded annually.

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

Demo

Agency/Group/ Organization	Agency/Group/ Organization Type	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?
<i>100 Black Men of Rome- Northwest Georgia</i>	Services- children Services- education Services- health Civil Rights organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>The Davies Shelters</i>	Housing services- homeless Services- employment Services- mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Elevation House</i>	Services- employment Services- mental health Services- health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Special needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Exchange Club Family Resource Center</i>	Services- children Services- families Child welfare agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Good Neighbor Ministries Rome, Inc.</i>	Services- financial assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Goodwill Career Center</i>	Services- employment Services- education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Habitat for Humanity- Coosa Valley</i>	Housing services Services- financial literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Hospitality House for Women, Inc.</i>	Services- domestic violence Services- children Services- families Housing services- homeless Services- victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Juvenile Court (Floyd County)</i>	Other government- local Services- children Services- families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>LivingProof Recovery</i>	Housing services- homeless Services- employment Services- mental health Services- children Services- families Services- recovery support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Magistrate Court (Floyd County)</i>	Other government- local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living</i>	Services- disabled Services- employment Services- advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Special needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.

Demo

<i>Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries</i>	Services- families Services- nutritional & food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Northwest Georgia Regional Commission</i>	Other government- regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Northwest Georgia Housing Authority</i>	Housing services- homeless Services- children Services- elderly Services- disabled Service- fair housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs • Public housing 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Open Door Home</i>	Services- children Housing services- homeless Child welfare agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Reach Ministries</i>	Housing services- homeless Services- children Services- families Services- nutritional & food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Rome Floyd Commission on Children & Youth</i>	Services- children Services- education Child welfare agency Services- families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Rome-Floyd Land Bank Authority</i>	Housing services Other government- local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>United Way of Rome & Floyd County</i>	Housing services- homeless Services- family Services- children Services- employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy • Homeless needs 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>Worksource Northwest Georgia</i>	Services- employment Services- financial literacy Services- education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.
<i>YMCA of Rome & Floyd County</i>	Services- children Services- education Services- family Services- health Services- nutritional & food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing needs assessment • Non-housing community development needs • Non-housing community development strategy 	This agency/organization was contacted via public notice regarding the meeting(s) and hearing(s). The agency was contacted via email for participation in the Needs Assessment Survey.

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

Numerous agencies, stakeholders, and organizations of all types required for consultation were contacted or consulted during this process. Some did not respond or complete surveys. No agencies were intentionally left out of the consultation process in the development of the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan.

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	Georgia Department of Community Affairs	DCA provides McKinney Vento Act funds to agencies in Rome through the Balance of State Continuum of Care. These funds assist with emergency shelter, transitional housing, homelessness prevention, and other supportive services. Point-in-time homeless counts prepared by the Continuum of Care are reported in the Needs Assessment.
Rome Floyd 20/20 Comprehensive Plan	City of Rome	Goals identified in the Plan include development of affordable housing, blight reduction, sidewalk improvements, extension of infrastructure, public facility improvements, and economic development/commercial revitalization.
Assessment of Fair Housing	City of Rome Community Development	Impediments identified will be addressed during plan period

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))

As the City of Rome implements this 5-year Consolidated Plan, it will continue to work with other local public and private entities, regional organizations, Floyd County, and the state of Georgia.

Narrative (optional):

n/a

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

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

Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

Citizen participation is an important part of Rome’s administration of the CDBG program. The public is notified when there is a new budget, change of 25% in the budget, a new or deleted activity, or whenever a program year ends. Notices are placed in the local newspaper and on the City’s website. Community Development staff gives a monthly report regarding the status of activities and expenditure of funds to the Community Redevelopment Committee (CRC) and presents information to the Rome City Commission as needed. The CRC and City Commission meetings are open to the public and are advertised.

The following efforts were directly taken in preparation of the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan:

- Newspaper ads
- Public Meetings
- Public Hearings
- Needs Assessment Surveys
- Website
- Social media posts
- Emails
- Flyers

Community Development staff made specific attempts to include individuals and populations in this process that may not have otherwise been involved. These individuals may not have had access to technology to complete surveys. Information and printed surveys were given to the EnVision Center Coordinator at NWGHA so public housing residents could participate in the input process. Printed surveys were given to The Davies Shelters, Goodwill Career Center, Reach Ministries, and LivingProof Recovery so individuals utilizing their services could complete surveys. Several surveys were received from clients of the agencies listed.

Demo

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)
	Newspaper Ads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-targeted/broad community 	n/a	No comments were received.	n/a	n/a
	Public Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-targeted/broad community 			n/a	n/a
	Public Hearings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-targeted/broad community 			n/a	n/a
	Emails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-profit organizations/ service providers 	n/a	No comments were received.	n/a	n/a
	Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-targeted/broad community 	n/a	No comments were received.	n/a	https://www.romea.gov/163/Block-Grant-CDBG
	Social media posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-targeted/broad community 	n/a	No comments were received.	n/a	n/a
	Flyers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-targeted/broad community 	n/a	No comments were received.	n/a	n/a
	Print & online surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of public and assisted housing 	181 survey responses	Top needs identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing Homelessness prevention & services Mental health services Code enforcement & blight removal Childcare Transportation 	n/a	https://forms.gle/757TzipfTWUgaqWd9 https://forms.gle/ydJSCuSjaCkTbq98A

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

Under this section, Consolidated Plan regulations require that the City, in conjunction with information gathered through consultations and the citizen participation process, describe its estimated needs related to affordable housing, community development, and homelessness projected for the 5-year period of the Consolidated Plan. The housing data included in this section of the plan is based on U.S. Bureau of the Census data, as provided by HUD, as updated by any properly conducted local study, or any other reliable source that the city clearly identifies, such as the local housing authority. The subsections of the Needs Assessment are as follows:

- Housing Needs Assessment
- Disproportionately Greater Need
- Public Housing
- Homeless Needs Assessment
- Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment
- Non-Housing Community Development Needs

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

Summary of Housing Needs

For the period of this Consolidated Plan, the City’s strategy for addressing the non-housing community development needs of its LMI residents in the identified target areas is to leverage its CDBG funds with City, state, or other funds (if available) to improve neighborhoods through the construction of priority public facilities projects. As such, it is the City’s desire to connect those with housing needs to the appropriate existing housing agencies and other resources.

The data found in this section and throughout this Consolidated Plan demonstrate the extent of housing problems and housing needs, particularly for low-income households. The Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data is used by local governments to plan how to spend HUD funds and may also be used by HUD to distribute grant funds.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2017	% Change
Population	35,967	36,030	0%
Households	13,546	13,910	3%
Median Income	\$36,127.00	\$37,733.00	4%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

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

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	2,150	1,825	2,090	1,505	6,340
Small Family Households	780	690	640	645	3,265
Large Family Households	80	75	250	115	400
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	330	415	530	255	1,495
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	135	295	260	210	620
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	470	335	365	225	599

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2013-2017 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	20	60	20	30	130	10	0	10	0	20
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	60	0	0	0	60	0	15	0	20	35
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	25	15	40	25	105	40	0	55	25	120
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	830	600	155	0	1,585	215	265	75	20	575
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	275	420	555	245	1,495	40	100	205	105	450
Zero/negative income (and none of the above problems)	230	0	0	0	230	35	0	0	0	35

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	940	675	215	50	1,880	265	285	135	65	750
Having none of four housing problems	620	665	1,145	905	3,335	65	205	595	485	1,350
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	230	0	0	0	230	35	0	0	0	35

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Demo

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	460	510	215	1,185	85	100	110	295
Large Related	24	40	110	174	55	20	0	75
Elderly	140	250	165	555	155	210	150	515
Other	540	260	270	1,070	4	35	20	59
Total need by income	1,164	1,060	760	2,984	299	365	280	944

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	350	310	10	670	70	75	10	155
Large Related	20	25	0	45	40	0	0	40
Elderly	45	140	35	220	130	155	65	350
Other	460	130	120	710	4	35	0	39
Total need by income	875	605	165	1,645	244	265	75	584

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	85	15	40	25	165	10	15	45	45	115
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	10	0	40
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	85	15	40	25	165	40	15	55	45	155

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

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

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source
Comments:

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

Per the 2013-2017 ACS there are 13,910 households in Rome. While the tables and data do not explicitly indicate housing problems for single-family households, it is likely the needs of this group mirror those of the whole community. These needs include improved home affordability and home ownership. Renters, specifically elderly renters, appear to have the most need of housing assistance. Approximately 1,880 households with renters report having one or more housing problems. There are 775 elderly households paying more than 30-50% of their income towards housing. This high-cost burden makes it nearly impossible for elderly renters to get relief. Many elderly individuals receive approximately \$900 a month in benefits so that leaves very little money left for necessities like medicine and food.

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.

Exposure to violence and the diagnosis of a disability oftentimes increases a person’s susceptibility to housing problems. To counteract this propensity, communities need housing assistance programs that provide transitional or emergency housing. In Rome, there are some local non-profit agencies that provide housing assistance to disabled populations and victims of domestic violence. We know these services continue to be needed in this community but because domestic, dating, and sexual violence incidents are typically underreported it would be impossible to track the number.

What are the most common housing problems?

Housing data indicates the most common housing problem is associated with severe housing cost burden. There is also a lack of housing stock in good condition throughout the city. Many homes are 50-60+ years old and are substandard.

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

Data indicates that housing cost burden tends to affect low-income renters; however, all income levels reported housing cost burden. The poor condition of the city’s housing stock primarily affects elderly people who are on a fixed income and unable to afford the needed repairs. Based on past performance, minority households tend to experience more need for assistance than other races.

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 characteristics of low-income families that are at imminent risk of becoming un-housed is unknown for the City of Rome due largely to the lack of existing data on homeless families in the city. While there are agencies that provide homeless services and housing options, most of them are geared towards

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individuals instead of families. There are 2 “family beds/units” available for homeless families at the Salvation Army shelter. There are some beds available for women and children at The Davies Shelters’ Ruth & Naomi House and the Hospitality House domestic violence shelter. There is not a family homeless shelter within the City of Rome or Floyd County, although some agencies are interested in pursuing the creation of one to meet these needs. There are a total of 90 beds for homeless individuals in Floyd County.

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:

n/a

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

n/a

Discussion

n/a

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

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

Introduction

HUD regulations require the analysis of certain “housing problems” and whether there is a disproportionate need related to these problems among populations of a community. These housing problems include:

1. lack of complete kitchen facilities
2. lacks complete plumbing facilities
3. more than one person per room
4. cost burden greater than 30% of income used for housing

For any of the income categories enumerated in this section, to the extent that any racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category, assessment of that specific need shall be included. For this purpose, a disproportionately greater need exists when the members of a racial or ethnic group at a stated specific income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (10 percentage points or more) than the income level.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,515	370	265
White	760	145	170
Black / African American	635	225	44
Asian	30	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	65	0	40

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,480	345	0
White	490	240	0
Black / African American	665	75	0
Asian	25	25	0

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Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	300	0	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,110	985	0
White	565	460	0
Black / African American	260	435	0
Asian	45	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	225	80	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	465	1,040	0
White	200	585	0
Black / African American	215	225	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	50	230	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

Discussion

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

This section assesses the severe housing needs of racial and ethnic groups at various income levels in comparison to severe needs at that income level as a whole to identify any disproportionately greater needs. Like the preceding analysis, this section uses HUD’s definition of disproportionately greater need, which occurs when one racial or ethnic group at a given income level experiences housing problems at a rate that is at least 10 percentage points greater than the income level as a whole.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,205	685	265
White	590	320	170
Black / African American	495	360	44
Asian	30	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	65	0	40

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	960	870	0
White	325	405	0
Black / African American	410	325	0
Asian	25	25	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	195	105	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	350	1,740	0
White	185	850	0
Black / African American	60	645	0
Asian	30	15	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	70	235	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	115	1,390	0
White	65	730	0
Black / African American	25	415	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	35	250	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

Discussion

Overall, severe housing problems are most common at lower income levels. Over half (56%) of Rome households with incomes below 30% AMI face a severe need. As income increases, rates of severe housing problems decline, dropping to 2% for middle income groups that fall between 80%-100% AMI.

At very low incomes (under 30% AMI), 100% of Asian households and 62% of Hispanic households have a severe housing problem. At low incomes (30%-50% AMI), 65% of Hispanic households and 56% of African American households have a severe housing problem. In Rome, Hispanic and Asian households appear to experience greater severe housing needs at the two lower income levels; however, there are no income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has a disproportionately greater need (based on HUD’s definition).

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:

This section assesses the need of any racial or ethnic group that has a disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as whole. While the preceding sections assessed all housing and severe housing problems, Table 21 focuses only on what share of their income households spend on housing.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	8,950	2,250	2,395	315
White	5,985	1,100	1,090	185
Black / African American	1,870	845	955	49
Asian	225	15	55	30
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	845	290	255	40

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

Discussion:

Housing cost burden is one of the most prevalent housing problems identified in Rome. As Table 21 shows, 16% of all households in Rome spend between 30% and 50% of their income on housing costs. Percentages within that housing cost bracket range from 0% for American Indians or Alaska Natives to 23% for Black households. Citywide, 17% of households spend more than 50% of their income on housing. 26% of Black households spent more than 50% of their income on housing. HUD defines a disproportionate need when members of one racial or ethnic group experience a cost burden at a rate at least 10 percentage points higher than the citywide rate. Using this definition, it does not appear that any specific racial or ethnic group has a disproportionate cost burden.

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?

Available data shows that higher percentages of African American, Asian, and Latino households have housing needs, severe housing needs, and housing burdens; however, there are no income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has a disproportionately greater need.

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

n/a

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

All ethnic and racial groups are represented throughout all census tracts in Rome. Within North and South Rome (census tracts 6 & 21) there are groups of Black/African American residents. These census tracts are predominantly low-income and have a housing problem. West Rome has a concentration of Latino residents. Other census tracts have relatively integrated populations.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

Public housing in Rome is managed by NWGHA. NWGHA was established in 1937 as the public housing authority for the City of Rome. Today it operates the public housing and housing choice voucher programs in Rome, Rockmart, and Cave Spring, Georgia. NWGHA manages 649 public housing units throughout Floyd and Polk County. The face and perception of public housing in Rome have changed drastically in the past decade due to NWGHA’s efforts. Much of the public housing stock has been demolished or modernized as funding becomes available. The City of Rome and NWGHA continue to support each other’s efforts as redevelopment opportunities in LMI areas arise. Both agencies have a great working relationship.

Totals in Use

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

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

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

Demo

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average length of stay	0	0	4	3	0	3	0	0
Average Household size	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	262	95	0	69	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	179	190	2	148	0	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	902	499	5	425	0	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Race	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	387	155	1	120	0	0	29
Black/African American	0	0	508	341	4	302	0	0	31
Asian	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	4	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	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	11	8	0	7	0	0	1
Not Hispanic	0	0	891	491	5	418	0	0	59

***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:

As reported by NWGHA, all available units are usually fully occupied. As such, the primary needs for tenants and applicants on the waiting lists who are predominately elderly and/or disabled is the availability of affordable units with accessibility features. As many people with disabilities live on limited incomes, often just a modest \$900/month SSI payment, there are effectively no options for them other than public housing as most units in Rome rent for much higher. Availability of additional units with accessibility features is the greatest need of this population.

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

Current NWGHA residents and voucher holders need opportunities for education, job skills training, and support to grow and attain a level of self-sufficiency to be able to move out of public or assisted housing. Childcare and access to reliable transportation are also immediate needs faced by residents and voucher holders.

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

The needs of NWGHA's residents and voucher holders are different from those of the city's overall LMI population only in that they are housed in stable and decent housing. With this need met, NWGHA residents can work on other needs that families typically face in addition to housing insecurity. These needs frequently include childcare, employment, transportation, and food.

Discussion

NWGHA was a lead partner in the creation of the East Rome Crossing Transformation Plan which is focused on the transformation of the community surrounding John Graham Homes. The planning team surveyed the community regarding community needs. The needs voiced during the planning phase and the Consolidated Planning process make it clear that affordable housing is a key need in Rome. NWGHA is uniquely positioned within the community to continue its leadership, through LIHTC partnerships and other innovative tools, in bringing new affordable housing opportunities to the area.

For many low-income households in Rome, opportunities to move to a range of neighborhoods within the city are hampered by lack of affordable housing, inability to find a rental unit that will accept housing choice vouchers, moving costs, and lack of information about available housing. Public housing and housing choice voucher holders tend to be concentrated in Racially & Ethnically Concentrated Area of Poverty (R/ECAP) census tracts and neighborhoods in South and North Rome. While many residents desire to remain in these neighborhoods, others may wish to move to other parts of the city or Floyd County and should be supported in doing so.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

Individuals who are homeless have a variety of special needs including emergency shelter, counseling, job training, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. The unifying condition for virtually all of Georgia's homeless population is poverty. Many people who are homeless also experience some type of personal vulnerability that places them at risk, such as: family violence, physical disability, mental illness, substance abuse, and criminal backgrounds. While the City of Rome does not conduct its own count of homeless persons. Instead it participates in the statewide Point-in-time count conducted by DCA. Sheltered homeless counts are done each year and unsheltered counts are done every other year. The data used in this section comes from reports submitted to HUD by DCA. The City is not proposing to use any CDBG funds to combat or address homelessness.

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):

The City of Rome relies on data from the State of Georgia and DCA for its homeless count data. Some of this data is listed by county; however, most of the data is provided on a state-wide level. 2019 Point-in-time data for Floyd County indicated that there were 212 homeless individuals. None of the 90 emergency and 4 transitional beds were vacant.

The following information is for the entire state. Per the most recent Homeless Populations and Subpopulations Report, 8,729 households were homeless, and 10,689 people were homeless throughout Georgia. These numbers also include individuals who were unsheltered and in emergency shelters or transitional housing. The 2023 Housing Performance Plan Data report for DCA estimates 68 persons in Rome experience homelessness each year.

Other statewide estimates of homeless subpopulations determined that:

- 56% identify as Black or African American, 39% as White, 5% as Hispanic or Latino
- 16% are under 18
- 17% reported having a mental illness
- 14% reported having a substance abuse disorder
- 8% are domestic violence victims
- 6% are veterans
- 13% are chronically homeless

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

Introduction:

This section discusses the characteristics and needs of persons who fall into various subpopulations of Rome who are not homeless but may require supportive services, including the elderly, frail elderly, disabled, individuals with HIV/AIDS, individuals with substance abuse addictions, victims of domestic violence, and individuals with criminal records. The City's strategy for addressing special needs populations (e.g., disabled, persons with HIV/AIDS) is to ensure continued review and evaluation of permit applications for compliance with ADA requirements.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

There are about 42.5 million Americans nationwide with a disability. The most common type of disabilities in the United States are ambulatory disabilities. According to the 2021 ACS data, approximately 16% of Rome's population or 5,837 residents had a disability of some type. The primary disability categories were ambulatory, vision, and cognitive difficulties. Among Rome's disabled residents, 8% had an ambulatory disability, 5% had vision difficulties, and 4% had cognitive issues. About 5% of residents in Rome had some sort of independent living difficulty that could make it hard to live on their own. There is no information regarding the specific independent living difficulties those individuals have.

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

The primary housing and supportive needs of the subpopulations listed above were determined by input from both service providers and the public during the Citizen Participation Process. These needs include affordable, safe housing opportunities in areas with access to transportation, commercial and job centers, and social services including counseling and case management.

Persons with disabilities often require accessible features, ground floor housing units, and use of supportive animals. Some individuals with independent living difficulties may require a live-in aide to assist with activities of daily living. Victims of domestic violence need safe housing, removal of barriers to relocation, and protection from perpetrators. Individuals with criminal records and their families may be disqualified from public housing or HCV assistance, and accordingly, assistance with housing for low-income members of this subpopulation must be provided by other nongovernmental organizations.

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

The City has no data to document the need for programs, services, or housing for persons with HIV/AIDS and their families in Rome. Data is available at the state level. The state administers the HOPWA program through the Balance of State program for this area. The City of Rome is not seeking funding via the HOPWA program.

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

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Facilities:

The top three public facilities needs identified during the citizen participation process were:

1. Parks and recreation areas
2. Youth centers
3. Homeless shelters & centers

According to the Rome Floyd 20/20 Comprehensive Plan, Floyd County is “losing its younger subset of populations due to larger cities that can provide the housing, employment, and infrastructure they need to be successful.” One goal of the Comprehensive Plan is to create a livable and equitable community for all citizens which enhances their quality of life. Many of the public facility needs identified in the Comprehensive Plan were also identified during the needs assessment process of the Consolidated Plan. Rome should actively work towards creating a new network of trails, expanding community gathering spaces, developing recreational opportunities along the rivers, and creating new parks to make it a place everyone wants to be a part of. Buildings and infrastructure open to the public, whether owned by the government or by nonprofits, may be considered public facilities under the CDBG Program.

How were these needs determined?

These needs were determined through data collection, needs assessment, and public input processes during the preparation of both the Consolidated Plan and Comprehensive Plan. Multiple stakeholders, focus groups, nonprofit service providers, elected officials, and residents provided feedback that was used to determine needs.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Improvements:

The top three public improvement needs identified during the citizen participation process were:

1. Sidewalk improvements
2. Code enforcement & blight removal
3. Street improvements

Elected officials and City of Rome management believe that public improvements, such as streets, drainage, water, sewer, and sidewalks, should be a high priority. These improvements should be completed in LMI neighborhoods where these improvements have been lacking historically. Many of the LMI neighborhoods have topographic challenges and lack underground drainage systems, curbs and gutters, or sidewalks. This presents safety issues, particularly since children walk to school on the street pavement and individuals with mobility issues must use the street to get around their neighborhood. The City believes these types of improvements will serve many LMI people, instill pride in neighborhoods, and should be a high priority for the use of CDBG funds. Neighborhood improvements can also be a catalyst for further investment and revitalization efforts in the area.

How were these needs determined?

These needs were determined through data collection, needs assessment, and public input processes during the preparation of both the Consolidated Plan and Comprehensive Plan. Multiple stakeholders, focus groups, nonprofit service providers, elected officials, and residents provided feedback that was used to determine needs.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Services:

The top three public service needs identified during the citizen participation process were:

1. Homelessness prevention
2. Mental health & supportive services
3. Youth services

There are several public service and nonprofit agencies located within the city that provide case management, emergency housing, childcare, healthcare, mental health services, transportation, and other services to varying populations. There are 650 registered nonprofit agencies in Floyd County. All public services in Rome are being provided by these agencies with assistance from private funds, local donations, and other grant sources. Rome does not plan to fund those agencies by utilizing CDBG funds. Support and technical assistance will be provided to agencies as needed.

How were these needs determined?

These needs were determined through data collection, needs assessment, and public input processes during the preparation of both the Consolidated Plan and Comprehensive Plan. Multiple stakeholders, focus groups, nonprofit service providers, elected officials, and residents provided feedback that was used to determine needs.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

The Consolidated Plan must describe the significant characteristics of the jurisdiction's housing market in general, including the supply, demand, condition and cost of housing, and describe the housing stock available to serve persons with disabilities and special needs based on information available to the city.

The market analysis will also review/discuss the following key points:

- The condition and needs of public and assisted housing
- A brief inventory of facilities, housing, and services that meet the needs of homeless persons
- Regulatory barriers to affordable housing
- The significant characteristics of the jurisdiction's economy

In addition to reviewing the current housing market conditions, this section analyzes the availability of assisted and public housing and facilities to serve homeless individuals and families. It also analyzes local economic conditions and summarizes existing economic development resources and programs that may be used to address community and economic development needs identified in the Needs Assessment.

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

Introduction

Based on the 2013-2017 ACS data there are 15,745 housing units in Rome. The number of owner occupied and renter occupied units are almost equal, with renter occupied units outnumbering owner occupied units by a mere 1470. There are an estimated 300 units of other types of housing in Rome, including mobile homes, RVs, and vans, making up 2% of residences citywide. This is a decrease from previous years. The data below gives a more detailed view of the types of housing units within the City.

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	10,090	64%
1-unit, attached structure	400	3%
2-4 units	2,310	15%
5-19 units	1,430	9%
20 or more units	1,215	8%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc.	300	2%
Total	15,745	100%

Table 26 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	0	0%	345	4%
1 bedroom	120	2%	1,540	20%
2 bedrooms	1,030	17%	3,110	40%
3 or more bedrooms	5,070	82%	2,695	35%
Total	6,220	101%	7,690	99%

Table 27 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

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

NWGHA manages several public housing properties within Floyd and Polk Counties for a total of 649 public housing units. The average annual household income for public housing residents is \$8,636.00, which is considerably less than the median household income for Rome which is currently \$37,733.00. NWGHA also manages 1440 Housing Choice Vouchers. Additional assisted housing in Rome includes LIHTC and RAD properties.

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

During the last several years, Rome has experienced a significant decrease in the number of public housing units available due to demolition or rehab of units at Charles Hight Homes, Park Homes, Willingham Village, Altoview Terrace, Main High Apartments (at the Fairgrounds), and Charles Hight Highrise #1. Demolition and/or rehab of the units was necessary due to the age and poor condition of

the units. The decrease in the number of units available has been partially offset by the construction of new units by NWSHA. New units include Maple Avenue Renaissance and Sandra D. Hudson Villas; however, not all these units are considered public housing and are not income-based. NWSHA has completed a 9% LIHTC application to demolish 150 units at John Graham homes. There are no other known planned losses of affordable housing units at this time.

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

Regarding the availability of affordable housing in Rome, there are two primary issues. The first is with the price increases that are occurring in both the homeownership and rental markets. The second issue is that the current condition of the available housing stock is aged, and new construction projects are slowing, which is creating an increasing presence of substandard housing. All the affordable housing complexes report near 100% occupancy with 3-6 month waiting lists. NWSHA's public housing waiting list typically has 500+ people on it, while the Housing Choice Voucher program consistently has 800-900 people waiting for assistance. These lists are reviewed and purged on a regular basis. The availability of housing units does not appear to meet the needs of the population.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Based on a review of the data provided and on conversations with property managers and stakeholders, all types of rental housing are needed in Rome with the common factor for all being related to affordability. The data does not indicate a need for a specific type of housing unit.

Discussion

As provided in the Needs Assessment section of this plan, existing housing data indicates the highest priorities for unmet needs are associated with housing cost burden, which impacts small, related families or elderly individuals the greatest. Rome's primary need is an increased number of available affordable housing units.

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

Introduction

This section of the Consolidated Plan will analyze the cost of the current housing stock located in Rome.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2017	% Change
Median Home Value	126,600	141,600	12%
Median Contract Rent	441	501	14%

Table 28 – Cost of Housing

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

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	3,960	51.5%
\$500-999	3,330	43.3%
\$1,000-1,499	260	3.4%
\$1,500-1,999	60	0.8%
\$2,000 or more	83	1.1%
Total	7,693	100.1%

Table 29 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Housing Affordability

Number of Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	715	No Data
50% HAMFI	1,655	425
80% HAMFI	4,500	1,235
100% HAMFI	No Data	1,849
Total	6,870	3,509

Table 30 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	\$726	\$731	\$962	\$1,254	\$1,500
High HOME Rent	\$726	\$731	\$944	\$1,082	\$1,188
Low HOME Rent	\$577	\$618	\$742	\$858	\$957

Table 31 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

Based on the data provided by HUD, it appears that there is a need for additional housing for those at or below 30% HAMFI. There are only 715 rental units identified that meet this need compared to 1,655 rental units at 50% HAMFI and 4,500 units at 80% HAMFI.

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

Based on information obtained from the Greater Rome Board of Realtors, home values in Rome and Floyd County have stabilized and increased over the past few years. This increase in value is expected to cause an increase in rents. This could be partially due to having less home buyers and more renters in the market. This causes a greater demand for the available rental units currently on the market. The increase in property values is both good and bad. The increase is a positive sign for the economy and the housing market in general; however, it has led to a decrease in the construction of affordable housing. Thus, causing those who need affordable housing to settle on substandard housing that is aging and not well maintained.

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

Based on the 2023 HOME and Fair Market rent limits, the high HOME rent limits are comparable to the Fair Market rents. The actual area median rents appear to fall more in line with the low HOME rent limits for multi-family complexes, while single-family residential rents are in line with the Fair Market rents. This information will not impact the City's strategy to produce additional affordable housing. The city will continue to support and encourage agencies and developers to construct additional housing and provide more opportunities for those in need of affordable housing. This could be done by leveraging CDBG funds through off-site improvements and technical assistance. The city will continue to partner and support Habitat for Humanity and Rome Floyd Land Bank Authority for construction of affordable housing projects.

Discussion

The city, because of the age of its current housing stock and move towards redevelopment, through its adopted policies and regulations will have to encourage affordability in order to maintain a sufficient mix of housing. There is not enough affordable housing to meet current needs.

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

Introduction

This section examines the condition of housing in Rome, including the presence of selected housing problems or conditions:

1. Lack of complete plumbing facilities
2. Lack of complete kitchen facilities
3. More than one person per room
4. Cost burden greater than 30%

This section also examines the age of housing stock, vacancy rate and suitability of vacant housing for rehabilitation, and the risk of lead-based paint hazards. It is important to recognize that safe and secure housing is more important than just an available physical space. The quality of the space and its ability to meet the needs of the residents is vital to housing security.

Rome has a great demand for affordable and subsidized housing, which is evident by the ever-present waiting list at each housing complex (both public & privately managed) throughout the city; however, there are less than 2,500 affordable or subsidized housing units throughout the entire county. These units are not enough to meet the current demand. The lack of affordable housing can be related to the demolition of public housing units that were substandard.

Definitions

For purposes of this plan, units are in “standard condition” when the unit complies with the local and state building codes as applicable. The definition of “substandard condition” is a unit with one or more serious code violations. The lack of complete plumbing or a complete kitchen will also serve as an indicator of substandard housing. Units are in “standard condition but suitable for rehabilitation” when the unit is out of compliance with one or more code violations, and it is both financially and structurally feasible to rehabilitate the unit.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	1,480	24%	3,255	42%
With two selected Conditions	50	1%	220	3%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	4,695	75%	4,215	55%
Total	6,225	100%	7,690	100%

Table 32 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	865	14%	1,100	14%
1980-1999	1,405	23%	2,280	30%
1950-1979	2,660	43%	2,865	37%
Before 1950	1,295	21%	1,445	19%
Total	6,225	101%	7,690	100%

Table 33 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	3,955	64%	4,310	56%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	994	16%	299	4%

Table 34 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

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

Vacant Units

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

Table 35 - Vacant Units

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Community input from local stakeholders and residents indicates a substantial need for housing rehabilitation for both owner-occupied and renter-occupied units. Rehabilitation for owner-occupied units was not mentioned as frequently by stakeholders, indicating that the condition of rental units is deteriorating, and landlords may not be addressing the issues. The housing age indicates that some owner-occupied units are at risk of deferred maintenance and may currently or soon need some rehabilitation, given that nearly half of units were built prior to 1980. Additionally, seniors living on fixed incomes may have paid off their mortgages but are now unable to afford necessary repairs and maintenance as their homes age. The City currently administers an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program that is funded with CDBG funds. This program assists homeowners with incomes below 80% AMI with roof repairs and exterior painting. This program continues to be much needed and very popular with the community.

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

Exposure to lead-based paint represents one of the most significant environmental threats from a housing perspective. Housing conditions can significantly affect public health, and exposure to lead may cause a range of health problems for adults and children. The major source of lead exposure comes from lead-contaminated dust found in deteriorating buildings, including residential properties built before 1978 that contain lead-based paint.

Unfortunately, measuring the exact number of housing units with lead-based paint hazards is difficult. The data above indicates that approximately 56% of the renter-occupied units were built before 1980 within the city have the potential to contain lead-based paint. These units would mostly be in the LMI areas of the city which are predominately the older neighborhoods in Rome.

Discussion

Due to the age of the housing stock in Rome, there are many substandard units, especially located in LMI neighborhoods. The Rome-Floyd County Building Inspection Department is making efforts on a regular basis to address these issues and arrange for demolition of homes that are not salvageable.

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

Introduction

Public housing in Rome is managed by NWGHA. NWGHA’s mission is to “provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing for eligible families, and to promote self-sufficiency and economic independence for its residents.” NWGHA manages 649 public housing units that are spread across Floyd County and Polk County. Units are scattered throughout Rome, Cave Spring, and Rockmart. They receive federal funds to modernize and repair those units. The City of Rome does not manage or oversee NWGHA funds.

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			1,013	460			0	0	659
# of accessible units									

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

Table 36 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data PIC (PIH Information Center)

Source:

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

Development Name	# of units
Frost & Barron Apartments	202
Hight Homes at Ave B	8
John Graham Homes	150
Pennington Place	2
Willingham at Division	27
Village Green	10
Main High Apartments	63
Maple Avenue Renaissance	6
Joe Wright Village	23
Cave Spring- Floyd County	52
Rockmart- Polk County	106
Total	649

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:

NWGHA manages several developments at scattered sites around Rome, Floyd County, and Polk County. They manage 649 public housing units and 1440 housing choice vouchers. The units range from efficiencies to five-bedroom units. The condition of the public housing units is average to good as many obsolete units have been demolished over the years. NWGHA took 150 units offline at Willingham Village due to the deteriorating condition. They plan on renovating these units and renting them at market rate prices. Other public housing units have been modernized using federal funds or through the LIHTC/RAD programs.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Frost & Barron Apartments	97b
Hight Homes at Ave B	94c
John Graham Homes	72b
Pennington Place	100a
Willingham at Division	92c
Village Green	81b
Main High Apartments	83b
Maple Avenue Renaissance	95b
Joe Wright Village Phases I & II	100a & 96a

Table 37 - Public Housing Condition

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

NWGHA is pursuing programs and tools to update the community's public housing inventory. NWGHA was awarded a 9% tax credit from DCA to demolish Altoview Terrace and construct Sandra D. Hudson Villas. This property has 66 units, a community center, laundry center, and a swimming pool. Park Homes is a 100-unit development that was renovated through the RAD program. Highrise #1 RAD was renovated through a RAD program and converted to Project Based Vouchers. 24 units at Highrise #1 RAD are being used for a Personal Care Home. The above-mentioned units are no longer in the public housing stock.

Future plans include renovating 150 units at John Graham Homes through a 9% tax credit from DCA. DCA has not yet announced the awards for this cycle of applications. NWGHA will also renovate 150 units at Willingham Village using various funding sources. 26 units have been renovated. There is not a timeline for the renovation of the other units.

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

NWGHA has employed several strategies for improving the living environment of its residents including:

1. Actively pursuing different grants or programs to facilitate the construction of new units and the rehabilitation of existing housing units
2. Demolishing old developments/units in poor condition that are beyond economical repair
3. Ensuring existing housing units are properly maintained through a quality control program

Additionally, NWGHA has a resident services department that consists of several programs that serve the residents. Funding for the services comes from various grants and HUD sources. Services are designed to help residents in their efforts to become self-sufficient, to maintain their well-being, to maintain independent living, and to improve their overall quality of life. Service Coordinators work closely with area agencies and NWGHA partners to meet the needs of residents. Some of the referrals or types of services available to residents are transportation, education/computer classes, GED classes, childcare services, wellness programs, homemaker services, medical and/or mental health services, and case management. Some of the programs offered through Resident Services are Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program, ROSS Family & Elderly Services, ROSS Family Childcare Assistance Program, and Project SOAR.

Discussion:

The primary need for tenants and applicants on waiting lists who are predominantly elderly and disabled is the availability of affordable units with accessibility features. There should be support and a push for an increase in mobility for residents seeking access to areas of greater opportunity.

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

Introduction

Survey results indicate high levels of need for all homelessness services, including prevention and supportive services. There are a total of 90 beds for the homeless in Rome. The Salvation Army offers 4 beds that are designated for transitional housing. There is an emergency domestic violence shelter in Rome that has 27 beds. Rome also has a 20-bed shelter for unaccompanied youth. These two shelters are available mostly on a temporary basis to eligible individuals. Most of the funding for homeless services is provided by DCA and donations. Several organizations operating in Rome provide services targeted at the homeless. These are described in detail below.

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) & Child(ren)	15	0	0	4	0
Households with Only Adults	55	0	4	76	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	0	0	20	0
Unaccompanied Youth	20	0	0	0	0

Table 38 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

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

A variety of mainstream services are available to complement the other more targeted services offered to people who are homeless; however, their availability is often constrained due to funding. These mainstream services, while not specifically designed for or targeted to people who are homeless, are available and accessible to them and can support their access to healthcare and employment opportunities.

Mental Health Services- Rome's largest mental health provider, Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital, closed several years ago. Since that time there has been an increase in the need for mental health services and providers who offer services. Highland Rivers, Atrium Floyd Behavioral Health, and Elevation House offer services to individuals who may need mental health care.

Health Services- Rome is plentiful in health and hospital facilities. It is home to three (3) hospitals including Atrium Floyd Hospital, Advent Redmond Hospital, and Harbin Clinic. Other health care providers include Primary Health Center located at Restoration Rome, Floyd County Health Department, and Free Clinic of Rome. These three providers offer limited services at low or no cost.

Employment Services- Several agencies in Rome provide employment services at no cost. The Goodwill Career Center, Department of Labor Career Center, Work Source Georgia/Career Depot, and the Rome Floyd Chamber of Commerce offer services to job seekers who need help with resumes and interviews. The Davies Shelter and Salvation Army offer employment services through their case management program. The Sara Hightower Library has computers available for individuals who want to search for jobs or update their resumes.

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 Davies Shelters operate the Davies Men's House (16 men's beds) and Ruth & Naomi House (8 women's beds/4 family beds). The Davies Shelters offers counseling and case management. They also have a community garden and mobile farmers market that takes items from the garden to various areas in Rome.

The Salvation Army provides food, shelter, and clothing. Most of their services target the temporary homeless population; they do, however, also serve several chronically homeless. They offer emergency financial assistance, emergency disaster services, housing and homeless services, hunger relief, and youth services. The Salvation Army has 10 men's beds, 3 women's beds, and 2 family beds available. They also offer 4 transitional beds for homeless individuals.

Hospitality House offers 27 beds for women and children who are victims of domestic violence and seeking a safe place. These beds are available for up to 90 days after which clients typically move to public housing. Hospitality House also offers a 24-hour crisis line, counseling, legal advocacy, and support groups.

The Open Door Home provides shelter for unaccompanied children (without parental involvement). The boy's unit has 10 year-round beds and the girl's unit has 10 year-round beds. Open Door Home receives

a Basic Center Program (BCP) grant from the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB). This grant allows them to provide emergency housing and support services to youth currently experiencing homelessness for up to 21 days. While in the program, youth are provided with therapy, life skills training, educational support, and recreational activities out in the community. The Open Door Home accepts runaway and homeless youth walk-ins and referrals from community partners.

Reach Ministries is a recovery ministry that helps individuals through their recovery and links them with other needed services. They serve meals for the homeless throughout the week and provide them with hygiene and other personal care items. Depending on the amount and if funding is available, Reach Ministries will provide individuals with financial assistance for rent, utility bills, or security deposits.

Hope's House is a nonprofit organization that provides day shelter and services to homeless, underserved, and underprivileged individuals in Rome. They have a mobile shower unit and offer laundry services in addition to case management, job readiness training, resume writing, and life skills classes.

The United Way primarily serves Floyd County but serves as a resource hub for at least three other surrounding counties. They offer case management, eviction mediation, and emergency funding for individuals who face potential homelessness.

Oak Ridge Apartments is a 35-unit housing community that is a partnership between Charles Williams REIC and Highland Rivers. Eligible individuals must be homeless, low-income, disabled, and enrolled in the Highland Rivers Shelter Plus Care Program. Residents receive mental health services, case management, and permanent supportive housing.

Pine Ridge Apartments is a 30-unit housing community for homeless, potentially homeless, disabled, and/or handicapped individuals. Applications for these income-based, studio apartments are processed through DCA. Charles Williams REIC management partners with agencies such as Highland Rivers and NWGACIL to offer services on-site to eligible participants.

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

Introduction

This section describes the housing and social service needs of Rome’s special populations including the elderly, frail elderly, domestic violence victims, residents with diagnosis of HIV/AIDS, and residents with substance abuse, mental health, or disability diagnosis.

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

The primary housing and supportive needs of these subpopulations were determined by input from both service providers and the public through the survey, public meetings and hearings, and stakeholder contacts. These needs include affordable, safe housing opportunities in areas with access to transportation, commercial and job centers, and social services including counseling and case management.

Elderly residents need a living environment that provides them with several areas of assistance or convenience. The availability of assistance with activities of daily living becomes more important as these residents grow older, and the closer the assistance is to their dwelling the more likely they are to age in place. Medical and social support is important for residents with HIV/AIDS. Family and friends must be accessible and medical facilities should be nearby. Individuals dealing with addiction often require housing options that will provide a safe, sober place for recovery. A strong network is necessary to maximize the chance they will stay healthy and sober. It is important that these persons have access to health services, support groups, employment assistance, and access to friends and family. Persons with disabilities often require accessible features and ground floor housing units and use of supportive/therapeutic animals. Victims of domestic violence need safe housing, removal of barriers to relocation, and protection from perpetrators. Persons with criminal records and their families may be disqualified from public housing or Housing Choice Voucher assistance, and accordingly, assistance with housing for low-income members of this subpopulation must be provided by other nongovernmental organizations.

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

Supportive housing is frequently a need for people with mental health issues and substance abuse disorders after being discharged from inpatient treatment to prevent homelessness. Local service providers are well-networked and often make referrals to one another to provide shelter, food, clothing, and other immediate needs. Next Door at LivingProof offers transitional housing for women in recovery who were incarcerated. The mission at D.I.G.S. is to provide safe housing, work, and leisure opportunities for individuals with disabilities. D.I.G.S. operates personal care homes and provides supportive housing for eligible individuals. The Aging & Disability Resource Connection and Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living (NWGACIL) both offer community based supportive services to individuals with disabilities who may be transitioning from nursing homes or other care facilities. NWGACIL provides peer support, independent living skills classes, assistive technology, and referrals for further services so individuals can live in the community of their choosing.

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)

Rome's Annual Action Plan specifies the activities the jurisdiction plans to undertake in the coming program year. While the plan does not include activities specifically targeted to these homeless special needs populations, the planned activities are expected to provide a community-wide benefit which will support some of the unique needs of people within these subpopulations.

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))

n/a

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

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

The City of Rome has public policies that can affect the cost of housing and the ability to develop, maintain, and improve affordable housing. These policies include building permits with the minimum lot size requirements, set back restrictions, zoning requirements, and other building codes. These requirements and associated fees add to the final cost of housing, which is then passed on to the consumers.

Several aspects of the City’s zoning code could potentially have a negative effect on housing development. For example, the City may want to consider adopting means to allow more flexibility in density and affordable housing development by carving out additional residential zoning districts or subdistricts that allow for a greater mix of housing types, lower minimum lot sizes, and higher multifamily density, and other alternatives such as relaxing the infill residential development standards, providing for cluster developments, density blending, and transfer of development rights in appropriate locations. Rome has not adopted specific development incentives like density bonuses, reduced parking, design waivers, reduced or waiver of development impact fees, administrative variances, or expedited permitting for the development of affordable or low-income housing or housing for protected classes. The Unified Land and Development Code (ULDC) should be reviewed and amended to treat personal care homes that meet the ordinance’s definition of a household in the same manner as other single-family housing.

Rome does not provide waivers of building fees associated with affordable housing. However, the Community Development Department will meet with city and building officials to determine if fees could be waived or reduced on the request of developers for the construction of new or rehabilitation of existing affordable housing.

Taken collectively, these zoning tools could potentially allow for more supply of housing, which helps put downward pressure on rental and sale prices, so that LMI families have access to those neighborhoods and all the congruent benefits that come with higher opportunity areas such as access to jobs, better schools, reliable transportation, public accommodations, and cultural amenities.

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

Introduction

Rome and Floyd County benefit from a growing and diverse economic base. Within Rome, the largest employment sectors are Manufacturing and Education & Health Care Services. Rome is home to several large manufacturing employers such as F&P Georgia, International Paper, Keebler Company, and Foss Manufacturing Company, LLC. It is also the location for three large healthcare centers and four college campuses. Following manufacturing and education & health care services, the region’s most common employment sectors are the arts, entertainment & accommodations (hospitality) and retail trades. This section examines Rome’s economic development assets and needs aside from housing, including business activity, workforce, economic activities, educational attainment, and other data that gives a detailed picture about the local economy.

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	51	1	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,889	3,396	13	14	1
Construction	548	477	4	2	-2
Education and Health Care Services	2,524	8,179	18	34	16
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	430	833	3	3	0
Information	187	593	1	2	1
Manufacturing	3,436	3,171	24	13	-11
Other Services	410	623	3	3	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	556	695	4	3	-1
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	1,721	3,292	12	14	2
Transportation and Warehousing	390	355	3	1	-1
Wholesale Trade	592	604	4	3	-2
Total	12,734	22,219	--	--	--

Table 39 - Business Activity

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	16,569
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	15,100
Unemployment Rate	8.83
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	25.06
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.10

Table 40 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	2,565
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	415
Service	2,010
Sales and office	3,165
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,145
Production, transportation and material moving	1,180

Table 41 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	11,105	79%
30-59 Minutes	2,190	16%
60 or More Minutes	805	6%
Total	14,100	100%

Table 42 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	2,060	215	1,770
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	2,780	335	1,359
Some college or Associate's degree	3,150	245	1,274
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,830	115	580

Table 43 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	305	465	725	495	794
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	665	655	565	1,140	595
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,260	1,110	900	2,469	1,510
Some college, no degree	1,465	1,115	775	1,625	895
Associate's degree	14	295	395	460	225
Bachelor's degree	480	835	819	1,070	574
Graduate or professional degree	10	450	355	1,000	620

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	18,620
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	25,645
Some college or Associate's degree	26,870
Bachelor's degree	118,855
Graduate or professional degree	118,635

Table 45 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

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

As shown in the Business Activity table, Rome’s largest employment sectors are:

1. Education and Health Care Services (8,179 jobs or 34%)
2. Arts, Entertainment and Accommodations (3,396 jobs or 14%)
3. Retail Trade (3,292 jobs or 14%)
4. Manufacturing (3,171 jobs or 13%)

According to the Rome Floyd Development Authority, the largest manufacturing employers in Rome include Lowe’s Homes Center LLC, Kellogg, International Paper, F & P Georgia, Summit Hill Foods, Integrated Fiber Solutions, Neaton Rome, and Tyson Food. Rome City Schools and Berry College are major employers in Rome as well. The information from the Chamber is in line with the census data showing the majority (about 67% share of workforce) of Rome’s residents working in the fields represented by these companies. Rome and Floyd County is home to more than 100 manufacturers, which would explain why manufacturing is a leading employment sector. Manufacturing is generally the largest employment sector but data shows there is a gap in the number of workers (-11%) compared to the jobs available. Although unemployment numbers have decreased post-pandemic, Rome still has an unemployment rate that hovers between 3-8% across all sectors. Rome’s employed population is comprised of 16,569 city residents.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

The economic development and infrastructure needs include:

- Increasing skills in the workforce to lead to improved opportunities
- Support for business and commercial growth through expansion and new development
- Planning and promotion of the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites

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.

Rome and Floyd County have experienced tremendous changes over the last few years, in population and economic growth. The Rome Floyd County Development Authority reported over \$65,000,000 in capital investments and 91 project leads in 2022 alone. In May 2024, Rome was named 6th top metro area in the United States for economic development. Hyundai and SK On purchased a large parcel of land near the Floyd-Bartow County line in 2022 for a \$5 billion electric vehicle battery manufacturing

facility. This plant is expected to hire more than 3,500 workers. An 80,000 square foot manufacturing facility and headquarters will be constructed in North Floyd later this year. Another manufacturing company announced they will be constructing a 142,500 square foot (\$20 million) facility which will generate approximately \$1 billion in revenue within the next three years. In October 2023 Microsoft announced a \$1 billion investment in a data center in Floyd County. The company is committed to creating at least 150 new jobs. F & P Georgia is one of the county's largest employers. It announced it will be conducting a \$22 million expansion because of contracts with Honda and Tesla. The expansion will add at least 25 additional jobs. Ohio-based Synthica Energy has plans to invest \$68 million for a natural gas production facility on property jointly owned by Floyd and Gordon counties. The facility is expected to add at least 19 jobs with an average pay of \$43 per hour. The number of potential jobs from all these projects is staggering. In addition to expansion at industrial sites, economic development and infrastructure improvements in Rome are expected to continue.

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

According to the tables and data provided, the skills and educational attainment correspond to Rome's employment opportunities. Over 10,700 individuals between the ages of 18-65 graduated high school, obtained a GED, or completed some college. Most entry level jobs in the manufacturing or service-oriented industries, which are Rome's most plentiful employment fields, require at least a high school diploma or GED.

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

The City of Rome and Floyd County fall under the Northwest Georgia Workforce Investment Program under the direction of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (NWGRC). The Workforce Investment Program funds education and training to ensure individuals have skills necessary to find jobs with family-sustaining wages and meet the workforce needs of regional employers. Workforce training initiatives include:

- Career assessments & counseling
- Job coaching
- Youth apprenticeship training
- On-the-Job Training Program
- Individual Training Accounts Program
- Post-employment assistance for up to one year after completing the program of study or training

Georgia Northwestern Technical College (GNTC) offers adult education, including free GED and continuing education programs and certifications, in addition to its career-technical education programs available on-campus and online. Several of its academic programs align with the fastest growing occupations in the region.

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

Yes. NWGRC is responsible for developing, implementing, and revising the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the 15-counties that fall within its district. Floyd County is one of the

15 counties in the district. City of Rome officials serve as members of the CEDS stakeholder group and participate in the CEDS planning process for northwest Georgia.

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 Rome Floyd 20/20 Comprehensive Plan was adopted on October 23, 2018. It was a joint effort between the local governments of the City of Rome, Floyd County, and Cave Spring, as well as other stakeholders such as NWGRC. This plan is a 20-year policy guide that assesses current conditions, projects future trends, develops strategies and goals, and creates a work program to achieve these goals.

The Rome Floyd 20/20 Comprehensive Plan includes the following elements:

- Community Goals- a combination of a general vision statement, a list of community goals, community policies, and character areas.
- Needs and Opportunities- an examination of current data and trends, a review of the existing plan, and engagement of stakeholders.
- Community Work Program- a list of specific activities the city intends to accomplish over the next five years.
- Land use- an update on future land use maps and character area maps.
- Housing- consideration of the community's housing characteristics and growth patterns.
- Transportation- evaluation of the components of the transportation system.

For each goal area, focused objectives and several tactics with corresponding action steps have been proposed that have the greatest potential to advance greater Rome as a high-quality, mid-sized community with diverse and accessible education, career, quality of life, workforce, and health care options that far surpass other communities. These goal areas for transformation area: invest in engaged and well-educated citizens; cultivate an enterprising and diverse economy; and build a vibrant and healthy community.

The 5-year work plan was updated October 31, 2023. The Community Development Department participated in the process to update the Comprehensive Plan and 5-year work plan as needed. The department is committed to carrying out any proposed action steps that will further the goals established in the Plan to make Rome a thriving community with a growing economy.

Discussion

The CEDS for the region reflects a vision of a community with an excellent educational system, diverse economy, quality infrastructure, and active neighborhoods. The Great Recession and COVID-19 pandemic impacted everyone and every community in different ways. Data indicates the area is on the road to recovery, although northwest Georgia still has not achieved socioeconomic parity with the nation. Resources remain scarce and unemployment numbers are beginning to dwindle. Unemployment is only slightly above what it was pre-pandemic. Rome is resilient and will continue to take innovative steps to overcome the effects of the pandemic and to enhance the community's quality of life.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

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

HUD defines four types of housing problems: (1) cost burden of more than 30%, (2) more than 1 person per room, (3) lack of complete kitchen facilities, and (4) lack of complete plumbing facilities. The HUD-provided data and maps shows the share of households within each census tract that have at least one of these housing problems.

The concentration of households with housing needs is defined as a census tract where more than 40% of households have at least one housing need. Using this definition, all the low-income census tracts in Rome have a high concentration of households reporting housing problems. These include census tracts 5, 6, 11, 12, and 16.

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

For this section, a concentration is defined as a census tract in which more than 50% of residents are persons of color. Block groups in the South Rome and East Rome neighborhoods have populations that are more than 50% people of color and poverty rates of over 40%. Census tract 11 has 30.7% poverty rates while Census tract 16 has 33.5% poverty rates. Both census tracts have predominately African American residents. While many residents desire to remain in these neighborhoods, others may wish to move to other areas with greater opportunity and should be supported in doing so.

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

The characteristics in the five census tracts mentioned above are mostly made up of aging neighborhoods that have single family, detached housing. Many of these houses were built before the 1970s and are deteriorating. Most housing units in these areas are renter occupied. The rental rates for these areas are relatively high compared to the quality of available housing. There are a variety of characteristics throughout the areas, but no clear market characteristics given the size of the areas.

There are public housing developments scattered through some of the areas as well. These developments are in fair condition but need modernization. NWGHA has applied on a few occasions to have John Graham Homes in census tract 16 demolished due to its deteriorating state. They will continue to apply for this property to be demolished as new opportunities present themselves.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

A community asset is defined as a quality, person, or thing that is an advantage, resource, or item of value to an organization or community. All five census tracts identified above have several assets. Census tract 16 is home to Banty Jones Park, Napoleon Fielder Center, Restoration Rome, Floyd Training Center, Fire Station 3, and East Central Elementary School. The Floyd County Health Department, Anna K. Davie School, South Rome Boys & Girls Club, and GNTC are within 1 mile of the tract. John Graham Homes (public housing) is in this census tract. Census Tract 5, 12, and 11 contain Elm Street Elementary, West End Elementary, Open Door Home, West Rome Boys & Girls Club, and Fire Station 5. Riverside Park and Tolbert Park are both nearby. Willingham Village at Division and Village Green (public housing) are both in this census tract. Main Elementary, the Kelsey Aycock Burrell Center, Eagle Park, Northside Swim Center, and Fire Station 4 can be found in census tract 6 in North Rome. Etowah Park and the Parker Center are nearby. Main High Apartments (public housing) are in this census tract. Additionally, there are churches, childcare facilities, restaurants, and stores within these neighborhoods and census tracts.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

Several of the community assets identified above represent strategic opportunities for these neighborhoods, including housing rehabilitation and development, street and sidewalk improvements, park improvements, and focused code enforcement efforts. The City of Rome plans to allocate much of its CDBG funding during this planning period to census tract 16, with the potential to complete some activities in census tract 6. The focus for many years up until this point has been census tract 21 (called South Rome). Local citizens have requested that other areas receive redevelopment attention after seeing how much progress was made in South Rome. A potential concern, however, is the increased home prices and rents that may accompany the economic development and revitalization.

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 internet is an essential communications and information platform that allows users to take advantage of the increased interconnectedness of business, education, commerce, and day to day utility. Reliable access to the internet is becoming a necessity to thrive. Since the pandemic there has been a huge increase in the overall need for broadband access due to individuals working remotely and youth attending online school. Communities that lack broadband access struggle to keep pace with the rest of the country. Low-income households and LMI areas have been negatively impacted by this shift due to the lack of broadband or affordable internet service. Many children found themselves having to go sit at fast food restaurants or libraries to gain access to the internet to complete their schoolwork.

Rome is working to bridge the digital divide between low-income households and connectivity. The city has received designation as a Broadband Ready Community through DCA. The purpose of the Broadband Ready Community designation is for a community to commit to making broadband accessible to everyone by reducing obstacles to broadband infrastructure investment. This designation will allow the city to apply for grants and other funding opportunities for local broadband projects.

Floyd County is one of eight counties that will be part of a 185-mile fiber route expansion undertaken by Dovetel Communications (dba SyncGlobal Telecomm). Dovetel Communications received \$12,234,350 from the Biden-Harris Administration for its \$32 million “middle mile” network infrastructure project. The new fiber network will provide over 140 splicing points for access. This project will bring Rome and Floyd County one step closer to accessible internet for all.

There are very few free Wi-Fi hotspots in Rome. Currently one of the only free public Wi-Fi hotspots in Rome is available at the public library, which is located downtown. This is not accessible to individuals from low-income neighborhoods as most do not have reliable transportation to get to the library.

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

Once broadband access has been obtained, it is important to ensure there is competition among service providers. Any service that has a monopoly on an area may not be incentivized to provide standard and consistent services. Without reliable and standard broadband infrastructure, communities cannot take full advantage of economic, health, and educational opportunities.

Many households in Floyd County rely on the Affordability Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14 billion initiative that provides a monthly broadband benefit of up to \$30 per month for all households up to 200% above the Federal Poverty Line and \$75 for those in Tribal lands. Not all broadband providers participate in this benefit program. There are approximately 44 providers that serve Rome.

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

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

Rome and Floyd County are susceptible to similar natural hazard risks associated with climate change. Located in the northwest region of Georgia, the jurisdiction is vulnerable to a range of natural hazard risks. The climate of the region includes cool, short winters and long, hot, humid summers with moderate precipitation throughout the year. Drought, severe weather, tornadoes, and occasional winter storms are likely hazards for the region. Many areas in the region are also susceptible to the risk of flooding, both from flash floods due to heavy rainfall and because of overflowing rivers and creeks.

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

LMI residents in the area are incredibly vulnerable to the risks of these natural hazards. All the above-mentioned natural hazards can cause potentially extensive damage to housing stock, depending on the severity of the weather event. Tornadoes and severe storms can cause structural damage to local housing stock in addition to loss of essential utilities, such as access to electricity. Flooding can lead to contaminated water supply and property damage.

Additionally, LMI households typically have fewer economic resources, are less able to respond to a disaster without assistance and are less likely to be able to access available local, state, and federal assistance needed for recovery. Special populations, such as people with disabilities and homeless individuals, are disproportionately more likely to need additional support. These households tend to lack the resource to be mobile and move away from danger.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The Strategic Plan will guide the allocation of CDBG funding during the 2024-2028 planning period. The City's goals for this period focus on high priority needs identified through data analysis, community member input, consultation with City staff other public agencies, and reviews of relevant recently completed plans and studies. Available resources are targeted toward several specific goals designed to address those priority needs. These goals include:

- Expanded affordable housing supply
- Homeowner housing rehabilitation
- Improved public facilities
- Neighborhood revitalization
- Economic opportunities
- General program administration

Projects selected for funding during the five-year period will be managed as efficiently as possible to address the wide range of issues that exist. The above-mentioned goals will be used to guide funding decisions for the Annual Action Plans. All funded activities will address at least one goal. Individual strategies identified in this Strategic Plan are potential means to achieve these goals. Not all strategies for achieving a certain goal are listed and not all listed strategies will necessarily be funded.

Guiding principles for the selection of projects include:

- All activities supported by the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans strive to improve the quality of life for Rome's LMI residents.
- The City of Rome encourages agency collaboration and cooperation to improve program outcomes.

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

Geographic Area

Area Name	Other Target Area Description	HUD Approval Date	% of Low/Mod	Revitalization Type	Other Revitalization Description	Identify the neighborhood	Include specific information about the neighborhood as a target area?	How did your consultation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	Identify the neighborhood as a target area?	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?

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Table 46 - Geographic Priority Areas

1. Area name: 50% and greater LMI census tracts
 Area type: Local target area
 Revitalization type: comprehensive
2. Area name: City-wide effort
 Area type: Direct benefit activities (Economic & Housing)
 Other target area description: Director benefit activities (Economic & Housing)

Identifying Neighborhood Boundaries: All neighborhoods within the City limits fall under this target area. Activities attached to this area will offer a direct benefit per income of the person and/or household.

Identify needs of target area: The City of Rome as a whole has a need for homeowner housing rehabilitation for low-income households. There are varying economic development opportunities that could create jobs for LMI persons throughout the city.

General Allocation Priorities

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

The City will focus its funding in neighborhoods that have concentrations of LMI households and substantial needs related to housing quality and affordability, public facilities and infrastructure, and economic development. The specific target area map is attached; however, individual LMI persons residing anywhere in the City may be eligible beneficiaries of CDBG funds. Activities such as economic development and/or housing rehabilitation will be administered city-wide but will have a direct benefit to a household or job created/retained. CDBG funding may also be spent in eligible block groups/census tracts where at least 51% of households have low- or moderate-incomes.

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

Priority Needs

Priority Need Name	Priority Level	Population	Geographic Areas Affected	Associated Goals	Description	Basis for Relative Priority
Public Facilities & Infrastructure Needs	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extremely low income Low income Moderate income Families with children Elderly Persons with disabilities Non-housing community development 	LMI census tracts & areas citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved Public facilities & infrastructure Expanded affordable housing supply Blight removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide safe neighborhoods, public facilities, and recreational & cultural opportunities which meet both safety and health regulations Improve public infrastructure, increase public safety, residential desirability, and quality of life in LMI neighborhoods Assist community service organizations in improving their physical structures to ensure that they are sufficient in size, accessible, safe, and meet the organization's service goals Infrastructure improvements including but not limited to sidewalks, roadways, parks, and water & sewer replacement or expansion Non-housing community development activities that eliminate blight, including code enforcement, demolition, acquisition, and redevelopment 	Interviews with key community stakeholders, community survey responses, CHAS and other data, and review of recent plans and studies
Housing Needs	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extremely low income Low income Moderate income Families with children Elderly 	Citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded affordable housing supply Homeowner housing rehabilitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of affordable rental & owned housing, including projects located near employment and transportation Expand the useful life of existing affordable housing through rehabilitation, repair, or weatherization programs 	Interviews with key community stakeholders, community survey responses, CHAS and other data, and review of recent plans and studies
Economic Development Needs	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extremely low income Low income Moderate income Non-housing community development 	Citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public services & economic opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support business development to create new employment opportunities for LMI workers Provide financial grants for small & minority-owned businesses 	Interviews with key community stakeholders, community survey responses, CHAS and other data, and review of recent plans and studies
Program Administration	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 	Citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General program administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for performance of administrative, implementation, and planning requirements of the CDBG program 	Consultation with City staff
Public Services Needs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	

Table 47 – Priority Needs Summary

Narrative (Optional)

Resources will be allocated to maximize the benefits to residents within the targeted areas of Rome. Public infrastructure improvements, typically thought of as brick-and-mortar projects will be completed within targeted census tracts. Other expenditures include grant administration and housing rehabilitation, which will be utilized to assist LMI individuals throughout the city.

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)	High level of cost burdens among low-income households; extensive waiting lists for assisted housing units; need for rapid rehousing or short-term rental assistance for homeless individuals and families transitioning to permanent housing; limited number of landlords who accept vouchers suggests support for new affordable housing construction instead of TBRA. Currently, TBRA is only provided through DCA. The City does not plan to use CDBG funds for TBRA over the next five years.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	High level of cost burdens among low-income households, including non-homeless special needs populations; waiting lists for assisted housing units for seniors and people with disabilities; limited number of landlords who accept vouchers; limited availability of accessible units suggest support for new affordable housing construction instead of TBRA. The City does not plan to use CDBG funds for TBRA for special needs populations over the next five years.
New Unit Production	Age and condition of housing; waiting lists at existing assisted housing developments; high occupancy rates and rental rates; home sales prices unaffordable to LMI households. The City does not plan to use CDBG funds to construct new affordable housing over the next five years. It will offer support to developers who plan to undertake this endeavor.
Rehabilitation	Age and condition of housing; issues related to substandard housing; need for home repairs for seniors and other homeowners; lead-based paint remediation. The city will continue to prioritize housing rehabilitation and use a portion of its federal funds to assist low-income homeowners with rehabilitation.
Acquisition, including preservation	There was no data reviewed to indicate a need to acquire and/or preserve housing other than through the rehabilitation program, which is currently administered using CDBG funds.

Table 48 – Influence of Market Conditions

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

Introduction

The table below shows the City’s CDBG allocation for the 2024 program year along with an estimate of anticipated grant funding for the remaining four years covered by this Consolidated Plan. This estimate assumes that funding over those four years will average to be about the same as the 2024 allocation. All federal funds will be used in a manner which supports decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities to principally benefit LMI residents.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Federal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admin and Planning • Housing • Public Facility & Infrastructure Improvements • Public Services • Economic Development 	454,556	0	0	454,556	1,840,000	CDBG funds will be used to carry out activities related to administration and planning, housing, economic development, public facility improvements and infrastructure, and public services.

Table 49 - 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

While CDBG funds do not require a match, the City anticipates leveraging local, federal, and private funds if they help address the priorities and goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The City may leverage local funds and other funds to complete public improvements in neighborhoods with LMI households. However, currently there are no specific plans to leverage any other funds.

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

CDBG funding will be used to develop and improve public facilities for the benefit of LMI residents using existing publicly owned land. If CDBG funds are used to acquire private land for public purposes, the City will follow CDBG acquisition requirements and procedures.

Discussion

For 2024, the City may leverage local funds and other funds to complete public improvements in neighborhoods with LMI households. However, currently there are no specific plans to leverage any other funds.

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 Rome	Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Public facilities • Neighborhood improvements • Public services • Economic development • Affordable housing • Homelessness 	jurisdiction

Table 50 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The City of Rome works collaboratively with partners throughout the community. The City maintains strong communication and partnerships with many local organizations including the United Way, NWGHA, and other service providers to coordinate the delivery of services to City residents. The City has representatives on most of the non-profit boards and advisory committees. The Community Development Department consulted with various housing, social services, elderly, and disability agencies to both gather data and identify service gaps.

While the area does offer shelters and homeless service programs, individuals who most need these resources may not have access to them. It may be difficult or impossible for some individuals to have access to transportation to get to and from these programs. Those in poverty may not have access to a vehicle to take advantage of area resources and programs, and those who are disabled may not be able to drive even with access. There is a public transportation system, but routes and schedules are limited. There are health services available in the region, but quality care is difficult to find for those without health coverage.

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	x	x	
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	x	x	
Child Care	x		
Education	x		
Employment and Employment Training	x		
Healthcare	x		
HIV/AIDS	x	x	x
Life Skills	x	x	
Mental Health Counseling	x	x	
Transportation	x		

Other			

Table 51 - 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)

There are a few subpopulations within the homeless population: single men, families, disabled, mentally ill, substance abusers, and victims of domestic violence. While several organizations provide services for multiple demographic groups, others target specific demographic groups. The integrated network of service providers ensures that many different homeless populations and subpopulations are served. All the service providers indicate that many homeless individuals actively seek and participate in the services they provide.

The Davies Shelters assists individuals and families struggling with homelessness. The Davies Shelters operate the Davies Men’s House (16 men’s beds) and Ruth & Naomi House (12 women’s beds). The program combines shelter, case management, counseling, life skills, and referrals to other local resources available.

The Salvation Army provides food, shelter, case management, and clothing to residents in need. It can also provide rent, utility, and medication assistance to individuals in need. The organization provides emergency and transitional housing, hot meals, and laundry services to those who are homeless or transient. Most of these services target the temporary homeless population, although they serve several chronically homeless individuals. The Salvation Army Thrift Store provides clothing, furniture, and household items which are sold at a reduced cost. Vouchers for free clothing are provided to qualifying social service clients.

LivingProof Recovery offers advocacy, training, peer support, recovery support groups, and spiritual guidance for individuals or families who are currently facing addiction issues. Next Door at LivingProof offers transitional housing for women in recovery who were incarcerated. While in the program women receive housing, life skills, addiction services, counseling, peer support, training, and transportation services while looking for employment.

The Hospitality House provides services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence. They provide food, shelter, clothing, toiletries, medicine, transportation, support groups, life skills training, counseling, legal advocacy, and case management.

The Open Door Home provides shelter for unaccompanied children (without parental involvement). The boy’s unit has 10 year-round beds and the girl’s unit has 10 year-round beds. While in the program, youth will be provided with therapy, life skills training, educational support, and recreational activities out in the community. They accept runaway and homeless youth walk-ins and referrals from community partners.

Reach Ministries is a recovery ministry that helps individuals through their recovery and links them with other needed services. They serve meals for the homeless throughout the week and provide them with hygiene and other personal care items. Depending on the amount and if funding is available, Reach Ministries will provide individuals with financial assistance for rent, utility bills, or security deposits.

The United Way primarily serves Floyd County but serves as a resource hub for at least three other surrounding counties. They offer case management, eviction mediation, and emergency funding for individuals who face potential homelessness.

Oak Ridge Place is a 35-unit housing community that is a partnership between Charles Williams REIC and Highland Rivers. Eligible individuals must be homeless, low-income, disabled, and enrolled in the Highland Rivers Shelter Plus Care Program. Residents receive mental health services, case management, and permanent supportive housing.

The Free Clinic of Rome provides quality healthcare services to uninsured residents who have no access to basic healthcare. Services include treatment of chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, thyroid issues, and asthma. The clinic also offers simple tooth extractions to pre-approved patients.

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

The City of Rome's current institutional structure includes the many service agencies listed above. These agencies provide services for a wide variety of subpopulations and needs. The City believes the current structure for persons experiencing homelessness is strong and sufficient for most of the community's needs. However, there does appear to be a need for more services for mentally ill persons and those experiencing domestic violence. The gap in the service delivery system for the special needs population is a lack of funding needed to create the addition of needed beds and services that have not been provided. There is also a gap in the service delivery to place these special needs clients due to a general shortage of available affordable housing options in Rome.

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 City of Rome will continue to be involved with the numerous cooperative groups and agencies mentioned throughout the Consolidated Plan that offer a variety of services to the residents. The city will work in cooperation with these groups to identify gaps in services that may arise and identify ways to bridge those gaps.

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
3	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation	2024	2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing Non-homeless special needs 	Citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Needs Housing affordability 	CDBG \$	Homeowner housing rehabilitated: <u>15</u> housing units assisted
1	Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements	2024	2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-housing community development 	LMI census tracts & areas citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public facility improvements and infrastructure Neighborhood revitalization 	CDBG \$	Public facility or infrastructure activity: ___ LMI persons assisted ___ linear feet of sidewalk completed <u>1</u> facilities assisted
2	General Program Administration and Planning	2024	2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-housing community development 	Citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program administration Fair housing 	CDBG \$	Other: <u>4</u> other
4	Public Services and Economic Development Opportunities	2024	2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Non-housing community development 	Citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public services Economic development Fair housing 	CDBG \$	Public service activity: ___ LMI persons assisted

Table 52 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

Goal Name	Goal Description
Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing rehabilitation for income-eligible homeowners.
Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve public facilities and infrastructure in low-income census tracts of Rome. Potential improvements may include, but are not limited to, parks and open space, community centers, sidewalk construction or improvement, ADA improvements, pedestrian safety devices and lighting, and bus shelters/seating, street construction or improvement.
General Program Administration and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff salary, planning, and administrative service delivery costs for implementing the CDBG program.
Public Services and Economic Development Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community services possibly to include, but not limited to, services for people experiencing homelessness, employment training, housing counseling, transportation assistance, fair housing education and enforcement, and others

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

The City of Rome anticipates assisting 15 LMI homeowners with home rehabilitation over the next five years. The City may also seek additional funds through the HOME program at DCA to construct new affordable single-family housing units in partnership with Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority.

**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)**

NWGHA is currently compliant with fair housing and civil rights requirements. It is not under a voluntary compliance agreement related to Section 504.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

NWGHA offers the FSS Program and ROSS Program to its residents. These programs link residents with valuable community resources to obtain economic self-sufficiency, independence, and improved quality of life. NWGHA routinely offers other services and training, such as Job Readiness/Life Skills classes, to the residents to aid them in their quest for self-sufficiency.

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

No.

Plan to remove the ‘troubled’ designation

n/a

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

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Market data and stakeholder input both suggest a tight housing market in Rome, with low vacancy rates and increasing housing costs. While the market depends largely on private developers to provide housing, there are roles the City and others can play through policy and regulation that may encourage greater private investment in new housing development in Rome.

The City of Rome has public policies that can affect the cost of housing and the ability to develop, maintain, and improve affordable housing. These policies include building permits with minimum lot size requirements, set back restrictions, zoning requirements, and other building codes. These fees and requirements add to the final cost of housing. Several aspects of the zoning code could potentially have a negative effect on housing development. The City's land use regulations could go beyond just meeting the minimum FHA standards and affirmatively further and incentivize the development of affordable housing with inclusionary zoning policies. Rome has not adopted specific development incentives like density bonuses, reduced parking, reduced or waiver of development impact fees, administrative variances, expedited permitting, or design waivers for the development of affordable or low-income housing or housing for protected classes.

Taken together, these zoning tools could potentially allow for more supply of housing, which helps put downward pressure on rental and sale prices, so that LMI families have access to those neighborhoods and all the congruent benefits that come with higher opportunity areas such as access to jobs, schools, transportation, cultural amenities, and public accommodations.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

As described more completely in the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, the City will work toward removing barriers to affordable housing development related to zoning code issues by reviewing its current code and drafting any amendments that could expand housing choice by making affordable housing development more efficient and less costly. Additionally, the city will continue to be supportive of LIHTC development proposals that would add additional affordable rental units to the local housing stock.

HUD announced a new "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing" rule in 2023. The rule will emphasize goal setting, increase transparency for public review and comment, address local fair housing issues while increasing community involvement, and provide program evaluation. This rule will require the City to develop an Equity Plan, which must be developed through community engagement, an analysis of fair housing issues in the community, set goals and strategies to address those issues, and describe how the community will be engaged in this process. The Equity Plan will be incorporated into the City's Consolidated Plans and Annual Action Plans. It will also include an annual evaluation that measures the progress of identified goals that address the issues found in the Plan.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

The City is not proposing to use any CDBG to combat or address homelessness at this time.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

There are several agencies in Rome that are working to address the transitional housing needs in Rome and Floyd County. The City will continue to support these agencies and assist them in any way possible if they seek additional grant funding opportunities.

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

The City of Rome and Community Development will continue to support public service agencies and providers within the city such as the Salvation Army, Davies Shelters, and United Way by offering support letters for federal or state funding. Technical assistance will be provided whenever possible. One reason some families may struggle to move to permanent housing is a lack of decent affordable options in the private rental market, so the City will continue to support efforts to build affordable rental housing through partnerships with Rome-Floyd Land Bank Authority, South Rome Alliance, NWGHA, and others.

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

Service providers in the city, along with housing providers, work together to prevent homelessness in those populations which are vulnerable or at risk of homelessness. These groups include extremely low-income individuals and families, people discharged from institutions, and those receiving assistance from agencies addressing a variety of needs, such as housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

This Plan identifies a need for additional affordable housing in Rome. The City, Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority, NWGHA, South Rome Alliance, and private developers will continue to work toward the goal of creating additional affordable housing options, which will provide additional housing options for all people exiting an institutional setting and who may otherwise become homeless. The existing nonprofit organizations that serve the homeless population will also continue planning and coordinating procedures to ensure people are not discharged from hospitals or jails into homelessness. The Davies Shelters, Salvation Army, and Next Door at LivingProof hope to expand their programs in the future to help more individuals avoid homelessness. The City will provide technical assistance as needed.

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

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

The City of Rome is addressing lead-based paint issues through the city-wide Housing Rehabilitation Program. The Rome-Floyd County Building Inspection Department employs a certified staff member as a Lead-Based Paint Risk Assessor. The City now has the ability to test houses on a local level and bid out the abatement or interim control work that is needed to each home prior to the regular rehabilitation work beginning. All homeowners will be informed about the hazards of lead-based paint. They will be given brochures and literature with the program application, and further information will be provided upon request. Most of the homes assisted through the housing rehabilitation program were built prior to 1978.

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

Lead poisoning is the leading environmental hazard to children, creating devastating and irreversible health problems. The primary cause of lead poisoning is exposure to dust from deteriorating paint in homes constructed before 1978. It is not the lead paint itself that causes hazards, but rather deterioration of the paint that releases lead-contaminated dust and flakes that may be inhaled or eaten by small children. The actions listed above, including awareness, will assist in reducing the hazards and potential exposure associated with lead-based paint.

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

HUD has issued regulations to protect persons from lead-based paint hazards in housing built prior to 1978. The City of Rome is required to follow these federal lead-based paint regulations in implementing its housing rehabilitation programs. The regulations have been incorporated into the Policies & Procedures for the City's housing rehabilitation programs. The non-lead rehabilitation cost will determine what type of lead hazard reductions must be addressed and the appropriate notices that must be given to the homeowner.

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

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

The City of Rome’s anti-poverty strategy focuses on helping all low-income households improve their economic status and remain above poverty levels. This may include, but is not limited to, job training, education, healthcare services, and emergency assistance. The core premise of the anti-poverty strategy is that employment is the vehicle through which those who are impoverished can best achieve the goal of self-sufficiency. Current programs to reduce poverty through access to education and jobs are provided by WorkSource Georgia, Goodwill Career Center, and Georgia Northwestern Technical College. The Rome Floyd Chamber of Commerce will continue to recruit new businesses and industries to the area, as well as expand existing businesses and industries. Emergency assistance is provided by several nonprofit and service organizations in Rome and Floyd County. Additionally, Rome’s housing programs and activities that support development of affordable housing inherently address poverty by creating housing opportunities for low-income households.

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

The City’s goals, programs, and policies are coordinated with its housing plan. This is evidenced by the direction of resources to CDBG eligible areas, which are also those areas hardest hit by poverty in the following three ways:

1. Human capital- By helping with sustaining the quality of housing through the housing rehabilitation program, code enforcement efforts, and demolition to help in reducing slum and blight.
2. Neighborhoods- By enhancing the quality of life in Rome’s neighborhoods, including public places, infrastructures, and housing stock. Ensuring these targeted neighborhoods are good places to live and work.
3. Economic Development- By expanding economic opportunities, especially employment opportunities for LMI residents through efforts to attract, retain, and expand small businesses throughout the city.

A crucial difference between households with needs and those without needs is income. For households with severely restricted incomes, little discretionary income remains after paying monthly housing costs. One of the objectives of the Consolidated Plan is to encourage new construction of affordable multifamily rental units. Affordable housing will provide the potential to decrease housing costs for families so they can allocate more funds to food, clothing, healthcare, children’s needs, savings, and personal development. Similarly, the goal of providing housing rehabilitation to low-income households would allow these families to reallocate money that would otherwise be spent on housing maintenance. Additionally, making these repairs will help maintain the existing affordable housing stock for future generations.

The City of Rome’s anti-poverty strategy agrees with its housing priorities. The City will continue to partner with multiple agencies to examine and evaluate policies to eliminate barriers to education and employment. Increasing the number of adults with living wage jobs reduces poverty, increases stability and quality of life, and lessens demand for subsidized 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

Rome does not anticipate using subrecipients to deliver programs, projects, or services funded with its allocation(s), which require clearly defined monitoring procedures. The City will evaluate where monitoring policies and procedures are needed over the course of the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan and amend the Plan should those arise.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City anticipates that the only funds available for 2024 for the selected projects and activities will be CDBG funds. All federal funds will be used in a manner which supports decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities to principally benefit LMI Rome residents.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Federal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition • Program Admin & Planning • Economic Development • Housing • Public facility & Infrastructure improvements • Public services 	454,556	0	0	454,556		The City of Rome estimates receiving approximately \$450,000+ each year in CDBG funds. CDBG funds will be used to carry out activities related to acquisition, administration and planning, housing, economic development, public facility improvements, and public services.

Table 53 - 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

For 2024, CDBG funds will not be leveraged with other funds. There are no matching or leveraging requirements for the CDBG program.

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 proposed improvements will take place in a public park owned by the City of Rome. The park is managed by Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation Authority, which is a joint agency funded by the City of Rome and Floyd County. Banty Jones Park is in East Rome Crossing in Census Tract 16.

Discussion

n/a

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements	2024		Non-housing community development	LMI Census Tract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Public facility improvements and infrastructure •Neighborhood revitalization 	CDBG \$364,556	Public facility or infrastructure activity: ___ LMI persons assisted ___ linear feet of sidewalk completed <u>1</u> facilities assisted
2	Program Administration and Planning	2024		Non-housing community development	Citywide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Program administration •Fair housing 	CDBG \$90,000	Other: <u>4</u> other

Table 54 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

Goal Name	Goal Description
Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve public facilities and infrastructure in low-income census tracts of Rome. • Potential improvements may include, but are not limited to, parks and open space, community centers, sidewalk construction or improvement, ADA improvements, pedestrian safety devices and lighting, and bus shelters/seating, street construction or improvement.
Program Administration and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff salary, planning, and administrative service delivery costs for implementing the CDBG program.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Projects planned for the 2024 program year are identified in the table below, with additional detail provided in AP-38. It is anticipated that most of the objectives identified will be met and/or exceeded.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Public Facilities & Infrastructure Improvements- Banty Jones Park
2	Program Administration & Planning

Table 55 – Project Information

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

The City’s allocation priorities reflect its focus on high priority needs identified through data analysis, community member input, consultations, and reviews of relevant plans and studies. Funding priorities are consistent with those outlined in the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The City does not anticipate any obstacles to completing the projects it has identified for the 2024 program year.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

Project Name	Target Area	Goals Supported	Needs Addressed	Funding	Description	Target Date	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Location Description	Planned Activities
Public Facilities & Infrastructure Improvements- Banty Jones Park	LMI census tract (Census Tract 16)	Improved public facilities and infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public facility improvements and infrastructure Neighborhood revitalization 	\$364,556	Complete renovation of current park facility in low-income census tract of East Rome.		2,600		Potential improvements may include, but are not limited to, addition of spray ground, pavilions, walking path, ADA equipment, restroom facility, exercise equipment, and new playground equipment.
Program Administration	Citywide	General program administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program Administration Fair Housing 	\$90,000	Staff salary, planning, and administrative service delivery costs for implementing the CDBG Program.		N/A	N/A	Staff salary, planning, and administrative service delivery costs for implementing the CDBG program. Provide fair housing education to Rome residents.

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

HUD identifies CDBG-eligible block groups where there are concentrations of LMI families. In this case, HUD defines a concentration as a block group where LMI households make up more than 51% of total households. Currently there are 17 such block groups in Rome. Three of these block groups are in census tract 16 in East Rome. Banty Jones Park is in census tract 16, which is a qualified opportunity zone. This tract covers 1.7 square miles and has a population of approximately 2,600 individuals. An estimated 33.5% of households in census tract 16 live below the poverty line. East Rome Crossing is a sub area of the larger East Rome community. East Rome’s boundaries are 2nd Avenue to the north, Highway 27 to the east, Highway 411 to the south, and the railroad along Cedar Avenue to the west.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
LMI Census Tract	80%
Citywide	20%

Table 56 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City will focus its funding in census tract 16 which has concentrations of LMI households and substantial needs related housing quality and affordability, public facilities and infrastructure, and economic development. Most of the local need for these types of services falls within neighborhoods that are in the low-income census tracts.

Discussion

n/a

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Rome has administered a very successful housing rehabilitation program through the CDBG program for many years. This program allows income-eligible homeowners to apply for financial assistance to address much needed repairs to their homes. Since the program’s inception in 2007, approximately 200 homeowners have received assistance with home repairs. In 2022 and 2023, 15 homeowners received assistance with home repairs.

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

Table 57 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

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

Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City of Rome's affordable housing strategy is to continue to aid LMI homeowners through the Housing Rehabilitation Program. The current program will be funded with unexpended CDBG funds from prior years. The City will also partner with and support agencies, such as the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority, where possible in the creation of affordable housing. The City will also support agencies, such as NWGHA, in the creation of affordable housing through their obtaining funding from the state through the LIHTC Program.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Rome does not plan to undertake capital improvements in 2024 that directly affect public housing. The City and NWGHA were awarded a Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant in the fall of 2019. This grant provides funding for planning and creating a transformation plan for the targeted neighborhood in East Rome Crossing (located in census tract 16). The public housing complex to be addressed is John Graham Homes.

The City and NWGHA have actively worked together to create a transformation plan that will benefit everyone living in the target East Rome neighborhood. The plan will hopefully spur further change and encourage other community stakeholders to work towards revitalizing the area.

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

There are no specific actions planned during 2024 to address the needs for public housing. NWGHA does an adequate job at assessing and addressing these needs. The face and perception of public housing in Rome and Rockmart, Georgia, has changed drastically in the past decade due to NWGHA's efforts.

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

The City of Rome does not plan to become directly involved in the management of the NWGHA. NWGHA manages 649 public housing units throughout Floyd and Polk Counties. NWGHA offers the FSS Program, which assists residents in becoming self-sufficient and working towards home ownership. NWGHA and Appalachian Housing Counseling Agency also offered First Time Homebuyers Education workshops.

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

n/a

Discussion

The City of Rome and NWGHA continue to support each other's efforts as redevelopment opportunities in low-income areas arise. The agencies have a great working relationship.

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

Introduction

With respect to homelessness, the Annual Action Plan must include the jurisdiction’s strategy for reducing and ending homelessness through:

- Helping low-income families avoid becoming homeless;
- Reaching out to homeless persons and assessing their individual needs;
- Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons; and
- Helping homeless persons (especially any persons that are chronically homeless) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

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

The City of Rome will continue to coordinate efforts with other agencies to address the city’s homelessness issue. The City has no plans to undertake this issue by itself.

The Interagency Council on Poverty and Homelessness was formed in 2019 through a partnership between the City of Rome and the United Way. Each agency contributes local funds towards the salary for one part-time worker. This worker helps to update the Ten (10) Year Plan and acts as a resource for individuals who may need services. During 2024, the City would like to meet with the Council and local service providers to identify continued gaps in services and analyze what is being done to end homelessness.

2. Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Rome will continue to support local public service agencies’ efforts that assist individuals and families with transitional housing needs.

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

The City of Rome will continue to support public service agencies and providers within the city such as United Way, Salvation Army, Davies Shelters, Open Door Home, and others by offering support letters for federal or state funding and providing technical assistance whenever

possible.

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

The City of Rome will continue to support public service agencies and providers that assist low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless within the city by offering support letters for federal or state funding. Technical assistance will be provided whenever possible.

Discussion

The City of Rome is a small CDBG grantee and does not receive direct funding allocations to address homelessness.

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

Introduction:

There is a lack of affordable housing in Rome for a variety of reasons. Some reasons are the public zoning policies that are currently in place. These policies include having a minimum lot size and set back restrictions. The fees associated with permits in addition to the zoning restrictions make it difficult and expensive to build affordable housing in Rome. There are no waivers available for the construction of affordable housing.

There are ongoing discussions on how to incentivize the construction of affordable housing and rehabilitation of Rome's current affordable housing stock. The City will continue to facilitate discussions and research ways to increase its affordable housing stock.

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

Community Development will continue to facilitate discussions with other City departments, developers, and community stakeholders about affordable housing and other impediments identified in the 2018 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI). Rome's ULDC should be reviewed on an ongoing basis and amended as needed. The Community Development Department will help as needed.

Discussion:

n/a

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This section details the City’s actions planned to ensure safe and affordable housing for its residents, along with plans to meet underserved needs, reduce poverty, develop institutional structure, and enhance coordination between public and private sector housing and community development agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Rome will continue to partner with NWGHA in a combined effort on the implementation of the transformation plan using the 2019 Choice Neighborhood Planning grant for revitalization of John Graham Homes and the surrounding East Rome Crossing neighborhood. John Graham Homes will be demolished, and new affordable housing will be constructed. There is approximately \$1 million dollars set aside for approved action activities. Additional funds will be used to carry out other activities discussed in the transformation plan.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The following actions will be taken to help foster and maintain affordable housing in Rome:

- Continued partnerships with Habitat for Humanity, NWGHA, and developers
- Support letters to nonprofit agencies who apply for funding under Georgia's Continuum of Care for homeless and other special needs populations
- Support letters to developers who apply for LIHTC funding for their projects
- Continued review of local ordinances and processes to ensure that these do not pose a barrier to the provision of affordable housing

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Rome is addressing lead-based paint issues through the city-wide Housing Rehabilitation Program. The City of Rome employs a certified staff member in the Rome-Floyd County Building Inspection Department as a Lead Based Paint Risk Assessor. The City now has the ability to test houses on a local level and bid out the abatement or interim control work that is needed to each home prior to the regular rehabilitation work beginning. All homeowners and occupants will be given informational brochures on lead hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Rome has no specific plans to directly reduce the number of families living at the poverty level during 2024. It will offer support to other agencies and community resources that actively work towards this goal.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Rome's current institutional structure includes many agencies including NWGHA, Habitat for Humanity, United Way, Davies Shelters, Salvation Army, Highland Rivers, Hospitality House, Good Neighbor Ministries, South Rome Alliance, and Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries.

Rome believes the current structure is strong and sufficient for community needs. Staff will make efforts to stay in contact with these agencies throughout the plan period.

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

The City of Rome will continue to be involved with numerous cooperative groups of agencies such as the Interagency Council on Poverty and Homelessness, Habitat for Humanity, Appalachian Housing and Redevelopment Corporation, South Rome Alliance, and NWGHA. Many of the agencies identified are members of the local GICH team. The City will make an effort to foster regular quarterly meetings with this group to stay informed of housing needs as they change locally and look for additional funding sources that can be used to address the needs of the community.

Discussion:

The actions outlined above will facilitate the City’s ability to overcome obstacles in meeting the underserved needs of the identified populations.

Actions planned to further Fair Housing

The City of Rome and NWGHA partnered together to complete the AI in 2018. The AI identified the following fair housing goals and actions to be taken based on the research and findings. The goals will direct strategies to alleviate fair housing issues and contributing factors. The following actions are planned to further fair housing in Rome:

1. Increase mobility for residents seeking access to areas of greater opportunity.
2. Focus community development activities in disinvested neighborhoods.
3. Support new construction of affordable housing in high opportunity areas.
4. Increase accessible housing options for people with disabilities.
5. Provide fair housing education and outreach to protected classes.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The City anticipates that the only funds available for the 2024 projects will be CDBG funds. These funds will be used for improvements at Banty Jones Park and the Planning/Admin of the CDBG Programs. No other activities will be undertaken with the 2024 allocation.

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

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan.	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	80% 2024

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

Sort order	Type	Data Source Name	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.	Provide a brief summary of the data set.	What was the purpose for developing this data set?	Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.	Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.	Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.	Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.	How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?	What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?	What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?
		HUD 2022 CoC Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless Populations and Subpopulations Report	CoCs- State of Georgia	Report is based on unduplicated, point-in-time data collected by CoCs. Required as part of CoCs program application process for Fiscal Year 2022 Continuum of Care Program Competition.	Info needed to answer questions in NA-40.	2022	Point-in-time count surveys	Sheltered and unsheltered individuals & households living in the state of Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housed status • Age • Race • Ethnicity • Gender • Veterans • Victims of DV • HIV/AIDS • Mentally ill • Unaccompanied youth 	Data collection was conducted throughout the state and in clusters in each county.	2022	Completed
		American Community Survey	U.S. Census Bureau	Data profile is 1-year estimate of selected social characteristics in Rome, GA. Collected as part of census collection process.	Info needed to answer questions in NA-45.	2021	Surveys	Individuals living in Rome, GA Metro Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household type • Marital status • Veterans • Disability • Age • Citizenship status • Place of birth • Ancestry 	Data collection was not concentrated in one area or among a certain population.	2021	Completed
		2019 DCA Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Point-in-time Homeless Count Report	DCA	Report is estimate of homeless population, homeless bed resources, and resource utilization based on in person count and surveys from 2019 PIT count.	Info needed to answer questions in NA-40.	2019	Point-in-time count surveys and observations (used to create predictive model)	152 counties throughout the state of Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housed status • Age • Race • Ethnicity • Gender • Veterans • Household type 	Data collection was conducted throughout the state in all counties. The sample surveyed is not meant to be a complete or representative sample.	2019	Completed
		PH Inspection Scores- Northwest Georgia Housing Authority	HUD	Report is based on scores of public housing units at NWGHA.	Data was needed to complete tables and comment on condition of PH units in Floyd & Polk Co. Info needed to answer questions in MA-25.	2023	Inspections	PH units in Floyd & Polk Co.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PH units 	Data collection was completed during inspections of public housing units. Specific units were chosen from each property.	October 2022- March 2023	Completed
		Info Needed for 2024-2028	NWGHA	Tables include data from YARDI and	The information in Tables 22-25 & 36	2023	Yardi		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Units • Waitlist 		2023	Completed

		Consolidated Plan		NWGHHA management system(s).	from PIC is incorrect. Info needed to answer questions in NA-35, MA-10, MA-25, and AP-60.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race • Ethnicity • Vouchers 			
		Rome Floyd 20/20 Comprehensive Plan	Govt's of Floyd Co., City of Rome, and Cave Spring	Comprehensive plan that includes recommendations and goals. Includes statistics, data, and existing conditions analysis for all of Floyd Co.	Info needed to answer questions in NA-50, MA-45	2018	Various		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Jobs • Income • Resources 	Includes data from 518 square miles of Floyd County.	2017-2022 (20-year plan)	Completed
		2022-2026 Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)	Northwest Georgia Regional Commission	Strategy driven plan for regional economic development for Northwest Georgia, including Rome and Floyd County.	Info needed to answer questions in MA-45		Stakeholder meetings were used to survey participants during the Planning Process.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographics • Jobs • Resources • Education • Transportation 	Data is based on Core Based Statistical Areas and stakeholder meeting discussions.	2022-2026	Completed
		Companies serving Rome, GA through the ACPT & ACP programs	USAC & FCC	List is based on providers who agree to provide ACP & ACPT services to households in Rome	Info needed to answer questions in MA-60	2023			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile internet • Home internet • Companies providing services 		2023	Completed
		2023 HOME Program Rents: GA	HUD	HOME rent limits and FMR for Rome based on unit size.	Info needed to answer questions in MA-15	2023			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low & High HOME rents • Fair Market rents • Unit size • County 		2023	Completed
		ConPlan 2023 Housing Inventory Data	DCA	Report based on data collected during Point-in-time count	Info needed to answer questions in NA-40, MA-30	2023	Point-in-time count surveys and observations (used to create predictive model)	Sheltered families and individuals in Rome, GA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bed type • Housing type • Total beds • Household characteristics 	Data collection was conducted in Rome during a Point-in-time count.	2023	Completed
		ConPlan 2023 Housing Performance Plan Data	DCA	Report based on data collected during Point-in-time count	Info needed to answer questions in NA-40, MA-30	2023	Point-in-time count surveys and observations (used to create predictive model)	Sheltered families and individuals in Rome, GA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housed status • Veterans • Household type • Race • Gender • Ethnicity • Unaccompanied youth 	Data collection was conducted in Rome during a Point-in-time count. The sample surveyed is not meant to be a complete or representative sample.	2023	Completed
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