

2010-2014 Consolidated Plan and 2013-2014 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment

Executive Summary

The City of Avondale receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through an annual formula allocation. The City uses these funds to undertake many activities, including emergency repairs to owner-occupied housing, street improvements in Historic Avondale, support for the City’s Next Step and IDEA Youth Services programs and assistance to small businesses in the Western Avenue Revitalization Area.

Since the City first began receiving CDBG funds directly from HUD in 2007, we have undertaken these and other activities to improve the lives Avondale residents, enhance quality of life in neighborhoods, and increase economic opportunities. Prior to committing and expending CDBG and HOME funds, the City must complete a 5-Year Consolidated Plan that assesses current community development related conditions, including housing, infrastructure, economic development, public service needs and Fair Housing. The resulting goals and strategies form the basis for the implementation of the Plan. The current 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan includes the goals and strategies in the table below.

2010-2014 Consolidated Plan Goals and Strategies	
Goal 1: Preserve the existing affordable housing stock.	Strategy 1.1: Operate a Single-Family Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program to conduct emergency and substantial rehabilitation activities using CDBG, HOME and a variety of other funding sources.
	Strategy 1.2: Operate a weatherization program using Maricopa County funding and a variety of other funding sources.
	Strategy 1.3: Incorporate energy and water efficiency standards in rehabilitation and weatherization programs that reduce utility costs.
	Strategy 1.4: Increase awareness about the availability of programs that preserve and promote affordable housing.
Goal 2: Support new construction and rehabilitation of affordable rental development.	Strategy 2.1: Pursue partnerships with non-profit and for-profit developers to construct and rehabilitate affordable rental housing.
Goal 3: Increase homeownership.	Strategy 3.1: Operate a homebuyer assistance program using HOME and a variety of other funding sources.
	Strategy 3.2: Assist agencies conducting homeownership activities in Avondale.
Goal 4: Affirmatively further fair housing in Avondale.	Strategy 4.1: Implement strategies for removing impediments to Fair Housing identified in the Avondale 2010 Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing.
	Strategy 4.2: Sponsor Fair Housing educational seminars for city staff and housing industry professionals.
	Strategy 4.3: Maintain a page on the City’s website that serves as a public resource for assistance in identifying violations of fair housing laws and information regarding the filing of fair housing complaints
	Strategy 4.4: Assist the elderly and persons with disabilities with accessibility improvements to their residences.
Goal 5: Support organizations that assist the City’s special needs population.	Strategy 5.1: Support local and regional agencies that provide shelter, housing and support services to homeless and those close to becoming homeless.
	Strategy 5.2: Operate programs that assist low-income and special needs populations in Avondale.
	Strategy 5.3: Operate programs to provide education, job training and recreational activities for youth.
Goal 6: Improve public infrastructure and economic conditions in low- income, economically- challenged neighborhoods.	Strategy 6.1: Improve streets, sidewalks, lighting, water, sewer and drainage infrastructure in low- to moderate-income Block Groups.
	Strategy 6.2: Construct and rehabilitate community facilities and parks as necessary to meet the educational, recreational and social needs of low income and special needs citizens.
	Strategy 6.3: Assist businesses in low income neighborhoods with improving their buildings and business plans.
	Strategy 6.4: Support new and existing businesses to promote job creation and retention.
Goal 7: Reduce Lead Based Paint Hazards in Residential Dwellings in Avondale.	Strategy 7.1: Adhere to HUD Lead Safe Housing Rule 24 CFR Part 35 in the conduct of rehabilitation and demolition activities
	Strategy 7.2: Provide information to housing recipients as well as the general public about the hazards of lead based paint.

2010-2014 Consolidated Plan Proposed Changes:

During the course of implementing the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan, the City determined that the elimination of unsafe structures should be an additional goal to pursue. For this reason, the City proposes to amend the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan to include the following:

Add:

Goal 8: Identify and eliminate dangerous structural conditions that pose a health and safety hazard to the public	Strategy 8.1: identify structurally unsound buildings and complete demolition and site clearance
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2013-2014 Annual Action Plan Proposed Changes:

In order to further Goal 8, as described above, the City must also identify a specific activity that will further the goal, and allocate funding to that activity. Funding activities and assigned allocations for the 2013-2014 year are as follows:

Activity	Amount Proposed	Expected Outcomes
Administration	\$114,503	General Admin
Street and Infrastructure Improvements	\$229,005	5 Streets
Emergency Home Repair	\$153,005	Approximately 15 units
Youth Public Services	\$38,000	15-20 youth – Next Step; 30 youth, iSync program; Educ. Assist. program
Revitalization and Small Business Assistance	\$38,000	Micro business technical assistance, uniform signage; re-branding to Historic Avondale, loan fund

In order to further the proposed Goal 8 in the Consolidated Plan, the City proposes to add the following to this list of activities, and to reallocate funding from its 2013-2014 annual allocation accordingly:

Demolition	Previous funding: \$0 Revised funding: \$34,879.50	Identify structurally unsound buildings and complete demolition and clearance activities on at least one site in the City
Youth Services	Previous funding: \$38,000 Revised funding: \$3,120.50 (\$34,879.50)	15-20 youth – Next Step; 30 youth, iSync program; Educ. Assist. program

In order to accept public comment on these proposed amendments, the City will hold a public hearing at the Neighborhood and Family Services Commission meeting at 4:30 PM on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at the following location:

Avondale Community Center
 1007 S. 3rd Street
 Avondale, AZ 85323

Written comments to the proposed amendments will be accepted during the City’s 30-day comment period beginning August 19, 2014 and ending at close of business on Friday, September 19, 2014.

Written comments may be directed to:

Matthew Hess, CDBG Program Manager
 Avondale Community Center
 1007 S. 3rd Street
 Avondale, AZ 85323

The City Council will take action on the Plans at 7:00 PM on Monday, October 6, 2014 at the Council Meeting to be held at Council Chambers in the Avondale Civic Center, 11465 W. Civic Center Drive, Avondale, AZ 85323

PERSONS REQUIRING HEARING, VISUAL, MOBILITY, LANGUAGE OR OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS MAY CONTACT THE CITY AT 623-333-2726 OR TDD 623-333-0010 TO MAKE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

