



2026-2027

Draft Annual Action Plan

Community Development Block Grant

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Kankakee, IL 60901

City of Kankakee
Economic and Community
Development Agency

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Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Kankakee, Illinois is a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Programs, as defined by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

Each year, the City of Kankakee receives an annual block grant, allocated by HUD on a formula basis which is to be used to address critical and unmet community needs. In compliance with HUD regulations, the City of Kankakee has prepared this FY 2026 Annual Action Plan for the period of May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027. This City of Kankakee's Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is responsible for the planning, administration, execution, and reporting of CDBG programming.

This AAP is the second year of the city's FY 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan, which assessed the City's affordable housing, homeless, and non-housing community development needs and market conditions, set goals, objectives, and developed funding priorities for CDBG programs. While the Consolidated Plan sets long term goals, this AAP establishes the City's goals for a twelve (12) month period and outlines the specific initiatives the City will undertake to address its needs and objectives.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

Housing Strategy (High Priority Need)

Priority Need: There is a need to increase the amount of affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for homebuyers, homeowners, and renters.

Goal: Improve, preserve, and expand the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income persons and families that is decent, safe, and sound.

Planned Activities: To address the need, the City of Kankakee is developing a housing counseling program to provide much needed education and resources to prospective homebuyers, renters, and those experiencing homelessness. This will also include the development of a down payment assistance program to assist low- to moderate-income Kankakeans purchase a home. Housing rehab programs will continue to be administered to address the extensive aging and deteriorating housing stock.

Homeless Strategy (High Priority Need)

Priority Need: There is a need for supportive services and housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons and families at-risk of becoming homeless.

Goal: Improve the living conditions and support services for homeless persons, families, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Planned Activities: To address this need, the City of Kankakee anticipates utilizing a portion of its Public Service dollars to provide support to the Continuum of Care's efforts and applicants.

Community Development Strategy (High Priority Need)

Priority Need: There is a need to improve community infrastructure, facilities, public services, and public safety, as well as eliminate blight throughout the City of Kankakee.

Goals: Improve the living conditions of Kankakee residents through improving community infrastructure, facilities, public services, public safety, and eliminating blight.

Planned Activities: To address this need, the City of Kankakee plans to eliminate blighted conditions by demolishing abandoned properties that pose a threat to health and safety. The City will anticipates utilizing a portion of its Public Service dollars to provide to support to local nonprofits that provide services other than housing.

Economic Development Strategy (High Priority Need)

Priority Need: There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, and small business support for residents of the City of Kankakee.

Goals: Improve and expand employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in the City of Kankakee.

Planned Activities: To address this need, the City of Kankakee will support business through rehabilitation of store fronts and retail space, technical assistance, and the development of new business.

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Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy (High Priority Need)

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

Goals: Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight, and management of Federal, State and local funded programs and activities.

3. Evaluation of past performance

During the span of the previous Consolidated Plan, the City of Kankakee experienced a variety of barriers that made serving the community with CDBG funds considerably more difficult. The Coronavirus pandemic, staff turnover, and the loss of significant historical knowledge were challenges that ECDA and city staff were forced to overcome to continue quality service provision.

The first year of the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan provided ample reasons for optimism that those particular challenges have been largely overcome. In the previous program year, CDBG maintained hitting its timeliness test for the second consecutive year, as well as achieved the majority of the Goal Outcome Indicators that were established in the Annual Action Plan. These included performing homeowner housing rehabilitation, public services activities for housing benefits and for activities other than housing, public facility upgrades, and several demolitions. Those goals were not achieved during the previous program year (i.e. Direct financial assistance to homebuyers and businesses assisted) helped us identify which programming now requires intentional development so we can meet the goals we have established.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The FY 2026 Annual Action Plan will be available for public comment from January 7, 2026 to February 9, 2026. The City of Kankakee will hold public hearings on January 9, 2026 at 9am and February 4, 2026 at 12pm.

The City of Kankakee makes efforts to provide reasonable accommodations to disabled members of the public in accessing the public hearings and program information. The location of public hearings is accessible to persons with disabilities. If members of the public require special accommodations, they can reach out to the ECDA office for additional assistance.

The City of Kankakee also makes efforts to provide language translation assistance for public hearings and program information. If members of the public require translation or interpretation services, they can reach out to the ECDA office for additional assistance.

5. Summary of public comments

This response will be updated as comments are received.

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

This response will be updated if comments or views are not accepted.

7. Summary

The main goals of this Annual Action Plan – and the unifying Five-Year Consolidated Plan – are to improve the living conditions of all who call the City of Kankakee home, create a suitable and sustainable living environment, and to address the housing and community development needs of the City's residents.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	KANKAKEE	
CDBG Administrator		Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA)

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is the administering agency for the CDBG programs. The ECDA prepares the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records, the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, IDIS, and oversight of the programs on a day-to-day basis.

The planning process, inherent in the CDBG program, requires participation of a wide variety of stakeholders to insure broad participation, input, and perspectives. The City of Kankakee encourages residents to provide feedback and participate in CDBG program, as outlined in the Citizen Participation Plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The City of Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is the city department that administers and oversees CDBG activities. However, it is well aware that working to advance the quality of life for low- to moderate-income individuals and families cannot be accomplished by one agency, but must take a network of providers and agencies providing diverse services. The ECDA participates in many community meetings to ensure distribution of program information throughout the community, enhance agency and staff awareness of the needs, struggles, and desires of the community, and an awareness of external agency offerings available to residents of the City of Kankakee.

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

The ECDA is well aware of the need for enhanced coordination between sectors of our community's social service, governing bodies, health providers, and housing providers. ECDA staff works to represent the city in as many settings as is feasible where advocacy by the City of Kankakee may be valuable to furthering collaboration and service to vulnerable populations.

ECDA staff attend monthly meetings of the local Continuum of Care (CoC) Hub meetings as well as the broader full CoC meetings, and work to connect agencies and resources to help minimize the service gaps that exist in Kankakee. These monthly CoC meetings provide a setting for over fifty social service agencies to connect about resources, needs, and opportunities for serving our homeless neighbors in Kankakee.

ECDA staff also attend other housing and community related meetings to provide input and remain connected to agencies. ECDA staff regularly communicate with the location health department, and several health service agencies. ECDA staff attend quarterly Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) meetings, where representatives from government, nonprofit, and volunteer organizations review potential emergencies and work to prepare for coordinated disaster response services. An ECDA staff member leads the Kankakee County Community Outreach Leadership Team meetings, where outreach representatives gather monthly to develop, strengthen, and maximize county-wide communications and engagement with the public. ECDA staff also attend housing expos hosted by local elected officials, homelessness summits for the county and state, and any other opportunity to advocate for the needs of the community.

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.

Since leadership of the Central Illinois Continuum of Care was transferred from PATH Crisis Center to the Center for Human Services, both located in McLean County, IL, there has been a noticeable increase in service and communication quality. As the CoC continues to rectify some identified roadblocks, ECDA staff have participated in workgroups and meetings to assist where possible.

On a more local scale, Kankakee County, and some Iroquois County, service providers gather monthly to discuss coordination and service offerings. At least one staff member from the ECDA has participated in the CoC since 2020, representing the only entitlement community in the county.

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

ECDA staff have assisted in determining the allocation of Continuum of Care funding and will continue to do so as possible, but does not have any information regarding performance standards and evaluation of outcomes. Standardization and establishing policies and procedures is a urgent goal that the CoC is pursuing, but the City of Kankakee has limited knowledge in these areas at this time.

Above all else, ECDA staff work to advocate for those experiencing homelessness or who are experiencing housing insecurity in our community, as well as supporting the agencies that provide access to much needed services and housing.

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

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Birth to Five Illinois
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization works to develop policies and funding priorities to benefit early childhood services in Illinois. Birth to Five regularly participates in the local Kankakee Community Outreach Leadership Team meetings, and through consultation, provides insight regarding the needs of families with young children in Kankakee.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF JOLIET
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency provides a vast swath of services to Kankakeans. Catholic Charities regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provides increased details on the local homeless population's need and challenges.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Clove Alliance
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides support for survivors of sexual assault. Clove Alliance regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided information regarding the needs of survivors of dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Cornerstone Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides services and support to individuals with disabilities, mental illnesses, and addictions, including folks who are homeless. Cornerstone Services regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided information on their unique service population and the needs and challenges facing them.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Economic Alliance of Kankakee County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is a resource and partner for economic developments, and is a frequent participant in City of Kankakee development conversations. The Economic Alliance of Kankakee County is a 501c6 public/private partnership tasked with retaining industry within and recruiting industry to the Greater Chicago community of Kankakee County, Illinois.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is a hospital which serves American Veterans. Hines VA regularly attends CoC meeting, and through consultation, provided information regarding the needs of veterans locally.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Fortitude Community Outreach
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides services and housing to homeless people and families in Kankakee. Fortitude regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided information on the needs of the local homeless and the homeless service system. Fortitude has been instrumental in spearheading coordinated area efforts to address homelessness.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Harbor House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization operates the only emergency shelter in the area at this time, for those who have survived domestic violence. Harbor House regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided insight which clarified the urgent need for more emergency shelter, specifically for their service population and in general in Kankakee.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Illinois Office of Broadband
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	ECDA staff attend regular meetings regarding the work this state office is completing to contribute to the city's broadband plan.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Iroquois-Kankakee Regional Office of Education
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is the local Regional Office of Education. They frequently participate in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided the city with data and information regarding homeless impacting children in the local school system.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is the local chamber of commerce, which unites businesses and professional individuals and firms, thus creating a central agency which lends itself to improving business and building a better community. The strength of the Chamber lies in attracting the greatest number of individuals and businesses into its membership, thereby creating a pool of resources from which to draw ideas, energy, and investments. ECDA members attend monthly networking and educational seminars hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. Through consultation, the Chamber of Commerce provided insight regarding the specific needs of businesses and industries in Kankakee.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	KANKAKEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is the local community college. KCC regularly participates in CoC meeting, and through consultation, provided insight on students' needs, including students who are currently experiencing homelessness.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	KANKAKEE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is the local community action partnership agency provides services to low income individuals and families, including emergency housing services, utility assistance, and more. KCCSI regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation provided insight regarding the local needs of LMI families and individuals.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee County Health Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Health Agency Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is the local health department. KCHD regularly attends CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided insight on the health needs of Kankakee residents, including those who are low- and moderate-income.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee County Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is the local HUD-funded housing authority. KCHA has not historically attended CoC meetings, but consultation has improved over the course of the past year as leadership has transitioned, providing information on the needs of public housing residents.

16	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee Development Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is dedicated to developing and improving downtown Kankakee through developing events, assistance programs for existing businesses, and aesthetic improvements. Members of the ECDA team attend monthly KDC board meetings and consult with the organizations leaders on a regular basis, receiving information on the state of businesses and properties in the downtown district.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee County Emergency Management Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Emergency Management Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This is a part of the Kankakee County Sheriff's Department, and provides emergency management and information.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee Public Library
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization is the local public library, serving all residents of the City of Kankakee. The Kankakee Public Library regularly attends CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided insight on the needs of their patrons, including folks experiencing homelessness who regularly use the library's services.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee School District 111
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This is the local school district in Kankakee. KSD often attends CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided insight regarding the needs of Kankakee students, including those experiencing homelessness, as well as how the ECDA can be a stronger partner with the school district.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Kankakee Workforce Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides services that assist adults in improving their skills, achieving their educational goals, and transitioning to further education or employment. Kankakee Workforce Services regularly participates in CoC meetings and through consultation, provided the city with the needs of the workforce, and those who are working to join it.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Midwest Shelter For Homeless Veterans
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides housing, supportive services, and community outreach to help homeless and at-risk veterans and their families achieve self-sufficiency. MSHV regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided insight into the needs of homeless and at-risk veterans.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Options Center for Independent Living
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides services and resources to people with disabilities. Options CIL regularly participates in CoC meeting and through consultation, provided expertise on intersections between disabilities and housing needs. Options has been a Public Service subrecipient in the past.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	PRAIRIE STATE LEGAL SERVICES, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Legal Services
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides education and advocacy services to area residents, including those facing foreclosure or eviction. PSLS regularly participates in CoC meetings and through consultation, provided the City with an understanding of the challenges faced by its many renters and landlords.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Project Headspace and Timing
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Veterans

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization works to promote positive mental health practices to veterans by working to unify them with their communities, nature, and themselves. PHAT regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultations, provides information and needs regarding veterans in the Kankakee area.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Project Sun
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization works to strengthen the children's behavioral health system in Kankakee County. An ECDA staff member is a part of the Community Planning team and regularly communicates with the agency and through consultation, provided information regarding the behavioral health needs of families with children.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	THE SALVATION ARMY - KANKAKEE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides programs and resources to low- and moderate-income families and individuals in Kankakee, including weekday lunches, food pantry access, and youth programming. The Salvation Army regularly participates in the CoC and through consultation, provided information regarding the needs of homeless people and families that receive services, and low- to moderate-income families that participate in their programs.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	SOUTH SUBURBAN HOUSING CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides housing resources and services such as housing counseling and homebuyer education courses. South Suburban Housing Center provides annual data regarding the Kankakeans they provided services to, and the needs they've identified in Kankakee.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Thresholds
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides services and programs for people living with mental illnesses and substance use disorders. Thresholds regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided the city with insight regarding the needs of their service populations, including those who are also experiencing homelessness.

29	Agency/Group/Organization	Veterans Assistance Commission
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Veterans
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides free services to veterans in Kankakee, including veterans who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. VAC regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provided information to the city about the needs of the veterans they serve, including those experiencing homelessness.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of Kankakee & Iroquois Counties
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization provides funding in Kankakee for programs directed towards education, health, and financial stability. United Way regularly participates in CoC meetings, and through consultation, provides insight to the city regarding needs they identified while administering local grants to various agencies.
31	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Kankakee
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development

	<p>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Two City of Kankakee Departments assist with managing flood prone areas in Kankakee - the Environmental Services Utility and the Planning Departments. Through the planning and zoning process, as well as the permitting process, the departments are responsible with overseeing areas adjacent to the Kankakee River.</p>
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Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

The City of Kankakee did not purposefully leave out any agency types for consultation.

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?
Kankakee Consolidated Plan	City of Kankakee	The City of Kankakee's Consolidated Plan is the basis for each of its subsequent Annual Action Plans.
Continuum of Care	McLean County Center for Human Services	
Kankakee Riverfront Master Plan	Currents of Kankakee	This is a 25-year redevelopment strategy for the Kankakee River which runs through the City of Kankakee. The plan calls for housing rehab and new construction to meet housing needs.
Home Illinois	Illinois Office to Prevent and End Homelessness	This plan provides additional strategies, policies, and programs which will contribute to the City's homelessness efforts.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing	City of Kankakee	This plan provides the basis for fair housing activities for the City of Kankakee. This plan was implemented in December 2021.
Broadband Expansion-Rebuild Illinois	Illinois Department of Commerce	This plan informed goals in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The ECDA is constantly engaged with local stakeholders through the creation of the Consolidated Plan and through the development of each of the Annual Action Plans. The City continues to make efforts to bring more collaborators to the table and receive information and feedback in diverse areas to ensure thorough preparation of our plans from year to year.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The ECDA is proactive in soliciting community feedback. ECDA staff emphasize the value and vital role citizen participation has in the CDBG program, and explain to residents that their values, needs, and desires are at the heart of the program we operate.

Kankakee's Citizen Participation Plan follows regulatory guidelines as established in 24 CFR 91.105. The Citizen Participation Plan contains the City's policies and procedures for public participation both in the Annual Action Plans, as well as Consolidated Planning process.

Community participation can always increase and improve, but ECDA staff are grateful for the feedback and insight gleaned from residents.

In previous years, the ECDA hosted Community Conversations from March to October, focused on a unique topic each month which allowed staff to identify key needs which shaped the goals identified in our 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and each of its related Annual Action Plans thus far. This year, we are continuing this series of events, now incorporating community agencies which provide valuable and related services and information. This will allow us to both highlight one of our agency partners, and gain related insight from residents.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Kankakee estimates it will receive \$589,549 in CDBG funds for the FY 2026 program year, though this will be updated when actual dollar amounts become known. The program year is May 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027. CDBG funds will be used to address the following priority needs: Housing, Homeless, Community Development, Economic Development, and Administration, Planning, and Management. If the city receives more or less than this estimate, activity amounts will be adjusted proportionately.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public-federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	589,549	0	402,274.39	991,823.39	1,768,647	The City of Kankakee anticipates an estimated annual allocation of \$589,549.00, \$0 in program income, and currently has \$ remaining in prior year resources from FY 2025, though this is expected to decrease before the end of the program year. This totals to \$991,823.39.

Table 4 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The City of Kankakee leverages other additional funding to stretch federal dollars as far as they can go. This includes state and private grants. ECDA has also been awarded grants through the National League of Cities for the City Inclusive Entrepreneurship Network (CIE). The City of Kankakee and ECDA are always looking for partnership opportunities to coordinate with other organizations.

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

The City of Kankakee does not currently plan to utilize any publicly owned land or property to address the needs identified in the plan at this time. If a circumstance arises, the City will inform HUD and the public of this matter.

Discussion

The CDBG program provides extraordinary opportunities to the City of Kankakee as we work to address low- to moderate-income needs in our community. This funding provides the backbone of the Economic and Community Development Agency and many needed programs in the city.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Affordable Housing	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide		CDBG: \$206,313.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 46 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 13 Households Assisted Other: 10 Other
2	Addressing Homelessness	2025	2029	Homeless	Citywide		CDBG: \$50,000.00	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted
3	Community Improvements	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide		CDBG: \$135,327.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Persons Assisted Buildings Demolished: 4 Buildings
4	Assist Small Businesses	2025	2029	Economic Development	Citywide		CDBG: \$80,000.00	Businesses assisted: 10 Businesses Assisted
5	Administration, Planning, and Management	2025	2029	Administration & Planning	Citywide		CDBG: \$117,909.00	

Table 5 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	Improve, preserve, and expand the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income persons and families that is decent, safe, and sound through offering housing counseling services, down payment assistance, and housing rehabilitation programs.
2	Goal Name	Addressing Homelessness
	Goal Description	Improve the living conditions and support services for homeless persons, families, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless through supporting local nonprofits with public service funding.
3	Goal Name	Community Improvements
	Goal Description	Improve the living conditions of Kankakee residents through improving community infrastructure, facilities, public services, public safety, and eliminating blight through clearance and demolition, facility and infrastructure improvements, and public service funding.
4	Goal Name	Assist Small Businesses
	Goal Description	Improve and expand employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in the City of Kankakee through technical assistance and support.
5	Goal Name	Administration, Planning, and Management
	Goal Description	Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight, and management of Federal, State and local funded programs and activities.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Kankakee estimates receiving \$589,549 in CDBG funds for the FY 2026 program year. The program year is May 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027. CDBG funds will be used to address the following priority needs: Housing, Homeless, Community Development, Economic Development, and Administration, Planning, and Management. If the city receives more or less than this estimate, activity amounts will be adjusted proportionately.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	HS-1 Housing Counseling
2	HS-2 Down Payment Assistance
3	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
4	HS-4 Project Delivery
5	HMS-1 Housing
6	CDS-1 Clearance/Demolition
7	CDS-3 Public Services
8	EDS-1 Development
9	AP-1 Overall Coordination

Table 6 - Project Information

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

Allocation priorities were determined by the persistent need to improve our housing, create livable communities, increase access to public services, and spur economic development, especially for small businesses. ECDA is pursuing housing counseling and down payment assistance programs.

The ECDA develops programs in response to desires and needs expressed by the community, and looks for new ways to acquire more feedback from a larger pool of residents. Frequently, residents are unwilling to attend public meetings or express their personal opinions.

Developing and administering programming at the level required is difficult, as there will always be more needs than can be met with the funding available. ECDA continues to work to develop programs in such a way that resources and assistance are distributed equitably and to as many individuals as possible.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	HS-1 Housing Counseling
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,000.00
	Description	This activity will provide housing counseling services, include financial literacy education, pre-purchase housing counseling, and rental counseling to help address the housing needs in the community
	Target Date	4/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 13 persons will be served by this activity.
	Location Description	The location of projects is to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will provide housing counseling services, include financial literacy education, pre-purchase housing counseling, and rental counseling to help address the housing needs in the community
2	Project Name	HS-2 Down Payment Assistance
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy

	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000.00
	Description	This activity will provide down payment assistance to eligible homebuyers.
	Target Date	4/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated 10 clients will benefit from the proposed activity.
	Location Description	The location of projects is to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will provide down payment assistance to eligible homebuyers.
3	Project Name	HS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$145,000
	Description	This activity will assist with rehabilitating existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the City.
	Target Date	4/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 10 households will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	The location of projects is to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will assist with rehabilitating existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the City.

4	Project Name	HS-4 Project Delivery
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$51,640.00
	Description	This activity will provide eligible program delivery and oversite for CDBG-funded projects/activities.
	Target Date	4/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 36 households will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	The location of projects are to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will provide eligible program delivery and oversite for CDBG-funded projects/activities.
5	Project Name	HMS-1 Housing
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Addressing Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,000.00
	Description	This activity will support the Continuum of Care's efforts and applicants to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing opportunities with public service dollars.
	Target Date	4/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 30 households will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	The location of projects is to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will support the Continuum of Care's efforts and applicants to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing opportunities with the use of public service funds.
6	Project Name	CDS-1 Clearance/Demolition
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Community Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000.00
	Description	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.
	Target Date	4/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 4 properties will be demolished.
	Location Description	Locations of projects are to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.
	Project Name	CDS-3 Public Services

8	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Community Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000.00
	Description	Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, disabled, and general public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
	Target Date	4/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 50 persons will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	The location of projects is to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, disabled, and general public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
9	Project Name	EDS-1 Development
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Assist Small Businesses
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$90,000.00
	Description	Support business and commercial growth through rehabilitation of store fronts and retail space, expansion of businesses, and the development of new businesses.
	Target Date	4/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 10 businesses will benefit from the proposed activity.
	Location Description	The location of this project is to be determined.
	Planned Activities	This activity will support business and commercial growth through rehabilitation of store fronts and retail space, expansion of businesses, and the development of new businesses.
10	Project Name	AP-1 Overall Coordination
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Administration, Planning, and Management
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$117,909.00
	Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
	Target Date	4/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This activity will benefit all those who participate in CDBG programming.
	Location Description	275 E Court Street, Suite 201 Kankakee, IL 60901

	Planned Activities	This activity will provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
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AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	100

Table 7 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Kankakee does not have a priority for allocating investments geographically. Assistance is provided based on income eligibility requirements.

Discussion

Not applicable.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Kankakee will utilize its CDBG funds to rehabilitate homes, assist with home ownership, and homeless programs. The one-year goals for CDBG for FY 2026 are as follows:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	30
Non-Homeless	46
Special-Needs	10
Total	86

Table 8 - 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	10
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	10

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

These goals will be met with our Housing Rehabilitation programs, our Down Payment Assistance programs, and Public Service programs in 2026-2027. SFRP will address the need for rehabilitation in existing units, KHIP will help both homeless and non-homeless individuals with housing counseling services, and our Public Service program historically has a number of housing initiatives which support homeless individuals and those at risk of homelessness who need safe and affordable housing. The Public Service programs for the 2026-2027 program year have not yet been determined.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Kankakee County Housing Authority (KCHA) is responsible for public housing programs in the City of Kankakee. As of November 2025, 180 families resided in public housing units and a total of 383 with housing choice vouchers (HCV) in the past year.

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

ECDA staff are continuing to grow their relationship with the Kankakee County Housing Authority (KCHA), discussing the needs of public housing residents and how collaboration can be strengthen. The ECDA and KCHA have a meeting in the coming weeks to discuss housing counseling and down payment assistance collaboration for their clients.

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

The City of Kankakee provides outreach materials to KCHA, and will encourage participation in relevant ECDA programming, especially our homebuyer education classes and down payment assistance programs. The KCHA also participates in a Self-Sufficiency program and has a Resident Advisory Board to provide feedback on plans.

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

The Kankakee County Housing Authority (KCHA) is not classified as “troubled” by HUD and is performing satisfactorily according to HUD guidelines and standards. Therefore, no assistance is needed to improve operations of this Public Housing Authority.

Discussion

Not applicable.

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

Introduction

The City of Kankakee is a part of the Central Illinois Continuum of Care. The City supports the efforts of the Continuum of Care and encourages organizations to submit applications for funding and collaborate in addressing homelessness locally.

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

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

The Central Illinois Continuum of Care includes broad representation of relevant organizations and agencies as well as interested individuals. The past five years have challenged the CICoC, but have made increased efforts to reach out to homeless persons or those with lived experience to gather their feedback and experience navigating the social service net.

There are several agencies that provide street outreach to assess needs, especially of those who are unsheltered and not otherwise accessing services. The Kankakee Hub also operates a local by name list to track the service and status of all individuals experiencing homelessness. The City of Kankakee uses the feedback and surveys completed by CICoC agencies and the homeless people they serve to develop goals and actions to reduce homelessness in Kankakee. In the future, the City of Kankakee would like to host citizen participation opportunities specifically for people experiencing homelessness; at this time, public meetings and hearings are open to the public for all to attend.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Kankakee has a limited number of public, free, temperature-controlled spaces for homeless individuals to spend daytime hours in, and no general emergency shelter for overnight stays. The only operating emergency shelter is for survivors of domestic violence, and they do not have the capacity to serve all who request their assistance. There are also more individuals experiencing homelessness in Kankakee than there are emergency shelter beds. This problem has become especially apparent over the past three years, as the local emergency homeless shelter struggled to find a permanent location.

The City of Kankakee recognizes the problem of homelessness is a housing supply and access problem, and will continue to work and advocate for addressing this housing supply problem.

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 Kankakee will make every effort to support programs and services located in the city limits which address the need for increasing the supply and access to affordable housing. The City will also advocate for local agencies and the resources they need to continue service to homeless individuals and families. As the City of Kankakee does not provide any direct services to those experiencing homelessness, most support for homeless folk comes in the form of supporting the local social services agencies who already perform this work. During the next program year, Kankakee will be working to establish a housing counseling program, which will hopefully assist those experiencing homelessness to transition into stable housing.

The Kankakee Hub of the CICoC includes a variety of organizations that rapid re-housing (RRH), homeless prevention (HP), and other similar housing services to help homeless households obtain housing and prevent homelessness from reoccurring. At the monthly KRPG meeting, these organizations routinely provide each other updates on available services and work to problem-solve systemic challenges in the area. Minutes from these KRPG meetings are distributed to the Kankakee City Council so that these elected officials can be well-informed about currently available services in the area.

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.

Similar to the above section, the ECDA working to develop a local Continuum of Care and develop a more comprehensive understanding of current service offerings and gaps. We are also working to bring more diverse service organizations to our local CoC meetings to ensure that the wrap around services LMI individuals have access to are able to address and meet their needs. Providing housing counseling services for those who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure will hopefully also reduce the number of individuals that do ultimately experience homelessness.

Discussion

Not applicable.

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

Introduction:

In the City of Kankakee's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, the following barriers were identified:

- Lower incomes of many households and a lack of quality affordable housing creates high cost burdens, especially for renters
- Aging housing stock creates a need for at times costly rehabilitation
- There is a limited supply of subsidies for rental housing
- The predominance of single-family zoning and number of nonconforming uses create challenges for affordable housing
- Property taxes and utilities create additional housing costs for residents
- Difficulty accessing credit due to limited income, poor credit and rental history creates challenges for accessing homeownership and quality rental units
- Limited availability of shelter beds, affordable units, and upfront payments to transition out of homelessness are barriers for homeless individuals and families

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

The ECDA continues to pursue and build programs and policies, alongside the City of Kankakee Administration, to remove and ameliorate some of the above-mentioned barriers. These actions include:

- The development of a housing counseling program to provide education regarding the pre-purchase process, renters rights, and providing financial literacy instruction
- The administration of housing rehab programs to help with potentially costly rehabilitation of units that are often nearly 100 years old
- The rezoning of improperly zoned properties across the city

The development of a down payment assistance program, in conjunction with housing counseling, to

make homeownership an affordable option for low- to moderate-income

Discussion:

During the FY 2025 Program Year, the City will undertake the following fair housing activities:

- Host educational seminars to inform residents of their rights to fair housing
- Support a resolution recognizing the impact and importance of the Fair Housing Act of 1968
- Make available to residents informational brochures and other resources on fair housing rights
- Support the efforts of fair housing groups and organizations

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

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

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City under its FY2026 Program Year will take the following actions to address obstacles to meeting the underserved needs:

- Increase access to safe and affordable housing through housing counseling programs, down payment assistance, fair housing education, and housing rehabilitation
- Support agencies that are serving those who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness
- Address vacant and abandoned properties to strengthen the City's housing stock
- Work on increasing accessibility and alternative modes of transportation throughout the City
- Continue to support funding for public services
- Assist small businesses through all stages, from formation to succession planning

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Affordable housing is one of the greatest needs in the Kankakee community. The City commits itself to fostering and maintaining affordable housing by applying for and receiving funding for various state and federal grants. CDBG funding is used for rehab programs to address home health hazards and to administer the homebuyer education program.

ECDA's Executive Director also played a founding role in the Kankakee County Land Bank, which is working to begin moving tax delinquent and abandoned properties back into productive use in Kankakee, thereby increasing affordable housing options.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Lead-based paint hazards are a significant concern for the City of Kankakee, as 93% of homes built before 1978 contain lead paint, and 92% of the homes in Kankakee were built before 1978. The City of Kankakee has administered a HUD-funded Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control grant program for the past thirty years. The evaluation and remediation of lead-based paint hazards are regularly performed on Kankakee homes by ECDA. The City of Kankakee ECDA is approaching the end of our 2022 Lead Hazard

Control grant, and just recently, a new \$3.7 million dollar grant in 2025 for an additional 70 units.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Approximately 28.7% of the City of Kankakee's residents live in poverty, while 9.9% of Kankakee County residents live in poverty and 11.6% of the State of Illinois residents live in poverty.

The City over the next five (5) years plans to use CDBG funds to fund the following types of economic development and anti-poverty programs include:

- Assist in job creation and retention
- Small business assistance, which could include workforce training or support services for new employees
- Revitalization efforts
- Housing counseling
- Down payment assistance

The introduction of housing counseling through the ECDA office will allow for increased education in identifying predatory lending practices and protecting themselves from predatory lenders. The City has many vacant and boarded properties due to a growing foreclosure rate caused primarily by the financing methods of predatory lenders. Foreclosure prevention will help lessen this rate, as well as reduce the number of individuals who fall into a period of homelessness as a result.

In addition to the City's housing efforts, there is a large network of agencies in Kankakee County that are currently providing a wide variety of human services. It is the policy of the City of Kankakee to continue to support and utilize these existing agencies to alleviate poverty in the community. The City of Kankakee is actively seeking various avenues of public/private assistance to help alleviate our growing affordable housing needs.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The ECDA intends to hire several new employees to facilitate several CDBG activities, including a Construction Field Officer and a Housing Counselor. These two new roles will exclusively administer specific programs outlined in this Annual Action Plan, and will contribute to the capacity of the ECDA to meet both its AAP and Consolidated Plan goals. The City of Kankakee also has many collaborators in executing the projects and activities outlined in Annual Action Plans, including non-profit agencies and local government institutions, including the Kankakee County Health Department and the Kankakee County Land Bank.

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

service agencies

The City is committed to continuing its partnership and coordination with public and private housing and social service agencies. The ECDA's Community Outreach Coordinator works as the lead for the Kankakee County Community Outreach Leadership Team, which is a group of agencies that gather monthly to distribute program and event information. The CDBG Program Manager participates in monthly Continuum of Care meetings. The ECDA also maintains an internal list of program availability for distribution to residents who need assistance that the City is unable to provide. The City of Kankakee has also made program and grant information accessible on the general city page.

Discussion:

Not applicable.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

All staff are responsible for ensuring compliance with all program-specific requirements, as well as for program monitoring and reporting. In addition, the staff ensures that federal cross-cutting requirements, including Davis-Bacon and Related Acts, Uniform Relocation Act, and Section 3, are met.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed
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
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements
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.
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities

Total Program Income

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities