



2021 Annual Action Plan

DRAFT

Town of Paradise
5555 Skyway
Paradise, CA 95969

Annual Action Plan
2019

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Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Town of Paradise, through its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, strives to provide affordable and decent housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities especially for low- to moderate-income (LMI) households and special needs communities. The Town is designated as an entitlement community by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), enabling it to be eligible for federal CDBG funds allocated through HUD's Community Planning Development program. These funds will help the Town address the community development objectives outlined by HUD, which include, but are not limited to: affirmatively furthering fair housing, affordable housing activities, public infrastructure & facilities improvements, and public services.

The PY 2021 Annual Action Plan describes the eligible activities that will work towards accomplishing the goals established in the strategic plan. By addressing the identified priority needs, the Town will improve the quality of life of residents in Paradise.

Paradise is still recovering from the aftermath a town-wide fire. On November 8, 2018 the Camp Fire ignited near the Town of Paradise. Due to high winds the fire spread at a rate of eighty football fields a minute and ultimately destroyed the Town of Paradise within hours. Over 26,000 residents of the Town were displaced, 90% of structures in Paradise - more than 11,000 homes and 1,000 businesses were burned to the ground, and most tragically, 85 people lost their lives. The Town's priorities are focused on helping our residents return home, rebuild and improve our Town's infrastructure, and support our business community as they reopen.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The Town of Paradise has developed its strategic plan based on an analysis of the data presented in this plan and the community participation and stakeholder consultation process. Through these efforts, the Town has identified four priority needs and associated goals to address those needs. The priority needs and goals are as follows:

Priority Need: Expand/Improve Public Infrastructure & Facilities

1A Expand & Improve Public Infrastructure

Priority Need: Public Services & Quality of Life Improvements

2A Provide Public Services for LMI & Special Needs

Priority Need: Affordable Housing Development & Preservation

3A Increase Affordable Housing Opportunity

Priority Need: Economic Development Opportunities

4A Provide for Small Business Assistance

3. Evaluation of past performance

The Town of Paradise, with other public, private and nonprofit community housing providers and non-housing service agencies, has made significant contributions to provide safe, decent and affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities especially for low- to moderate-income individuals in the community. However, with the destruction of 90% of structures in Paradise from the 2018 Camp Fire, the priority must be to rebuild housing and public facilities and infrastructure. The need for affordable housing, public improvements and services is also documented by this Consolidated Plan and the most recent program year 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The PY 2019 CAPER reports that the Town of Paradise continued to focus on our housing program in the program years. The Town of Paradise was nearly destroyed by the 2018 Camp Fire, the most destructive fire in California history which burned 90% of the structures in Town. Due to the response and recovery actions necessary for the Town, CDBG activities continued to be on hold for most of the program year as very few homes survived the fire. Direct financial assistance to homebuyers was limited and debris removal/tree removal/general property clean-up was prioritized for most homeowner housing rehabilitation sites. Since the Camp Fire, the highest priority need has been Housing Assistance.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The Town's citizen participation process adheres to HUD's requirements set within the Town's Citizen Participation Plan. This plan includes participation from all Town residents, especially low- and moderate-income persons and the special needs community such as the elderly and those with any disability.

Citizen participation efforts for the development of the 2021 AAP included a public comment period and two public hearings to allow members from the public an opportunity to review and provide comments on the draft plan.

A 30-day public comment period was held from June 12, 2021 to July 13, 2021 to give the public an opportunity to review and comment on the plan. Copies of the plan were available from June 12, 2021 to July 13, 2021 at the following locations: Paradise Public Library, Paradise Chamber of Commerce, Building Resiliency Center, Town Hall and at www.townofparadise.com. For comments or additional

information, interested persons could contact Kate Anderson at (530) 872-6291 ext 122 or kanderson@townofparadise.com

Two public hearings were held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. and at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 5555 Skyway, Paradise, CA. During the public hearings, the goals and activities in the Annual Action Plan were discussed. The public was given an opportunity to make comments/suggestions on funding priorities during the hearing.

All comments were welcome. Details of the citizen participation outreach efforts are located in AP-12 Citizen Participation.

5. Summary of public comments

All comments were welcome. Details of the citizen participation outreach efforts are located in AP-12 Citizen Participation.

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

All comments were accepted. Details of the citizen participation outreach efforts are located in AP-12 Citizen Participation.

7. Summary

The PY 2021 AAP is the second program year of the Consolidated Plan. The draft plan was made available to the public through the public comment review period and a public hearing. Input from citizens of Paradise helped to determine the projects and activities for PY 2021.

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
CDBG Administrator	Town of Paradise	Housing Program

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The Town of Paradise's Housing Program is the responsible entity for carrying out the administration of the housing and community development programs in Paradise. Town staff works with other Town departments, local nonprofit and for-profit organizations, and contractors to carry out the activities in the Annual Action Plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

This section identifies the organizations consulted in the development of the priority needs and goals of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. The organizations listed in the table below represent key stakeholder organizations which consist of nonprofits, government departments and agencies and planning organizations in Paradise and the region. Stakeholder organizations consulted through an online stakeholder survey. The results helped to identify the community's priority needs over the next five years and the basis of the Strategic Plan.

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 Town of Paradise worked closely with local and regional partners to gather feedback for the Consolidated Plan. This included community stakeholders which were specific to Paradise and as well as Butte County, the Housing Authority of Butte County and the Butte County Continuum of Care. This helped to ensure participation efforts would be maximized and the community needs were accurately identified and recorded.

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

The Butte County Continuum of Care (CoC) is the local CoC for the entire county, and includes the Town of Paradise. The CoC is responsible for coordinating with various local and county homeless service providers, as well as organize the annual Point-in-Time Count which is a survey of the homeless population in the county. The Town of Paradise benefits from the coordinated efforts of the Continuum of Care through referral of resources, connections to homeless prevention initiatives in the region and access to resources not found locally in the Town.

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

The Town of Paradise is not a recipient of HUD's Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). The CoC coordinates the distribution of ESG funds along with other resources to provide street outreach services, supportive services, emergency and transitional housing and permanent-supportive housing to prevent homelessness in the region. The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is the system used

for administering the ESG program. While the Town of Paradise does not specifically use or manage the HMIS system, the Town benefits from the CoC's HMIS administration across the county.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	The Town of Paradise
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Other government - Local Planning
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Town is the lead responsible agency in the development and implementation of the Consolidated Plan.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Butte County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services-Hazard Mitigation Health Agency Other government - County Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Town coordinated with Butte County with the housing and community development needs. The Town also coordinates with the County on emergency services information and fire evacuation plans.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Housing Authority of the County of Butte
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Needs Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Town coordinated with the housing authority with the housing and community development needs.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Butte County Continuum of Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Town coordinated with the Butte County Continuum of Care regarding homeless needs.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	California Public Utilities Commission
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Services - Broadband Access

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Town consulted with the California Public Utilities Commission for highspeed internet provider and broadband data for the Market Analysis.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Paradise Ridge Fire Safe Council
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Hazard Mitigation Services - Fire Safety
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Town provides links to the Paradise Ridge Fire Safe Council website and emergency evacuation plan.

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

All comments were welcome. There were no agency types not consulted during this process.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Butte Countywide Continuum of Care	The Strategic Plan is consistent with the goals and strategic plan of the Continuum of Care and the plan to end homelessness.
2021 Paradise Broadband Feasibility Study	Chico State Enterprises GIC	The Geographical Information Center (GIC), at Chico State Enterprises conducted a broadband feasibility study that helped determine broadband needs after the Camp Fire disaster destroyed most of the infrastructure.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The Town of Paradise works closely with local and regional government entities in the development and implementation of the Plan. This included Butte County, the Housing Authority of Butte County, Butte County Public Health and the Butte County Continuum of Care. With the cooperation of regional partners, it is possible to fill some of the service gaps in the community.

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 Town's citizen participation process adheres to HUD's requirements set within the Town's Citizen Participation Plan. This plan ensures and encourages participation from all Town residents, especially low- and moderate-income persons and the special needs community such as the elderly and those with any disability. Citizen participation efforts for the development of the AAP included a public comment period and two public hearings to allow members from the public an opportunity to review and provide comments on the draft plan. A stakeholder survey was also held to receive feedback from local organizations about the housing and community development needs in the Town.

For details of the citizen participation outreach efforts, please see the following table below.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL
1	Public Comment Period	Non-targeted/broad community	A 30-day public comment period was held from June 12, 2021 to July 13, 2021 to give the public an opportunity to review and comment on the plan. Copies of the plan were available from June 12, 2021 to July 13, 2021 at the following locations: Paradise Public Library, Paradise Chamber of Commerce, Building Resiliency Center, Town Hall and at www.townofparadise.com . For comments or additional information, interested persons could contact Kate Anderson at (530) 872-6291 ext 122 or kanderson@townofparadise.com	All comments will be accepted.	All comments were accepted.	

2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	A public hearing was held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 5555 Skyway, Paradise, CA. During the first public hearing, the goals and activities in the Annual Action Plan were discussed. The public was given an opportunity to make comments/suggestions on funding priorities during the hearing.	All comments will be accepted.	All comments were accepted.	
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	A second public hearing was held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 5555 Skyway, Paradise, CA. Similar to the first public hearing, the goals and activities in the Annual Action Plan was discussed. The public was given an opportunity to make comments/suggestions on funding priorities during the hearing.	All comments will be accepted.	All comments were accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The Town of Paradise's CDBG allocation for program year 2021 will be \$124,077. This amount is the revised CDBG allocation noticed by HUD on May 13, 2021.

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	124,077	0	0	124,077	372,231	The expected amount available for the remainder of the ConPlan is 4x more years of the annual allocation. The annual allocation is the revised CDBG amount noticed by HUD on May 13, 2021.

Table 5 - 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 Town of Paradise will utilize any and all funds available to leverage CDBG funds to make them go as far as possible. The Town has applied for a CalHOME grant to assist our residents to rebuild their homes after the Camp Fire. CDBG funds will be used to support this effort.

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

N/A

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	1A Expand & Improve Public Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Expand/Improve Public Infrastructure & Facilities	CDBG: \$99,262	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted
2	2A Provide Public Services for LMI & Special Needs	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Services & Quality of Life Improvements	CDBG: \$24,815	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10 Households Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	1A Expand & Improve Public Infrastructure
	Goal Description	The Town will work to expand and improve public infrastructure in Paradise. These activities include improvements to infrastructure such as streets, sidewalks, ADA improvements, and storm water and water systems. There is a need for sewer and water infrastructure expansion to support larger structures and multi-family buildings.
2	Goal Name	2A Provide Public Services for LMI & Special Needs
	Goal Description	The Town will provide vital support services for low- to moderate-income households and special needs groups in Paradise. Public services activities will be rental assistance subsidies.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

In the table below are the proposed projects for the 2021 program year. The projects will address the highest priority needs in the Town which are Improvements to public Facilities & infrastructure, and supportive services for LMI and special needs groups. Administration of the CDBG program is capped at 20% of the CDBG 2021 funding allocation, as well as public services which has a grant cap of 15%. Details of the proposed projects are located in the following AP-38.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	CDBG: Program Administration (2021)
2	CDBG: Public Improvements (2021)
3	CDBG: Public Services (2021)

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The projects address the highest priority needs in the Town. Affordable housing assistance is a high priority for the Town and its residents. The needs of Town residents center around the events of the 2018 Camp Fire that destroyed the vast majority of housing and public facilities, and the recovery efforts of the Town and its residents.

Improvements and expansion to public facilities & infrastructure is a high need because infrastructure such as streets, water and sewer systems will encourage the development of affordable housing in Paradise. Multi-family buildings and larger structures cannot be built without improved infrastructure.

Public services for LMI and special needs groups such as the elderly and persons with a disability are need to help improve the quality of life in Paradise. Public services also include emergency financial assistance. While public services is a high priority, there is a grant allocation cap for public services at 15%.

Finally, economic development is a high need in the City has most businesses were destroyed in the 2018 Camp Fire. The Town will financially assist small businesses to aid in their recovery.

In PY 2021 the Town will focus on public improvements and public services.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	CDBG: Program Administration (2020)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	1A Expand & Improve Public Infrastructure 2A Provide Public Services for LMI & Special Needs
	Needs Addressed	Expand/Improve Public Infrastructure & Facilities Public Services & Quality of Life Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$24,815
	Description	Program administration of the CDBG program not to exceed 20% of allocation funds.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A.
	Location Description	Town-wide.
	Planned Activities	CDBG Administration activities (21A).
2	Project Name	CDBG: Public Improvements (2020)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	1A Expand & Improve Public Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Expand/Improve Public Infrastructure & Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$86,854
	Description	The Town will provide for public improvements to infrastructure throughout Paradise. These activities will include water and sewer improvements.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted

	Location Description	Citywide in LMI areas.
	Planned Activities	Planned public improvements to infrastructure include: Water and sewer (03J): \$86,854
3	Project Name	CDBG: Public Services (2020)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	2A Provide Public Services for LMI & Special Needs
	Needs Addressed	Public Services & Quality of Life Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$12,408
	Description	The Town will provide funds for public services for LMI households in Paradise. Activities include vital services such as rental assistance subsidies.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10 Households Assisted
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Planned public service activities include services for LMI and rental assistance (05Q): \$12,408

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The Town of Paradise does not allocate funding based solely on geographic requirements. Individuals or households must meet income qualifications in order to receive direct assistance from activities and services in the CDBG program. For eligible activities to public facilities & infrastructure improvements the Town will be targeting low- to moderate-income census block group tract areas in need. See below on how the Town will determine these areas.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
N/A	N/A

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The Town of does not allocate funding based solely on geographic requirements. When the planned activities are intended to serve individuals or households directly, those individuals or households must meet income qualifications, as well as residency requirements, in order to receive assistance from the program. In these instances, Town staff and/or one of its partner agencies shall complete an in-take and eligibility status review of the applicant individual or household, before the project/activity is initiated.

When the Town has identified infrastructure and public facility improvement activities, planned activities will serve a community, neighborhood or “area”. These projects (or activities) are said to have an “area-wide” benefit. Per HUD requirements, these areas must be within an eligible Census Block Group Tract, as defined by HUD-CDBG regulations. HUD determines Low/Mod block groups tracts as those with 51% LMI population, however the Town of Paradise is an exception grantee with the LMI block group threshold lowered to 50.6%.

HUD CDBG Low/Mod Income Summary Data (LMISD), which have defined the eligible Low/Mod block group tracts within the jurisdiction can be found on the HUD Exchange website at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/acs-low-mod-summary-data/>

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The Town on Paradise's goal is to expand affordable housing in the jurisdiction. In the program year, the Town will provide for rental assistance subsidies through the CDBG.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	10
Special-Needs	0
Total	10

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	10
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	10

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

Rental Assistance Subsidy (05Q): 10 Household Housing Units

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Town of Paradise receives support from the Housing Authority of the County of Butte (HACB). The mission of HACB is to assist LMI residents of Butte County to secure and maintain high quality affordable housing. HACB administers and/or manages many different housing programs such as public housing, Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) and the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. These program are available in Paradise and across the county. Like Paradise, many communities in Butte County were heavily impacted by the 2018 Camp fire and need support.

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

Prior to the fire, the Town did not have any public housing within Town limits. One of the reasons for this was the lack of a sewer system. Installing a sewer system is part of our Long Term Recovery Plan, and with a sewer the Town will look at the options for public housing.

In PY 2021 HACB will open wait lists for public housing and Section 8. For Section 8, due to limited funding, not all applicants will be placed on the waitlist and only 2,500 will be selected.

For public housing, HACB will be accepting applications for Public Housing waiting lists for three (3) bedroom units located in Biggs/Gridley, Chico, and Oroville. Applications can be obtained, mailed or dropped off at 2039 Forest Ave., Chico, CA 95928 or online by looking under Public Housing at the following: <http://www.butte-housing.com/applicants/applications/>

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

Public housing residents can participate in the HACB Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program. The FSS program works with support agencies throughout Butte County to help families develop strengths, skills and experiences necessary to achieve economic independence. A guidebook is offered to help participants learn how the program can benefit residents. The FSS program links participants with the education, job training, counseling, and other services necessary for them to become employed and to earn self-sufficient wages so they no longer need to rely on governmental financial assistance. Families are assisted through this program with a dedicated FSS Coordinator, which also supports them with referrals to needed resources.

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

N/A. The PHA is not designated as troubled, and is a “High Performer”.

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

Introduction

The most recent Point-in-Time (PIT) Count survey was conducted at the Continuum of Care (CoC) level by the Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care (CA-519 Chico/Paradise/Butte County CoC) taken on the night of January 29, 2020. Due to the variables made by the Camp Fire made a true count is very difficult within the Town. Data from the NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment suggests that a majority of persons experiencing homelessness continue to be unsheltered, in particular the chronically homeless and veterans. Homelessness, and the prevention of homelessness continues to be a priority for the Town of Paradise.

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 Town of Paradise benefits from the homeless initiatives through the CoC. The Countywide CoC is a multi-agency planning body with the common goal of ending homelessness. This goal is accomplished by assisting individuals and families experiencing homelessness to receive rapid, adaptive, quality services which lead to the long-term stability of permanent housing and self-sufficiency. Specifically, the CoC administers the Homeless Managements Information System (HMIS) and the Coordinated Entry System (CES) for homeless within the region. HMIS information is tracked to inform the CoC and its members of the homeless population details in the region and the CES helps members to identify needs and services that will assist persons and families experiencing homelessness with referrals and resources. Currently, data suggests that a majority of persons experiencing homelessness continue to be unsheltered, and in particular the chronically homeless and veterans. As such, the Town will focus on these identified homeless groups.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Town of Paradise relies on our neighboring communities for shelters such as the Torres Shelter in Chico for homeless individuals from Paradise. Youth 4 Change has a several shelters for homeless youth in the area including Chico and Oroville.

Those who are in need of emergency shelter can contact the Butte County Sheltering Hotline. The Sheltering Hotline is for Butte County residents who have evacuated due to their home being in an evacuation zone and need sheltering or for those who have been placed in non-congregate shelter (hotel voucher stays).

There are 2 options to receive sheltering assistance from the county:

- The County's Sheltering Hotline is available 8am-5pm, 7 days per week. Call: 530-552-6150

- Email the County Sheltering program at northcomplexsheltering@buttecounty.net

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 Town of Paradise continues to work with neighboring jurisdictions and Butte County to find a solution for homelessness after the Camp Fire. For services that help the homeless transition to temporary or long-term housing, the Continuum of Care partners with many organizations and agencies that provide these services, both in Paradise and regionally.

The Butte-Glenn 2-1-1 is a referral resource that connects persons experiencing to entities that can help assist them with their unique situations. The 2-1-1 service is also connected to many of the CoC members.

The Housing Authority of Butte County helps low income households with Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.

An important nonprofit transition housing support resource in the area is the Jesus Center, which heads a collaborative of transitional housing partners. In response to the complexity of homelessness, hunger and poverty, the Jesus Center works with the community to restore those suffering from isolation to community integration. The Jesus Center is accepting applicants and can be reached by calling 530-345-2640 or access the application online at the following link: jesuscenter.org/housing/

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.

As mentioned above, the Town of Paradise continues to work with neighboring jurisdictions and Butte County to find a solution for homelessness after the Camp Fire. For services that help the homeless, especially low-income individuals and families to avoid returning to homelessness, the Continuum of Care partners with many member organizations and agencies that provide various services in the area, both in Paradise and regionally. These organizations include, but are not limited to:

Catalyst Domestic Violence Services for persons affected by domestic violence. Catalyst provides a safe and confidential place for children and families, including drop-in services, counseling, legal services and more.

Elijah House Foundation: An addiction treatment that provides a variety of services including substance abuse and mental treatment, residential treatment services, alcohol and drug free housing and the Back to Work employment program.

The Jesus Center: A collaborative of transitional housing partners that work with persons experiencing or are at-risk of homelessness.

The Housing Authority of Butte County: The PHA helps low income households with Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.

Disability Action Center (DAC): DAC is a private, non-profit which helps to meet specific needs of people with disabilities living in Northern California. Dedicated staff provides free support to help community members with disabilities achieve and/or maintain their optimal level of self-reliance and independence. DAC provide support services such as information, housing assistance, and provider referrals.

Youth 4 Change: The organization has several locations throughout the area which help to prevent youth homelessness. Paradise youth may be referred to Youth 4 Change services.

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

Introduction:

The primary negative effects on affordable housing and investment are not based on public policies. The 2018 Camp fire continues to be the defining event in determining priorities and the availability of housing. The Town is working to ensure that public policies encourage development of housing units as quickly and safely as possible.

Historically, one of the barriers to affordable housing is the Town of Paradise's lack of a municipal wastewater treatment facility. Typical septic tanks and leach lines are adequate for single family development but this is not a viable alternative for new housing developments which are at higher densities. Typically, affordable housing units are built in clusters and would require a more advanced wastewater treatment system, which typically is very expensive and may lead to costs being passed on to the developer or whomever is financing the project.

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 Town intends to support Paradise residents who are rebuilding housing as soon as possible, and with the construction of the sewer, the Town will help to construct multi-family and affordable housing as well.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This section outlines other actions the Town will take to improve the quality of life for Paradise residents and address underserved needs in the community. CDBG funds enable the Town to address the priority needs in Paradise such as improvements to public facilities and infrastructure in LMI areas as well as vital supportive services for LMI and special needs groups such as the elderly. Other actions identified in this section are additional resources the Town has to assist vulnerable residents and underserved needs in the community.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The activities identified in this plan will work to directly address the underserved needs of the LMI and special needs population. CDBG funded programs will work to expand on successful programs and the goal is to fill service gaps.

There are many needs for residents of the Town of Paradise after the Camp Fire, and many barriers to meeting those needs. The Town is working tirelessly to assist our residents as they rebuild. One of the actions we have taken to address obstacles to rebuilding is creating a permit fee reduction program with private grant funds to help residents with the cost of permits. We also plan to open a building resiliency center to directly assist residents with rebuilding and with resources for housing and grant programs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The Town will continue our First Time Home Buyer and Owner Occupied Rehabilitation programs to help homeowners rebuild after the Camp Fire. We also will work with CHIP to rebuild Paradise Community Village, which was a 36 unit affordable housing project that was lost in the fire. The Town will work with them on additional affordable housing opportunities in Paradise once a sewer is constructed. CDBG funds will be used to assist LMI households with emergency payments for rental assistance.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Since the Camp Fire burned 95% of the Town of Paradise, most homes with lead based paint have been destroyed. As new homes are built, they will not have lead based paint. Any home that survived that takes part in our Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program would be required to undergo lead based paint testing. The Town will comply with federal regulations regarding lead testing, containment, and abatement.

Paradise residents have access to Butte County Public Health services including the county Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP). To report a health emergency, the county public health department can be contacted at 530-552-4000 or phinfo@buttecounty.net. More information about lead

poison prevention can be found on the county website at:

<https://www.buttecounty.net/ph/Programs/MaternalChildHealth/ChildhoodLeadPoisoningPrevention>

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The activities in this plan work directly to reduce the number of poverty level families in Paradise. While CDBG funds are limited and the Town cannot possibly address every poverty issue in Paradise, the Town will utilize CDBG funds where they have the most impact.

The Town introduced a new Tenant Based Rental Assistance program in PY 2019 to assist residents with rent payments to allow them to find affordable housing. The program's aim to assist low income or poverty-level families who are unable to afford rent on their own. The goal of the program is to give these families assistance until they are able to afford rent on their own, lifting them out of poverty.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Town will continually work to develop its institutional structure by working closely with other Town departments. Ongoing communication and planning with these Town departments and programs will help strengthen the institutional structure of the CDBG program.

The Town Institutional Structure is as follows:

Five member Town Council: The Town Council holds public hearings on Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans and CAPER reports and approves submittal to HUD. Town Council also approves funding for Public Service Agencies.

The Town of Paradise, Business and Housing Services staff provides the main administrative and project management duties over the CDBG program. The BHS Staff is under the management of the Town Manager. Staff prepares the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans and CAPER for each CDBG program year. The oversight of the CDBG program is provided by the five-member Town Council whom are elected officials voted in by the citizens of Paradise. All reports and plans are reviewed by Council before they are submitted to HUD.

The Paradise Community Village rental housing project united several organizations that are working cooperatively for the betterment of the community. The degree of commitment and cooperation needed to move this project forward establishes a new paradigm in institutional structure and brings community resources together in a whole new way.

The Town works closely with non-profit organizations in the area that provide specific programs to the citizens of Paradise. These organizations provide services to very low-, low- and moderate-income residents, including the frail and elderly, mentally disabled, physically disabled, homeless, and at-risk

youth. These organizations submit funding requests to the Town to qualify for money that comes out of the Community Needs Category. Up to 15% of annual funding is set-aside for these organizations. Once applications for grant funding are received and reviewed by staff, they go through a competitive review process and recommendations are decided by a funding committee and forwarded to the Town Council for final approval.

Once funding decisions are made, organizations are required to sign a contract with the Town outlining the rules and regulations of public service funds. They are required to submit the required documents and reference material related to grant funding. After the contract is signed, the organizations submit quarterly and year end reports for staff review. Organizations are audited and staff performs site visits on a yearly basis. If organizations are not submitting reports on-time or are unable to follow through with program requirements, staff will monitor the organizations to make sure that HUD regulations are being met, or funding is withdrawn.

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

The Town will focus on collaboration between government agencies; local non-profits; community needs organizations, and local businesses. The town will continue to work with stakeholder and other community service agencies, and organizations.

The Town will continue to work with CHIP and other private housing and service agencies on affordable housing like Paradise Community Village. Once the sewer is completed, the Town anticipates more opportunities for private/public partnership for affordable housing.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

This section describes the program specific requirements of the CDBG grant program.

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

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%