

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

City of New Haven Consolidated Plan: 2005-2009

Introduction

The City of New Haven Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development Programs was developed in accordance with 24CFR Part 91. 24CFR Part 91 contains the final rule for consolidated submissions of the planning and application aspects of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) formula programs with the requirements for the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS). The City currently receives CDBG, ESG, HOME and HOPWA entitlement funds through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on an annual basis. It also receives American Dream Downpayment Initiative Funds (ADDI).

This Executive Summary briefly outlines the contents of the City's Consolidated Plan – which includes a description of the City's housing and community development needs; the City's strategy and plan which includes goals, priorities and activities to meet its projected needs over a five year period; and a one year action plan which describes the City's projected use of funds for the upcoming program year covering the July 1 to June 30 time period. The City will prepare a new Action Plan every year to describe the activities to be funded with its CDBG, HOME, ADDI, HOPWA and ESG appropriations.

The overall goal of HUD's community planning and development programs is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. This goal is consistent with the City's primary goal and mission– the comprehensive systematic revitalization of the City and its residents neighborhood by neighborhood. This goal will be achieved through the support of new development and redevelopment, physical improvements, the provision of public facilities and services, and workforce and economic development.

Housing and Community Development Needs

Over the past decade the City of New Haven has undertaken numerous planning and analysis processes in order to identify its strengths, weaknesses, needs, priorities, objectives and strategies to guide policy, development and revitalization decisions. These formal planning and analysis processes, combined with the City's informal assessment activities (such as the Mayor's Night Out in city neighborhoods; the Mayor's Night In (open-house); the use of neighborhood police substations for meetings and information distribution locations; and the use of LCI Neighborhood Specialist outreach activities) have given citizens, business owners and other interested parties a means to discuss issues, needs and potential solutions with the City and its administration.

In October and November 2004 the City undertook a needs assessment process to update its previous five year plan and to provide guidance in the development of revised goals and objectives as needed to develop a housing and community development strategy for the next five years. In early October a computer based needs assessment was conducted over a two-day period. Respondents included representatives from City departments; neighborhood organizations; housing providers; and public and supportive service providers involved with housing and community development activities. In late October a more detailed survey was mailed out to almost 300 departments, agencies and organizations seeking input and comment on the City's current programs and activities and asking for a description of unmet needs. The responses from both of these needs assessment tools were utilized to refine goals and objectives and to reassess the City's strategies for meeting its housing and community development needs. In early 2005 the City held focus meetings with housing and service providers to review goals and objectives, programs and activities and the overall strategy for community development and revitalization inclusive of housing, public services, supportive services and economic development.

Annually, in October, the Mayor issues an open letter to the residents of the City, which is published in the New Haven Register, regional newspapers and a bi-lingual publication. The open letter outlines the availability of funds

and encourages participation in the planning and application process. Public hearings and community meetings are held during the consolidated planning process to receive input regarding needs and priorities; to help develop the strategy and plan; and to determine the distribution of available resources.

During the needs assessment process specific needs were articulated repeatedly. These needs included safe and clean streets, choice of housing types and tenancy within neighborhoods, revitalization of neighborhoods through blight elimination, creation of employment opportunities, job training, positive youth development and increased assistance to small businesses. Recreation opportunities, mentoring programs and a variety of support service programs are also key needs. Improved neighborhoods through physical improvement activity and program delivery, the provision of affordable housing opportunities and the provision of specific public services to increase self-sufficiency and improve personal self-esteem are the highest priorities. As part of this, there is a need to develop and maintain systematic tracking to avoid duplication of services.

The Housing and Community Development Needs Section of the Consolidated Plan (Section III) outlines the various housing needs of City residents, the needs of the homeless and those threatened with homelessness, supportive housing needs and non-housing community development needs.

Key needs that formed the basis for the City's Five Year Strategy are as follows:

Affordable Housing Needs

- To produce a vibrant, healthy mix of housing opportunities, cities like New Haven must have a variety of resources to respond to housing need. However, the capacity to fill every housing void is not an achievable goal for the City alone. New Haven must strive to produce a well-maintained and balanced housing stock for all its citizens. Market rate housing is necessary to promote the economic health of the City, while subsidized housing promotes affordable and stable housing opportunities for low-income families.
- Historically, the City has provided more than its fair share of subsidized housing. Until housing policies change and regional development of affordable housing for low and moderate income households becomes accepted, New Haven will continue to have a housing system overburdened with the needs of very low-income families and individuals and related social service support.
- The New Haven region faces a housing crisis, which is negatively impacting the economy, natural environment and most importantly, the thousands of households that cannot reasonably afford housing. In 2003-2004, the region, under the direction of the South Central Regional Council of Governments, prepared a Regional Housing Market assessment that was finalized and adopted in June 2004. As part of this study an extensive analysis and assessment of the housing market in the region was undertaken. Principles to guide the development of a regional strategy and a strategy to meet identified needs were developed. The implementation of this strategy and active participation by all sectors of the region will be key to overcoming regional disparity in the provision of affordable housing.
- Of the 33,153 renter households in the City of New Haven, 43.7% report their rent exceeds 30% of their income. 25.2% of all renters pay more than 50% of their household income for housing costs. One of the main issues related to households whom are forced to spend more than 50% of their income on housing is the shortage of units available for subsidized rental and the fact that federal and state funding for subsidized rentals has been diminishing.
- The 2000 Census data tabulated for HUD discloses more than 76% of all renter households qualify for assistance as their incomes are at or below 80% of Area Median Family Income. Cost burden is the biggest problem facing renters in the City especially for households earning less than 50% of the median.

- As an older urban community, the City's housing stock suffers from age, deterioration and neglect. Along with the growing number of vacant or abandoned buildings, the condition of many structures requires significant attention.
- The condition of much the City's affordable housing stock puts low and very low-income families at risk from the presence of lead-based paint and building code violations. Rehabilitation is needed to meet current State and local building and housing codes, to eliminate lead hazards and to provide safe and energy efficient housing. The Livable City Initiative (LCI) has implemented a targeted inspection program focusing on reducing substandard housing in the City's neighborhoods which also includes a Section 8 housing inspection project that is done in conjunction with the Housing Authority.
- Urban areas such as New Haven must encourage and support housing ownership opportunities. Whether in new or rehabilitated single or duplex homes, co-operative or mutual housing, home ownership stabilizes neighborhoods and provides increased taxes for City services. Creative financing from City, State, and Federal resources can be combined to subsidize first time owners of new or rehabilitated units. The success of current and past City sponsored programs reaffirms the ability of low and moderate-income families to become homeowners. Public subsidies for land, financing and downpayment assistance have helped lower income hard working families to achieve homeownership. It is necessary to continue ownership subsidies to provide ongoing opportunities for owner occupied housing in order to assure a balance of housing tenure, stable neighborhoods and improved City tax base.
- The development pressure for market rate products has led to difficulty in identifying suitable sites for affordable housing. The city is comprised of just 18.9 square miles and is generally considered to be a fully developed, high-density community (approximately 6,500 residents per square mile) compared to the region (1,500 residents per square mile). With this in mind, there is increasing consensus that city priorities for housing development should be aimed at the existing stock, including blighted buildings, troubled condominium complexes and suitable adaptive reuse possibilities. In addition, there is continuing efforts to develop contextual infill residential development at the single- and two-family scale.
- The reduction of funding on both the State and federal level significantly impairs the City's ability to provide affordable housing. The continued reduction in Section 8 allocations and most recently the reduction of HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS) funding results in the reduced ability to provide assistance to individuals and households most in need.

Homelessness/Supportive Housing

- The New Haven Continuum conducted a homeless count in February 2003. The purpose of the count was to provide an estimate of the number of single adults, families, underage children and unaccompanied youth who were homeless during the third week of February 2003. According to survey results, a total of 1,305 persons were characterized as homeless during the index week. Using survey results as a base, an estimated 3,938 persons in New Haven experience homelessness at some point during the year.
- Single adults comprised 60% of the total homeless population. Nearly 70% of the single adults were men with 29% women. Persons in families represented 40% of the total homeless population. Minor children in families and unaccompanied youth under 24 years of age represented 35% of all persons reported as homeless during the index week.
- Of the persons surveyed during the index week 55% indicated a current or past history of mental illness, while 49% indicated substance abuse problems. Of those who met the HUD criteria for chronic homelessness, 65% indicated having a current or past history of mental illness, while 60% reported having

medical problems and 59% reported having a substance abuse problem. A large proportion of the chronically homeless reported having multiple co-occurring disorders.

- A chronically homeless person is defined by HUD as an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.
- Overcoming chronic homelessness is a daunting task, especially given the fact that over the past year, the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness has risen throughout the State of Connecticut. This has also been the trend nationwide¹. The New Haven Homeless Count 2003 identified 247 chronically homeless individuals. When an updated count was prepared as part of the 2004 Continuum of Care application the number had increased to 252.²
- Members of the New Haven Continuum have been at the forefront in the City in the development of housing and supportive services needed to address the myriad of needs presented by the chronically homeless population. Over the next five years the City, together with the Continuum of Care membership, will continue their efforts to address chronic homelessness. The Continuum in particular is committed to advocating at the local, state and federal levels to secure policy and funding changes that would address the root cause of homelessness, and seeking funding resources and support with which to provide housing and the supportive services so desperately needed by persons suffering from chronic homelessness and its associated impacts.
- The City of New Haven has committed to creating a 10-year plan to end homelessness, under direction of its Homeless Advisory Commission. The Continuum of Care network will play an active role in the preparation of this plan being that they are the ones who address homelessness and meet the needs of the homeless on a daily basis. It is estimated that in New Haven, over the next 10 years, 720 units for singles and 530 units for families will be needed to address the numbers of households facing long-term homelessness.³
- It has become increasingly clear from information provided by social service providers and housing managers that the availability of affordable housing alone will not address the identified needs of those persons with special needs requiring housing. Support services and case management are important components of a comprehensive housing strategy. Families and individuals who present the greatest risk of becoming homeless require concentrated social services in order to preclude a return to emergency shelter.
- The most pressing need articulated by those who run emergency shelters for various special needs groups is for housing after shelter 'length-of- stay' terms have expired. Moving clients to unsupported and individual dwelling units often leads to relapse or a return to emergency facilities. The need for permanent and transitional housing and for continued social service support is clear.
- The ability to create housing flexible enough to serve growing and diverse special needs populations is important. A continuum of housing which can help move individuals and families out of emergency shelters to congregate/group homes/or transitional housing to subsidized rentals and finally to market rental or ownership should be available to meet the requirements of the multi-racial and diverse socio-economic population who reside in New Haven and the surrounding towns.
- The City of New Haven and the New Haven Continuum have been focusing their efforts on providing transitional and permanent housing as the most effective means of addressing and reducing homelessness in the City. For many individuals, permanent supportive housing is necessary in order to ensure they receive

1 Continuum of Care Application 2004

2 Continuum of Care Application 2004

3 Reaching Home Campaign estimate, Partnership for Strong Communities, New Haven Continuum of Care Application 2004

the medical, life skill, mental health and/or other supportive services they need to ensure the most productive, safe and self-sufficient way of life available to them.

Non-Housing Community Development Needs

The focus of the non-housing community development strategy included in the Consolidated Plan is on areas of need which have the potential to be addressed by the CDBG program.

The following narrative briefly summarizes the City's non-housing community development needs under three broad categories: public improvements and facilities; public services; and economic development. These categories fit the areas of eligible activities for the CDBG program.

Public Facility and Infrastructure Needs

- The main thrust of the City's community development efforts is to strengthen its neighborhoods. To achieve this, a variety of programs, activities, projects and outreach efforts have been implemented to remove blight, provide decent and affordable housing, empower residents and improve quality of life. To remove blight, the City has focused its efforts on the demolition of vacant derelict buildings and the disposition of cleared properties for community-focused reuse. In addition, through local, State and federal funding programs the City has been assisting with the assessment and remediation of brownfields in the City, particularly in its industrial areas. There is a need to continue this effort.
- In support of efforts to strengthen neighborhoods there is a need to provide neighborhood beautification improvements such as street and sidewalk improvements; provide lighting and open space improvements; provide park and recreational facility improvements; community gardens and green spaces, and support neighborhood, senior and youth centers.
- Handicapped accessibility improvements and improvements to public services facilities, especially those providing educational services, health services and child care services are crucial. Improvements in support of economic development efforts and affordable housing development are also needed as project specifics dictate.

Public Service Needs

- While the City has a wide range of public service needs, the vast majority of these needs are addressed by a range of local, state and federal resources which are separate from the CDBG Program. The City has identified several areas of need which meet its overall CDBG objectives. These include childcare and early childhood education, youth programs; elderly support services; job training and skill development programs; community-based health services; community empowerment and awareness programs; and programs and activities that address the needs of special needs individuals.
- There is a need to provide affordable childcare and early education opportunities which will enable parents to obtain the education, skill development and employment opportunities necessary to provide financial stability for their families. Cost, convenience of location, and the potential for 2nd and 3rd shift care is also important.
- There is a need to provide after-school and youth enrichment programs which provide for supervised and structured recreational activities; educational development; cultural awareness and positive adult interaction.
- Elderly programs are needed to ensure that the basic day to day living needs of the City's senior population are met. Senior Centers in the City are integral to the provision of services and programs including

nutritional programs, preventive health programs and recreational and social activities. Transportation services are needed to ensure the needs of the homebound elderly are met and to reduce the isolation of seniors from their peers and the community. There is a need to continue to keep the elderly integrated into the community and active through recreational activities, day trips, physical fitness programs and cultural and social events.

- Job training, skill development and educational enhancement activities in support of economic development and the empowerment of individuals throughout the community were identified as needs on a variety of levels. Assistance with obtaining and maintaining employment is also warranted.
- Health service programs, especially those which emphasize preventative activities are needed to promote the concept of healthy individuals, families and communities. Immunizations; epidemiological testing; pre-natal health; infant, children and maternal health; asthma initiatives and educational and outreach programming are all key components to community health services. Lead testing and lead-based paint poisoning prevention, drug and alcohol addiction services and disease prevention programs need to be supported in a variety of configurations and locations.
- Community awareness programs covering issues such as substance abuse, crime prevention, domestic violence, teen pregnancy prevention and community mediation techniques have been successful components of the City's community development efforts. These programs need to be continued in support of neighborhood stabilization and empowerment of City residents. Programs which encourage neighborhood residents to become involved in the future of their neighborhood and the City as a whole also need to be implemented.
- There is a need to provide transportation services to employment, medical services and outlying support services. This is especially critical to ensure that jobs available in outlying areas are accessible to low and moderate income persons. In addition to transportation to jobs, access to affordable quality child care is also crucial to ensure long-term employment stability.
- Programs which work in tandem with housing and supportive services activities, especially those meeting the needs of special needs individuals such as the homeless, persons threatened with homelessness, persons with substance abuse problems, individuals with HIV/AIDS and/or persons with disabilities (physical, mental, developmental) need to be supported. By providing services in concert with housing assistance, success rates of individuals transitioning from a supportive housing environment to a traditional permanent housing environment will be increased.

Economic Development Needs

- The need to address unemployment and underemployment is crucial if the City is to have vibrant and economically viable neighborhoods. In terms of the City's physical infrastructure there is a need to effectively utilize or redevelop sites occupied by older, obsolete industrial structures. Tied to this is the need for the environmental remediation of contaminated sites or Brownfields. Site clearance, assembly and clean-up are integral to ensure developable sites for future economic activity. Infrastructure improvements in support of economic development are also key to attracting new businesses.
- Access to capital and technical assistance for businesses; appropriate job training and job skill development; affordable day care to support parents during job training and once employed; and adequate transportation to employment are all needed to support the City's economic development efforts.

Housing and Community Development Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan portion of the Consolidated Plan contains a description of the City's overall goals and objectives for housing and community development; outlines proposed projects, programs and activities to meet needs; describes proposed accomplishments and milestones and describes the City's method for measuring performance and project monitoring.

As a result of its many ongoing planning processes, New Haven has developed a vision for the future of the City which has at its base the achievement of the three goals embodied in its federal entitlement programs. These goals are to:

- Provide Decent Housing
- Provide a Suitable Living Environment
- Expand Economic Opportunities

The City's broad-based objectives for meeting its housing and community development needs are as follows:

OBJECTIVE: To preserve and improve the existing housing stock.

OBJECTIVE: To improve access to homeownership for low- and moderate- income families.

OBJECTIVE: To create a regional approach to housing and housing related services while coordinating and improving interagency collaboration.

OBJECTIVE: To improve access to a range of choices of safe, supportive and affordable housing opportunities for all New Haven citizens where they become part of diverse neighborhood environments.

OBJECTIVE: To provide a continuum of care system of housing opportunities that provide safe shelter while homeless individuals work their way toward self-sufficiency.

OBJECTIVE: Develop additional critically needed flexible housing options principally benefiting very low, low and moderate-income persons and families including transitional and permanent housing.

OBJECTIVE: Increase the number of housing units accessible to persons with disabilities.

OBJECTIVE: Provide supportive housing for persons with special needs (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS, the elderly, persons with disabilities)

OBJECTIVE: To improve and strengthen the community environment

OBJECTIVE: Support neighborhood revitalization activities in targeted neighborhoods.

OBJECTIVE: To empower individuals and families and strengthen neighborhoods through the provision of public services and facilities.

OBJECTIVE: To provide equal access to all City residents.

OBJECTIVE: To find a balance between historic preservation, anti-blight improvements, revitalization and the provision of affordable housing.

OBJECTIVE: To assist in the retention and creation of jobs for low and moderate income residents of New Haven.

OBJECTIVE: To provide for the expansion of livable wage jobs and economic opportunity as the foundation for neighborhood revitalization.

OBJECTIVE: To develop and market New Haven as a center for technology-based industry.

OBJECTIVE: Support Downtown and cultural development.

As a result of past experience, the multi-phase needs analysis and through past planning processes, the City has developed a number of funding priorities and objectives to guide its housing and community development activities over the five year Consolidated Plan strategy period. These priorities and objectives are used to guide program/project selection and the allocation of funding. They are as follows:

Housing and Community Development Funding Priorities:

- Preservation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock serving low and moderate income persons and families;
- Development of additional critically needed flexible housing options principally benefiting very low, low and moderate income persons and families including transitional and permanent housing;
- Increasing the number of housing units accessible to persons with disabilities;
- Provision of emergency housing and services to homeless individuals and families seeking shelter;
- Provision of prevention and maintenance services to families and individuals to reduce the risk of becoming homeless.
- Provision of supportive housing for persons with special needs (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS, the elderly, persons with disabilities);
- Produce more decent affordable housing through new construction/renovation, rental subsidies and home ownership incentives;
- Develop services that target at-risk populations, particularly substance abusers, during the transition from homelessness or institutional settings to permanent housing;
- Create additional supportive services to prevent and reduce homelessness within the community, providing transportation when required, and offering flexible hours.
- Increase the stock of affordable accessible housing for persons with disabilities.
- Improved access to homeownership for low and moderate-income families.
- Creation of a regional approach to housing and housing related services while coordinating and improving interagency collaboration.
- Provision of a continuum of housing and related support services to expand housing opportunities for special needs and low and moderate income individuals and families.
- Retention and creation of additional living wage jobs with benefits for low and moderate income residents of New Haven;
- Expansion of living wage jobs and economic opportunity as the foundation for neighborhood revitalization; including micro-enterprise development (businesses employing five or fewer individuals);
- Acquisition, Relocation, Demolition and Disposition activities in support of eligible activities that are the City's priorities;
- Elimination and remedy of adverse conditions caused by vacant or abandoned buildings in blighted or dilapidated condition;
- Improvements to or development of public facilities which further the City's overall Consolidated Plan and development efforts in regard to the City's low and moderate income children, the elderly and persons with disabilities;
- Provision of Public Services that promote and enhance opportunities for self-sufficiency among low and moderate income families or which provide for an unaddressed fundamental need of the low and moderate income family or individual.
- Planning in support of the City's overall Consolidated Plan and development efforts.

Housing Strategy

The City’s Strategy for Housing over the next five years is driven by several factors. Although statistics show that the need for affordable housing far outstrips what is currently available it is impossible for the City in and of itself to address the need on its own with the limited resources available. The City is limited by the amount of financial resources at its disposal, the amount of staff required to implement programs significantly larger than it is currently implementing and the lack of readily developable land or infrastructure. In combination with these limitations is the reality that the City already provides the mainstay of the region’s affordable housing and housing for special needs populations within its borders. With this in mind, over the course of the five-year strategy period the City will focus its efforts on the following:

- The creation of affordable homeownership units. This will occur in both single unit and two- to three-unit structures. Ownership of a two- or three-unit structure provides an income stream to assist the homeowner with the mortgage payment through the rents collected in the rental unit.
- Rehabilitation of existing rental and homeownership units to meet housing and building code.
- Removal of lead-based paint hazards and other hazardous conditions such as asbestos, mold and asthma triggers.
- Support of existing homeless and special needs population shelters, developments and programs.
- Development of permanent supportive housing for homeless and special needs populations.
- Active participation in the Regional Housing Partnership and promotion of a regional approach to meeting affordable and supportive housing needs.

The rehabilitation of substandard housing represents the highest investment priority across tenure type and occupancy profile for housing. With over 517 vacant and boarded buildings, high vacancy rates and a substantial number of homes requiring code improvements and general repairs, it is incumbent upon the City to provide assistance to remedy such problems. By subsidizing homeowners who wish to make repairs, developers who rehabilitate or develop new houses for first time homeowners, and not-for-profits and others that own and manage rental housing, housing is improved and is made affordable by the infusion of public funds. Because the age of the City housing stock places children at risk of exposure to lead based paint, all units receiving assistance occupied by children under the age of six will be required to become lead-safe.

Assistance to owners is an extremely high priority for the City of New Haven. Homeownership is one way to help stabilize neighborhoods. By supporting both existing and new owner families and individuals, they are empowered to influence and create community livability and viability. Downpayment and closing cost assistance and other gap financing formulae lower the "effective sales" price of a home and thereby lower the income required to cover the first mortgage requirements.

The City has set the following housing goals over the Strategy Period with the use of its Federal Entitlement Funding (CDBG, HOME, HOPWA and ESG).

<u>Description</u>	<u>Units Projected</u>	<u>Target Population</u>
Homeownership Opportunities	100 per year	Households @ 50-80% MFI
Downpayment Assistance	10 per year	Households @ 50-80% MFI
Rental Units (special needs, low-income)	30 per year	Households @ 0-80% MFI (depending upon type of project)
Emergency Rehabilitation/ Accessibility Improvements	5 per year	Households @ 0-80% MFI (depending upon type of project)

The unit goals indicated above represent what is achievable given the resources currently available through the City’s federal entitlement programs at present funding levels.

Goals for Non-Homeless Special Needs Housing and Supportive Services over the entire Strategy Period have not been set but will be set and evaluated on an annual basis dependent upon funding allocations. Over the course of the Strategy Period, Special Needs Housing and Service Providers will work to quantify needs and gaps in housing and services. The City and its housing and service providers, especially those who are members of the New Haven Continuum are committed to accessing the financial resources necessary and providing a continuum of housing and supportive services to populations with special needs. As with non-special needs affordable housing, the City will promote regional solutions to the needs of the special needs population.

During the strategy period the City will support efforts by special interest organizations to create affordable and supportive housing for the homeless and special needs populations. The Continuum of Care process; ESG, HOME, CDBG and HOPWA funding; and a variety of state, federal, institutional and private resources will be channeled to address housing of special needs families and individuals in keeping with the Consolidated Plan goals.

Non-Housing Community Development Strategy

The strategy for meeting Non- Housing Community Development Needs reflects the City's past experience with providing facilities, improvements, programs and services with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The City relies on its service providers and municipal departments to assess their needs and the needs of their clientele on an annual basis as part of its request for applications for CDBG, ESG and HOPWA funding. Over the term of the Strategy Period annual goals will be set and monitored based upon specific requests and expenditures.

The City of New Haven will focus upon five Non-Housing Community Development priorities during the five-year strategy period. The first priority under the Public Facility Needs category is the improvement of the physical environment. The second priority is to strengthen neighborhoods by building upon positive areas and activities. Under Infrastructure Improvement, the priority is to support neighborhood revitalization activities in targeted neighborhoods. For Public Service Needs, the activities will be guided by two priorities, to strengthen neighborhoods and to empower and assist individuals and families in order to sustain community development.

Over the Five-Year Strategic Plan period, CDBG funds and other Community Development funding sources will be allocated within the following non-housing categories:

Public/Commercial Improvements: To assist in the revitalization of the City's neighborhoods and to provide more suitable living environments. The City will continue to allocate funding for street and sidewalk improvements, park and recreation facility improvements and improvements to neighborhood and social service facilities.

Demolition: Due to the abundance of vacant, blighted buildings in the city, CDBG funding will be used to assist in the Anti-Blight Initiative by funding the removal of structures that are a threat to public safety, present a blighting influence and hinder physical development.

Relocation: The City recognizes that persons who are forced out of their homes and businesses because of lead-based paint contamination, code-related condemnation or other government action are in need of relocation assistance. CDBG funds are utilized to assist displaced individuals, families and businesses on a temporary basis.

Acquisition: Faced with the increasing problem of decaying building stock, the City has been placed in the position of acquiring abandoned and blighted structures for rehabilitation and demolition. Through acquisition, the City can determine appropriate property usage in accordance with the City's policies and goals.

Disposition: CDBG funds will continue to cover expenses related to the disposal of CDBG acquired property or urban renewal parcels such as appraisals, surveys, and/or property management.

Special Economic Development Activities: Funds will be used to provide loans for commercial or industrial improvements and/or technical assistance to private-for-profit entities. CDBG funds will primarily be used in the promotion of economic development activities. Efforts will focus on the retention and expansion of existing businesses and the attraction of new businesses. The provision of on-going technical assistance to start-ups, newly created businesses and small business owners in order to ensure viability and long-term success will also be the focus. These efforts will result in an increase in the City’s job base.

Public Services: Public services shall continue to be directed toward improving the community's quality of life; including, but not limited to: job training, crime prevention, child care, youth, healthcare, substance abuse, education, fair-housing counseling, energy conservation, welfare and recreational needs.

Interim Assistance: Used in situations determined by the Mayor to be emergency situations that threaten public safety.

The City has set the following Non-Housing Community Development goals over the Strategy Period with the use of its Federal Entitlement Funding:

<u>Description/Category</u>	<u>Annual Goals*</u>	<u>Strategy Period (5 Years) Cumulative Goals</u>
General Public Facilities/ Improvements	7 facilities	35 facilities
Senior Centers	1 center	5 centers
Youth Centers	1 center	5 centers
Neighborhood Facilities	2 facilities	10 facilities
Sidewalks	3 projects	15 projects
Child Care Centers	1 center	5 centers
Health Facilities/Facilities for AIDS Patients	1 facility	5 facilities
Demolition/Clearance	3 sites	15 sites
General Public Services	6 programs	30 programs
Senior Services	3 programs	15 programs
Youth Services	12 programs	60 programs
Substance Abuse Services	>1 program	3 programs
Battered/Abused Spouses	>1 program	1 program
Employment Training	>1 program	1 program
Child Care Services	>1 program	3 programs
Health Services	1 program	5 programs
Abused & Neglected Children Services	>1 program	1 program
Relocation	5 households	25 households
Lead Hazard Testing/Abatement	100 units	500 housing units
Code Enforcement	150 units	750 housing units
ED Direct Financial Assistance	3 businesses	15 businesses
ED Technical Assistance	40 individuals	200 individuals

* Annual goals “on average”. Based upon past community development experience and projected needs.

One Year Action Plan

On an annual basis the City of New Haven prepares an Annual Action Plan which provides information on the City’s anticipated resources, its proposed activities and methods of allocation and implementation. This Action Plan is prepared following the application, citizen participation and administrative review process. The Action Plan is formulated in February and is reviewed and approved as part of the Board of Alderman’s budget process. The City must submit an Annual Action Plan to HUD every year by May 15th.

One Year Action Plan (July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006)

The One Year Action Plan included in this document provides information on the City's anticipated resources, its proposed activities and funding allocation for the one year period from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. During the 2005-2006 Action Year, the City of New Haven will have the following Housing and Community Development resources available through its federal entitlement programs:

Entitlement Grants

CDBG	4,224,529
ESG	163,899
HOME	1,722,425
American Dream Downpayment Initiative	57,961
HOPWA	1,624,000

Program Income

CDBG	631,000
HOME	475,000

Reprogrammed/Unprogrammed Funds

CDBG	681,541
HOPWA	35,173
HOME (FY 2004/05)	250,867