
CITY OF JOHNSTOWN

City Hall, 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901

FY 2024 Annual Action Plan - **Substantial Amendment # 2**

*For Submission to HUD for the
Community Development Block Grant and
HOME Investment Partnership Programs*

July 10, 2024

Revised: May 13, 2026

Mayor:

Frank J. Janakovic



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**Substantial Amendment # 2:**

The City of Johnstown amended its FY 2024 Annual Action Plan by making the following amendments: CD-24-12 Playground Improvements - delete this project/activity in its entirety and reallocate a total of \$210,757 in CDBG funds to a new project/activity; HOME-24-18 Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (HOME) - delete this project/activity in its entirety and reallocate a total of \$137,077 in HOME funds to a new project/activity; CD-24-19 Cypress Avenue Park - create a new project/activity with a budget amount of \$210,757 in previously allocated CDBG funds and \$19,722.68 in unallocated CDBG funds for a total budget amount of \$230,479.68. This is a multi-year activity. The CDBG funds will be used to develop a new recreation area on the former Cypress Ave. School site in the Moxham neighborhood. Funds will be used to pay for the following items: professional fees, resurfacing the area with asphalt, installing interior and exterior fencing, stormwater management, retaining walls, walking paths, sporting areas with equipment (for tennis, pickleball, basketball, bocce, etc.), playground equipment, pavilions, benches, trash cans, lighting, etc.; HOME-24-20 Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale. Create a new project/activity with a budget amount of \$137,077 to provide HOME funding for the acquisition, rehabilitation, and resale of single-family housing units located within the City of Johnstown for low- and moderate-income residents.

Substantial Amendment # 1:

The City of Johnstown amended its FY 2024 Annual Action Plan by making the following amendments: CD-24-02 Fair Housing - decrease this project/activity budget by \$10,000 and delete the project/activity. Reallocate that amount of \$10,000 in CDBG funds to Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs; CD-24-10 Sewer Lateral Line Replacement Program - decrease this project/activity budget by \$25,000 and delete the project/activity. Reallocate that amount of \$25,000 in CDBG funds to Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs; CD-23-04 Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs - increase this project/activity budget line-item by \$35,000 for a new budget line-item amount of \$75,000; CD-24-12 Park Improvements - increase this project/activity budget line-item by \$100,000 for a new budget line-item amount of \$211,247; and CD-24-13 Sidewalks - decrease this project/activity budget by \$100,000 and delete the project/activity. Reallocate that amount of \$100,000 in CDBG funds to Park Improvements.

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Johnstown, as a Federal Entitlement, is required to complete an annual application for the use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Annual Action Plan is a guide to how the City will allocate its resources for specific activities that support the Priority Needs and Goals/Strategies of the City of Johnstown's Five Year Consolidated Plan. This is the City of Johnstown's fifth (5th) Annual Action Plan of the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan. The Annual Action Plan describes the housing and non-housing needs of City residents and presents a yearly strategy to address those needs. The Annual Action Plan relied upon efforts of many individuals, agencies, organizations, residents, and City Departments in the development of a comprehensive strategy to address the needs of the City. The FY 2024 Annual Action Plan for the City of Johnstown includes the City's CDBG and HOME Programs, and outlines which activities the City will undertake during the program year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. The City of Johnstown's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) is the lead entity and administrator for the CDBG and HOME funds.

The City of Johnstown's FY 2024 Annual Action Plan was developed to strategically implement CDBG and HOME funds for housing, community development, economic development, and planning activities. Programs and benefits described in this plan are intended to primarily benefit low- and moderate-income residents and their neighborhoods in the City of Johnstown, as well as the City as a whole. Activities to benefit the residents were developed to maximize the use of federal resources and to provide a framework for tracking the accomplishments of the activities through clearly outlined program objectives and outcomes.

Available Funds:

The following financial resources are included in the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan to address the priority needs and goals/strategies identified in the City of Johnstown's FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan. The City of Johnstown will receive the following Federal funds during the FY 2024 program year:

- **FY 2024 CDBG Funds** - \$1,210,308.00
- **CDBG Program Income** - \$0.00
- **FY 2024 HOME Funds** - \$182,769.00
- **HOME Program Income** - \$0.00

Total: \$1,393,077.00

FY 2024 CDBG and HOME Programs Budget:

The City of Johnstown proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2024 CDBG and HOME funds:

Revised FY 2024 CDBG Budget

- Public Service\$40,000.00
 - Cambria County Backpack Project: \$10,000.00
 - Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance: \$10,000.00
 - The Learning Lamp - Learning Lamp to Go: \$10,000.00
 - YMCA - Scholarship Memberships: \$10,000.00
- Fire Department – Turnout Gear\$30,000.00
- Fire Department – Fire Truck \$150,000.00
- Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation..... \$100,000.00
- First Time Homebuyer \$100,000.00
- Closing Cost Assistance for First Time Homebuyers.....\$12,000.00
- Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs\$75,000.00
- Demolition/Clearance..... \$100,000.00
- Community & Economic Development \$125,000.00
- ~~Playground Improvements.....\$210,757.00~~
- CDBG Administration \$212,061.00
- Planning\$30,000.00
- Cypress Avenue Park.....\$230,479.68

Total FY 2024 CDBG Funds for Project Activities \$1,184,818.00

FY 2024 HOME Budget

- ~~Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation.....\$137,077.00~~
- HOME Administration.....\$18,276.00
- CHDO Set Aside.....\$27,416.00
- Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale\$137,077.00

Total FY 2024 HOME Funds for Project Activities:..... \$182,769.00

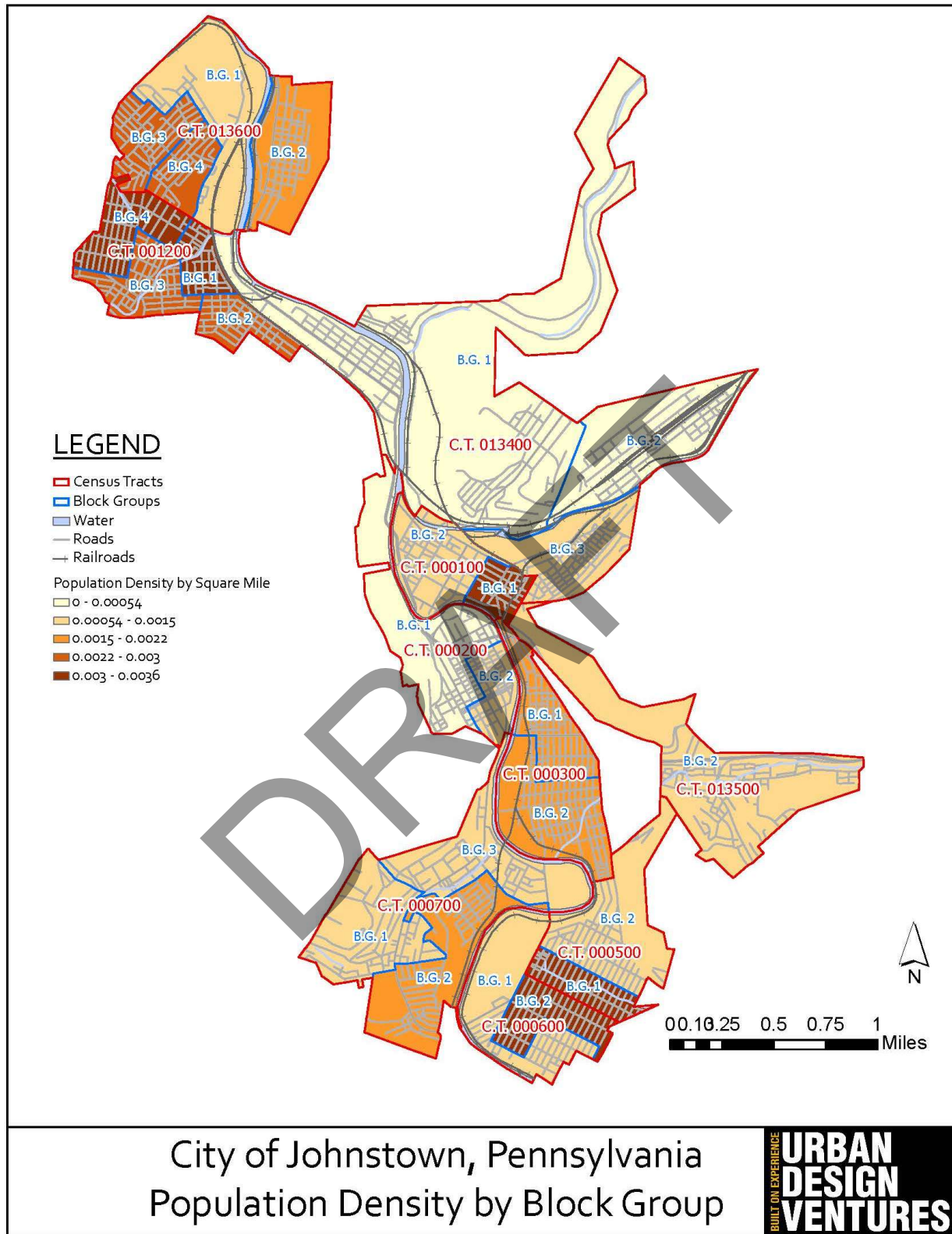
Maps:

Below are the maps which illustrate the demographic characteristics of the City of Johnstown:

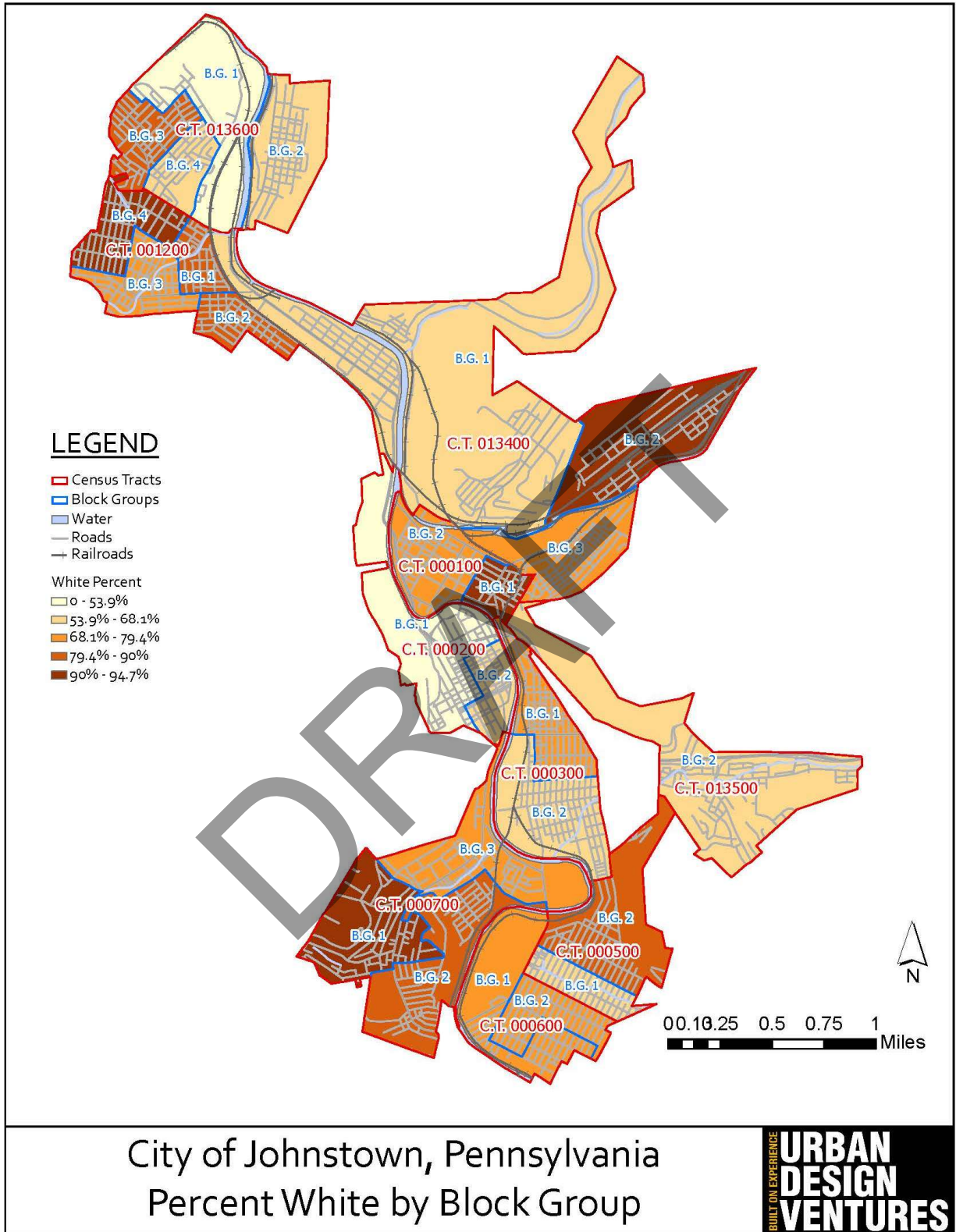
- Population Density by Block Group

- Percent White Population by Block Group
- Percent Minority Population by Block Group
- Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group
- Housing Density
- Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group
- Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group
- Low/Moderate Income with Minority Percentage by Block Group
- Percent Households with Income Below Poverty Level by Block Group
- Commercial Hot Spots

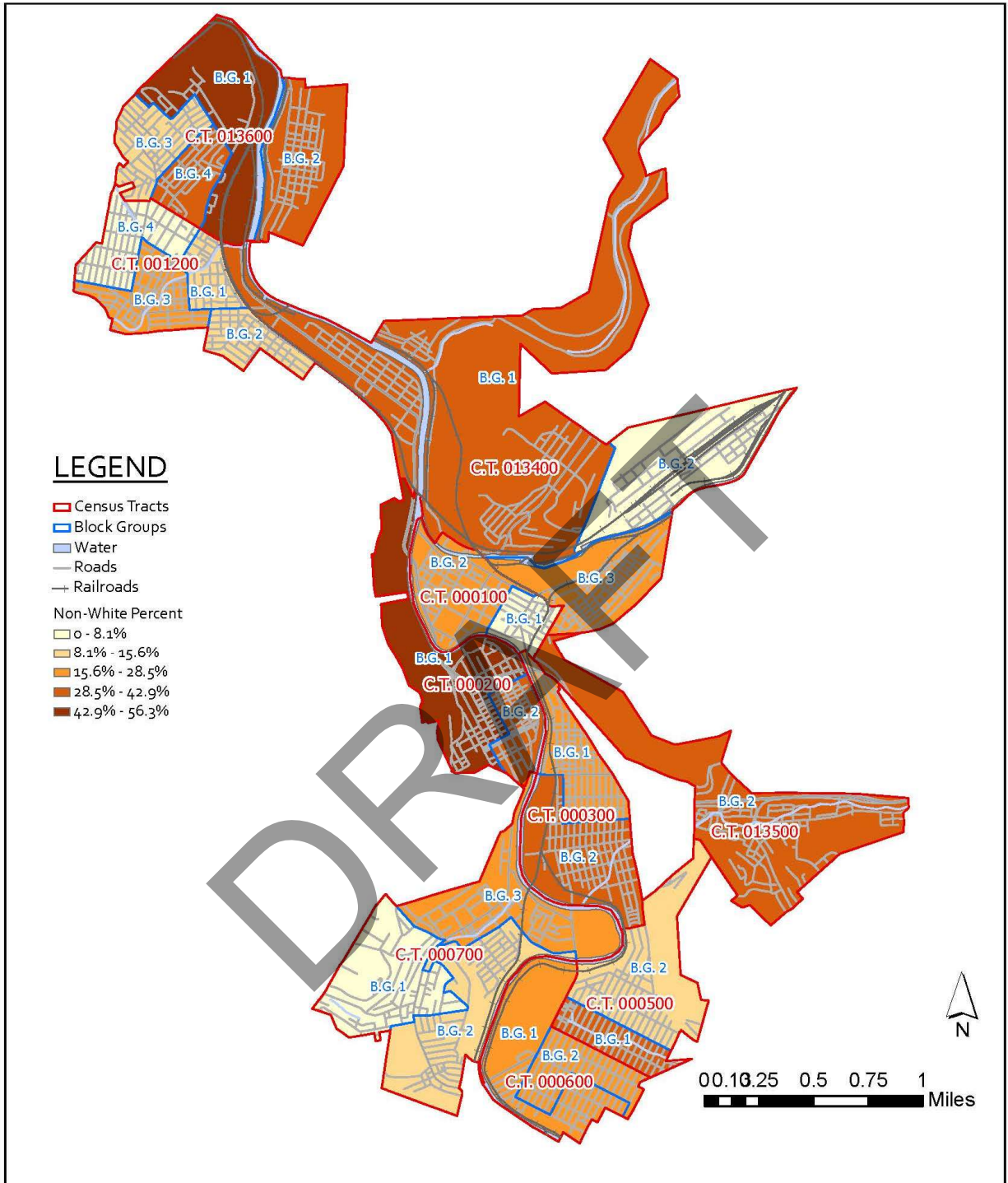
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Population Density by Block Group



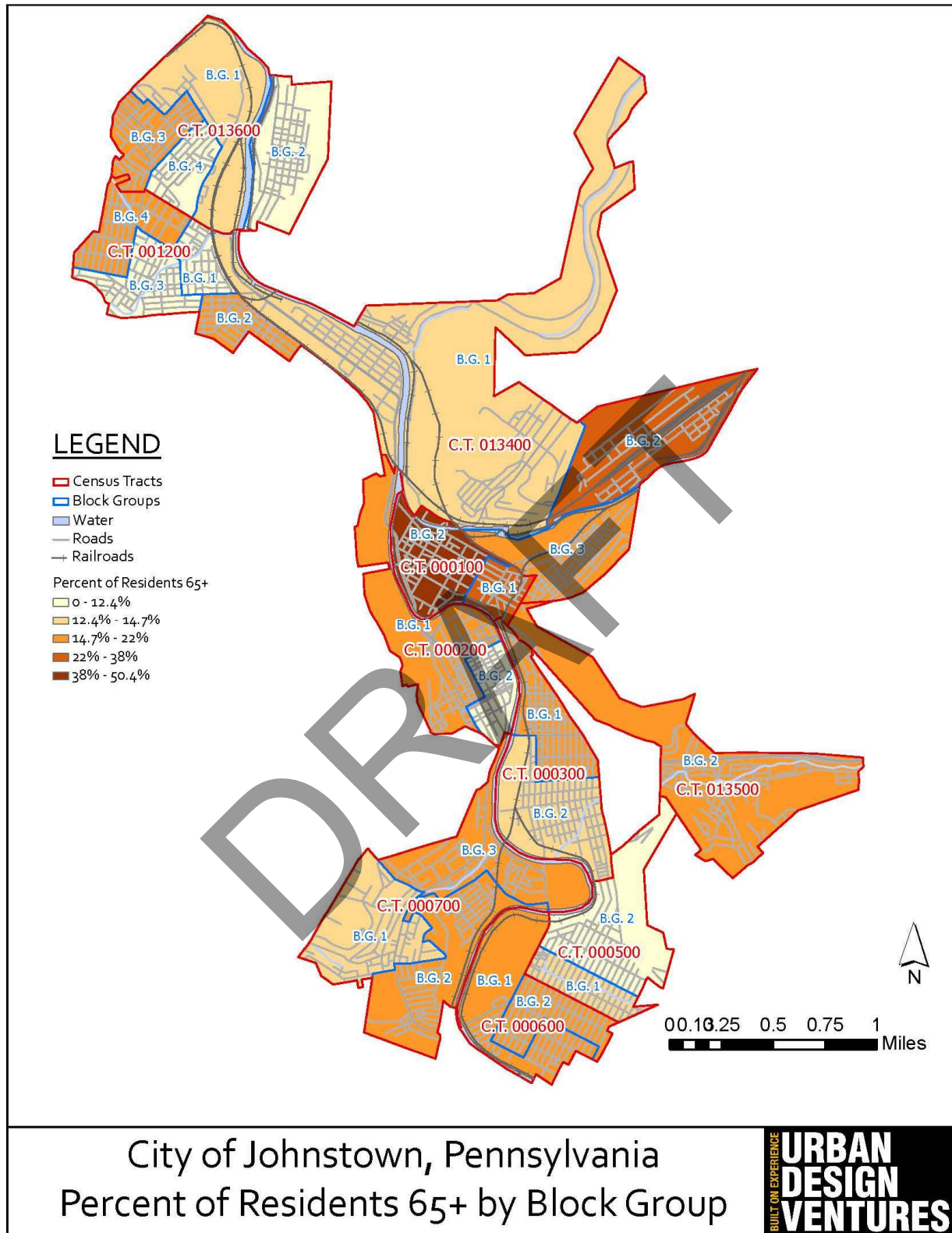
Percent White Population by Block Group



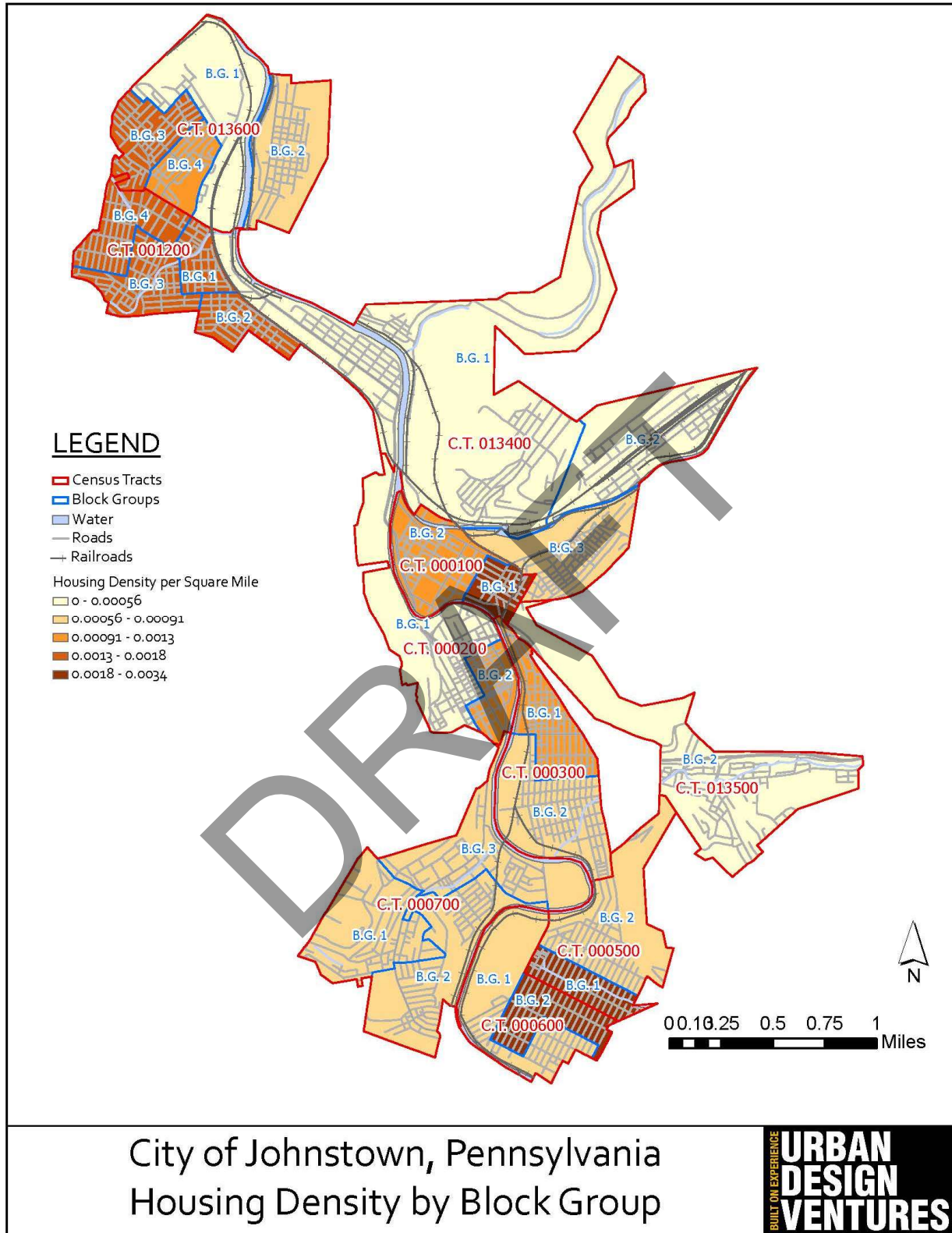
City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania
Percent Non-White by Block Group



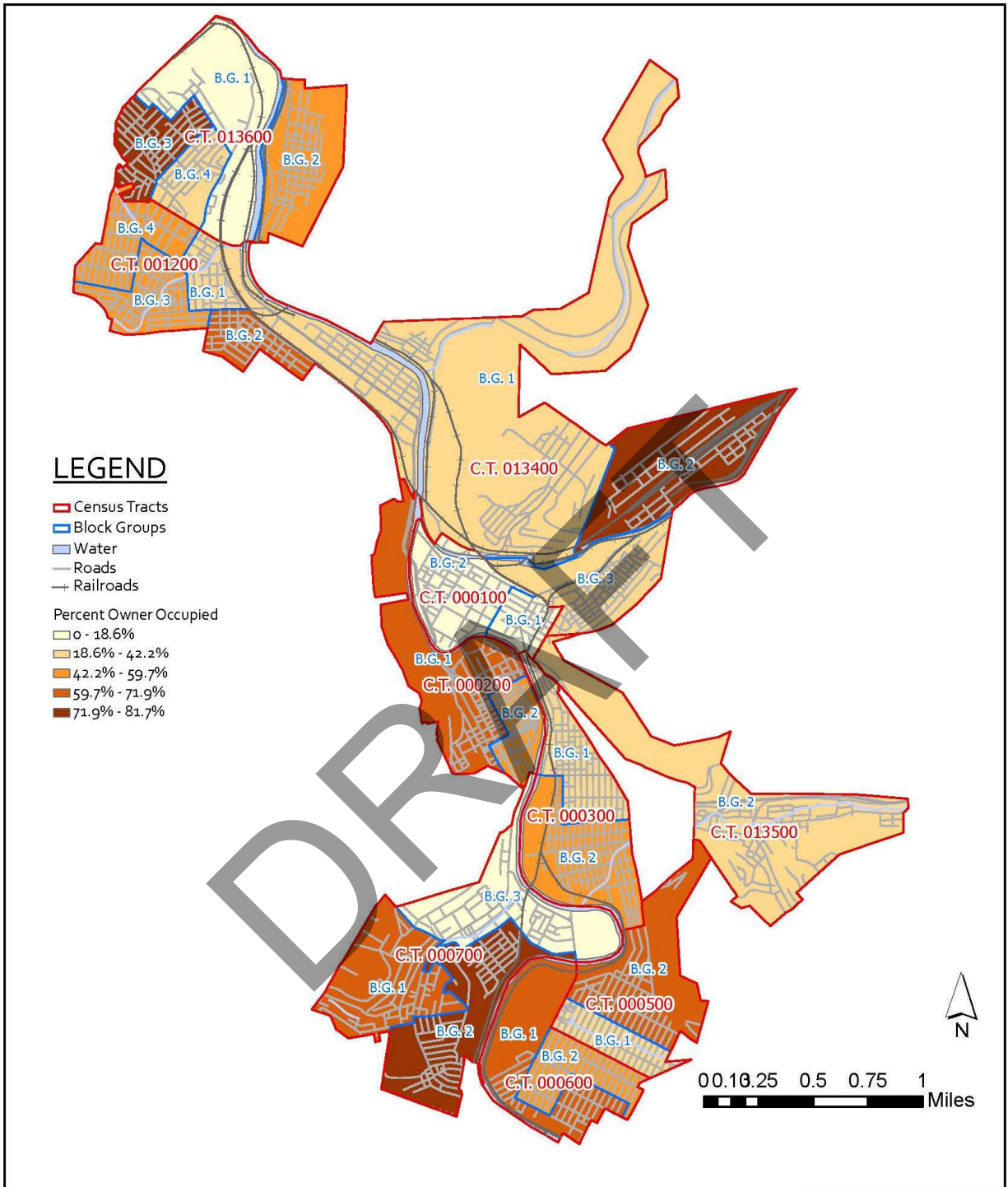
Percent Minority Population by Block Group



Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group



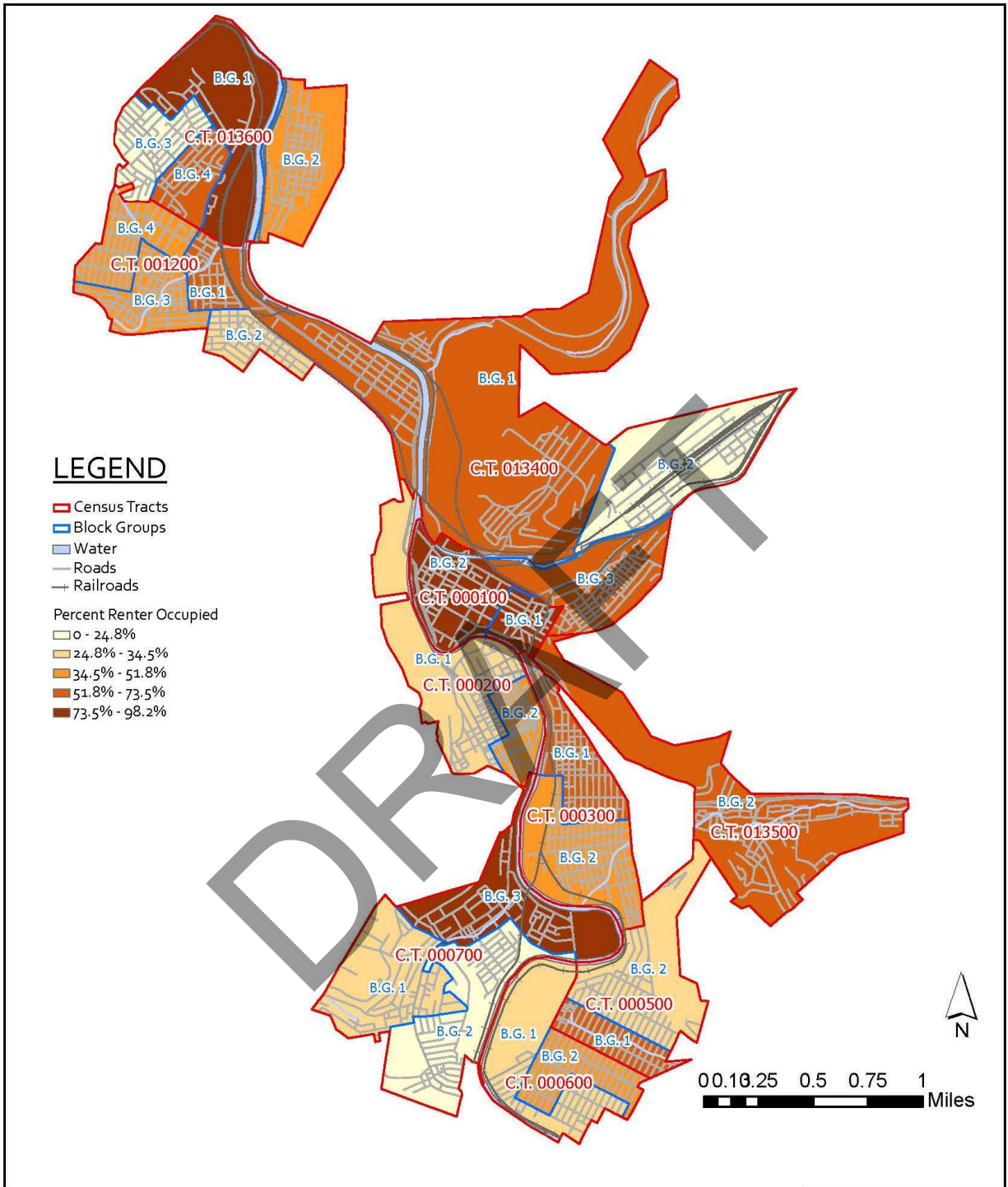
Housing Density



City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania
 Percent of Units Owner Occupied by Block Group



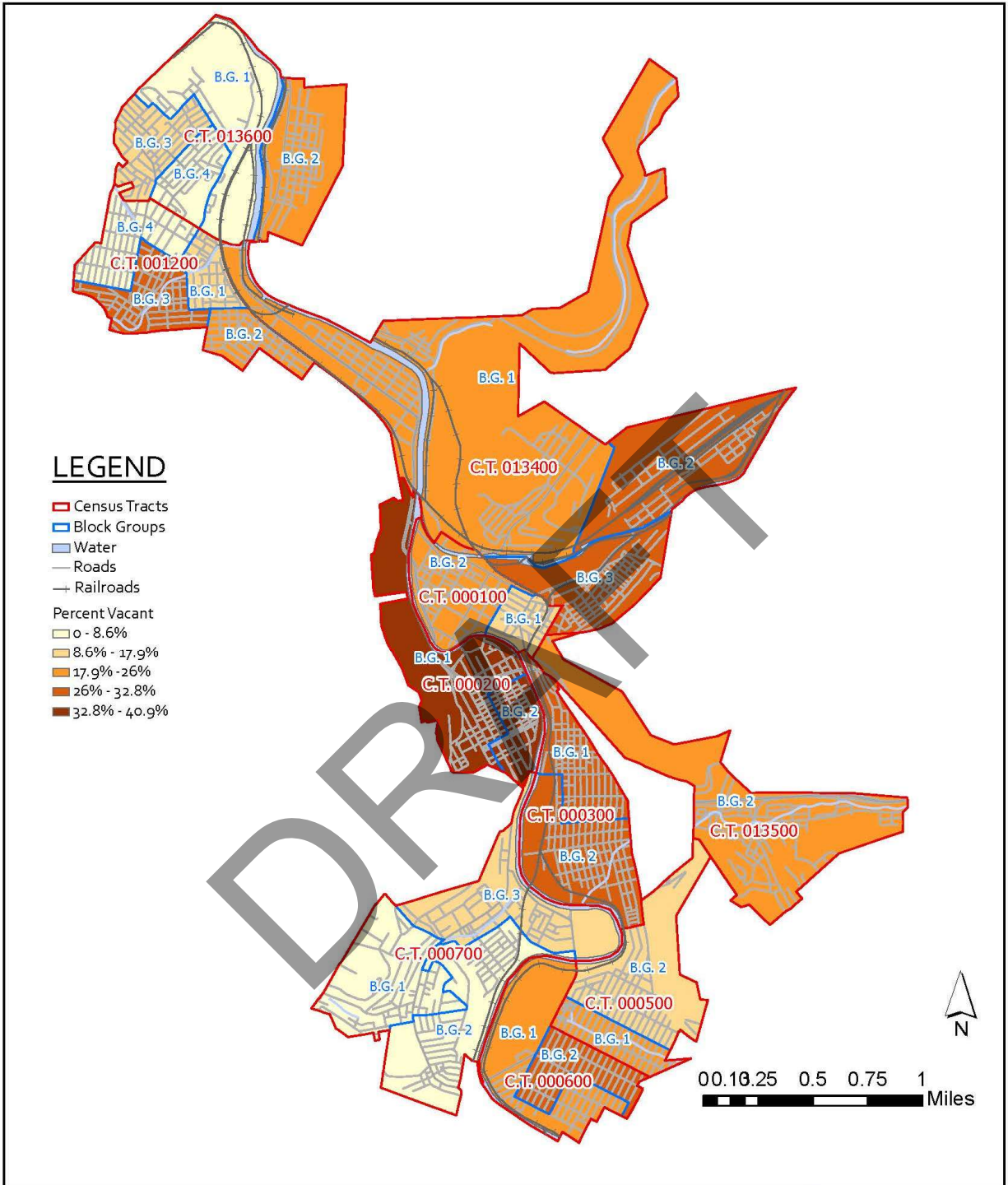
Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania
 Percent of Units Renter Occupied by Block Group



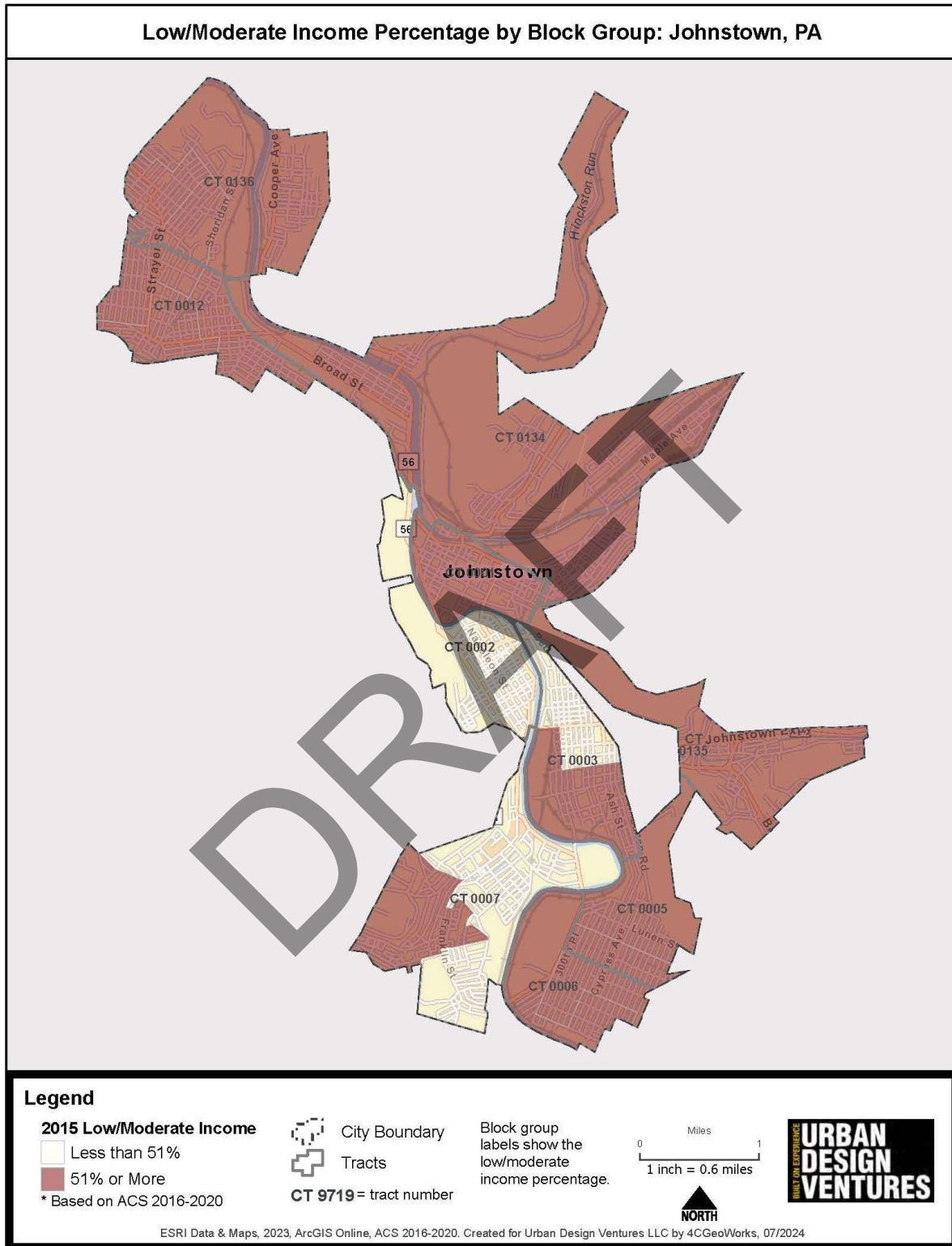
Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



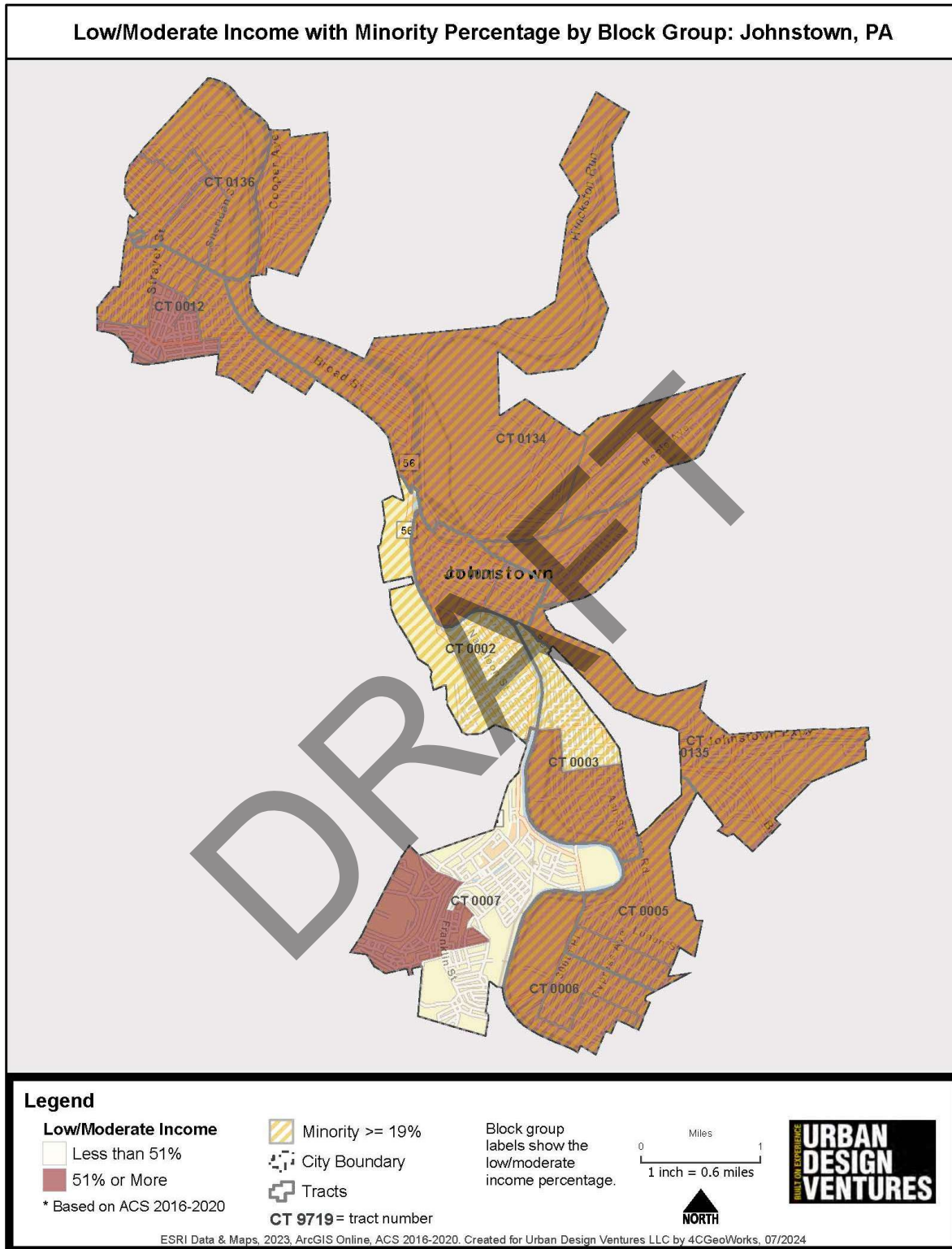
City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania
 Percent of Units Vacant by Block Group



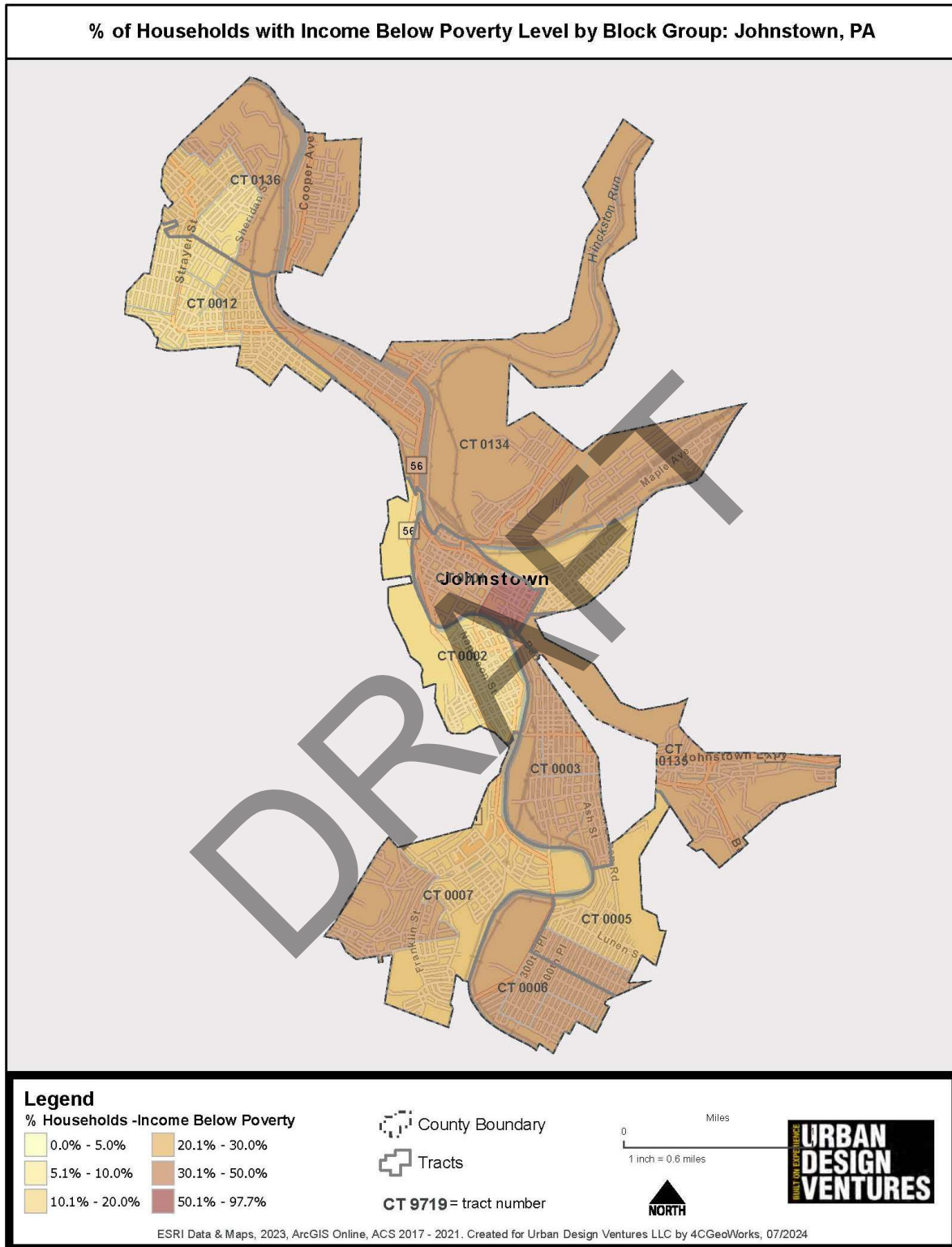
Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group



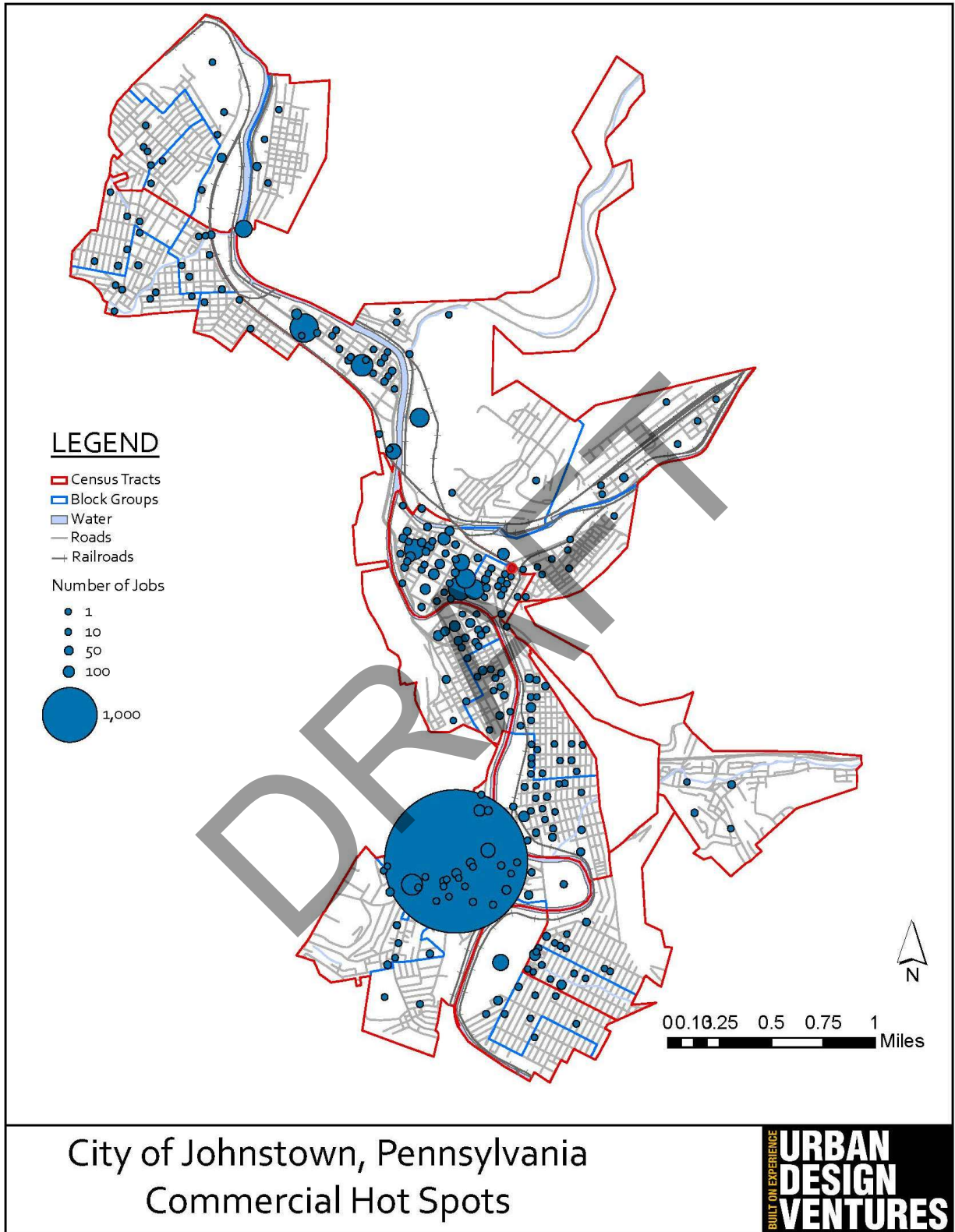
Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group



Low/Moderate Income with Minority Percentage by Block Group



Percent Households with Income Below Poverty Level by Block Group



Commercial Hot Spots

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

It is the mission of the City of Johnstown to invest its limited federal funds in ways that will garner long-term, sustainable results for low- and moderate-income households. The goal of the City of Johnstown is to improve the quality of life for City residents by funding infrastructure improvements, economic development, public services, and housing. During the FY 2024 Program Year, the City proposes to address the following priority need categories identified in its FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan:

HOUSING PRIORITY (High priority)

There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the City of Johnstown. The City aims to do so by increasing the stock of affordable, decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers.

Goals/Strategies:

- **HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation** - Continue to rehabilitate the existing owner and renter occupied housing stock in the City, including handicap accessibility modifications.
- **HSS-2 Homeownership** - Promote homeownership in the City by providing down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, and providing housing counseling training to low- and moderate-income residents in the City.
- **HSS-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation** - Increase the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing that is affordable to owners and renters in the City through new construction and rehabilitation.
- **HSS-4 Housing Assistance** - Provide for utilities, deposits, mortgage, and rental fees for low-income households who are faced with the threat of eviction and who are at-risk of becoming homeless.
- **HSS-5 Fair Housing** - Promote fair housing choice through monitoring, education, and outreach.

HOMELESS PRIORITY (Low priority)

There is a need for housing and supportive services for homeless persons and persons who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Goals/Strategies:

- **HMS-1 Operation/Support** - Assist homeless providers in the operation of housing and supportive services for the homeless and persons who are at-risk of becoming homeless.
- **HMS-2 Housing** - Support efforts of local agencies to provide emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing for the homeless.
- **HMS-3 Prevention and Re-Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.

OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS PRIORITY (Low priority)

There is a need for affordable housing, services, and facilities for the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.

Goals/Strategies:

- **SNS-1 Housing** - Increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, persons with HIV/AIDS, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation, new construction, and making reasonable accommodations to existing housing.
- **SNS-2 Social Services** - Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, persons with HIV/AIDS, and persons with other special needs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY (High priority)

There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public social/welfare services, public safety, clearance, and the quality of life for all residents throughout the City.

Goals/Strategies:

- **CDS-1 Community Facilities** - Improve the City's parks, recreational centers, and public and community facilities through rehabilitation and new construction.
- **CDS-2 Infrastructure** - Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets, sidewalks, ADA curb cuts, waterlines, sewer lateral lines, storm drainage, flood controls, sanitary sewers, addressing hill slips, bridges, green infrastructure, etc.
- **CDS-3 Accessibility Improvements** - Remove and eliminate architectural barriers and make ADA accessibility improvements to public and community facilities.

- **CDS-4 Public Services** - Improve and enhance public services including programs for youth, the elderly, disabled, and other public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- **CDS-5 Nutritional Services** - Promote and support programs that provide more access to food and nutritional programs for low-income residents.
- **CDS-6 Clearance/Demolition** - Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures in the City.
- **CDS-7 Public Safety** - Improve the public safety facilities, equipment, crime prevention programs, community policing, and ability to respond to emergency situations.
- **CDS-8 Neighborhood Revitalization** - Promote targeted neighborhood revitalization through planning studies, acquisition, demolition, special neighborhood cleanups, code enforcement, infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation, housing construction, public and community facility improvements.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY (High priority)

There is a need to increase employment, job training, technical assistance, work force development, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the City of Johnstown.

Goals/Strategies:

- **EDS-1 Employment** - Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development for low- and moderate-income residents.
- **EDS-2 Financial Assistance** - Support the expansion, growth, and new development of business and commercial enterprise through technical assistance programs, low interest financing and façade improvement programs.
- **EDS-3 Redevelopment Program** - Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites and facilities.

ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING, MANAGEMENT PRIORITY (High priority)

There is a continuing need for sound planning, administration, management, and oversight of Federal, State, and local funded programs.

Goals/Strategies:

- **AMS-1 Overall Coordination** - Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and local funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports, environmental

review and clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

- **AMS-2 Special Studies/Management** - Provide and promote funds to assist with the development of special studies, plans, and management activities related to these activities.
- **AMS-3 Fair Housing** - Provide funds for training, education, outreach, and monitoring to affirmatively further fair housing in the City of Johnstown.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The City of Johnstown has a good performance record with HUD and regularly meets its established performance standards. Each year the City prepares a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). This report is submitted to HUD within ninety (90) days after the start of the next program year. Copies of the FY 2022 CAPER are available for review at the City of Johnstown's Department of Community and Economic Development Offices. The FY 2022 CAPER, which was the third CAPER for the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, was submitted to HUD on September 26, 2023. In the FY 2022 CAPER, the City of Johnstown expended 92.79% of its CDBG funds to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The City expended/obligated 5.0% of its funds during the FY 2022 CAPER period on public services, which is below the statutory maximum of 15%. The City expended/obligated 19.99% of its funds during this CAPER period on Planning and Administration, which is less than the statutory maximum of 20%. As of August 24, 2023 the City of Johnstown had a drawdown ratio of 1.93, which is over the maximum 1.5 ratio. The City of Johnstown created a workout plan to address this issue and intends to expend enough CDBG funds to be under the maximum 1.5 ratio by the next timeliness test. The HOME program is being administered in a timely manner and in accordance with applicable activity limitations and match requirements.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The first step of the planning process for the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan started with holding a public hearing to obtain resident input on the needs of the City of Johnstown. The needs hearing notice was published on Monday, January 22, 2024 in the "The Tribune-Democrat." The needs hearing was held on Friday, February 2, 2024 at 12:00 PM. At the public hearing, residents had the opportunity to give their input and their thoughts on the needs in the City of Johnstown and how the CDBG and HOME funds should be spent to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. This provided the residents, agencies and organizations with the opportunity to discuss the City's

CDBG and HOME Programs and to provide suggestions for future CDBG and HOME Programs priorities and activities.

The FY 2024 Annual Action Plan was on public display beginning Monday, June 10, 2024 through Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at the following locations in the City and on the City's website (<https://www.johnstownpa.gov/>):

- **City Hall** – 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Cambria County Public Library** – 248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **The Johnstown Housing Authority** – 501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

The following schedule was used in the preparation of the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan:

- **Publish First Public Hearing in the Newspaper** – Monday, January 22, 2024
- **First Public Hearing** – Friday, February 2, 2024 at 12:00 PM
- **Publish Second Public Hearing Notice and that Annual Action Plan is on Display** – Friday, June 7, 2024
- **FY 2024 Annual Action Plan goes on Display** – Monday, June 10, 2024
- **Second Public Hearing** – Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 5:00 PM
- **End of FY 2024 Annual Action Plan on Display** – Tuesday, July 9, 2024
- **City Council Adoption of the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan** – Wednesday, July 10, 2024
- **FY 2024 Annual Action Plan submitted to HUD Pittsburgh Office** – On or before Friday, July 19, 2024
- **Program Year Begins** – July 1, 2024

Substantial Amendment # 1:

The City of Johnstown placed the Substantial Amendment on public display from Monday, July 14, 2025 through Tuesday, August 12, 2025. The City held an in-person Public Hearing on the Substantial Amendment on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to present the Substantial Amendment to the residents for the FY 2024 CDBG funds.

Substantial Amendment # 2:

The City of Johnstown placed the Substantial Amendment on public display from Monday, April 13, 2026 through Tuesday, May 12, 2026. The City held a Public Hearing on the Substantial Amendment No. 2 on Tuesday, May 7, 2026 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 401 Washington Street, Johnstown, PA 15901. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to present the Substantial Amendment to the residents for the FY 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 CDBG and HOME funds.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

The City of Johnstown held its First Public Hearing on Friday, February 2, 2024 at 12:00 PM. No comments were received at the first public hearing. The First Public Hearing was opened with Ms. Katherine Purelli-Webb going over the schedule, an overview of the Annual Action Plan process, eligible and ineligible projects, and then prior year performances. Ms. Purelli-Webb then opened the public hearing for comments. Since no comments were received, the meeting was closed.

The FY 2024 Annual Action Plan was placed on public display from Monday, June 10, 2024 through Tuesday, July 9, 2024. A Second Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at the Second Floor Conference Room in City Hall.

The Citizen Participation section of the Annual Action Plan includes the newspaper notices, sign-in sheets, meeting agendas, and the summary minutes from both public hearings.

Substantial Amendment # 1:

At the Public Hearing, the City did not receive any comments on the Substantial Amendment.

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

All of the comments were accepted and the requests for funding were incorporated into the FY 2024 CDBG and HOME Programs.

Substantial Amendment # 1:

All comments and suggestions that were received to date have been accepted and incorporated into the planning document.

7. Summary

The FY 2024 Annual Action Plan for the City of Johnstown includes the City's CDBG and HOME Programs and outlines which activities the City will undertake during the program year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. This is the City's fifth year of the FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

During the FY 2024 Program Year, the City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania will receive the following Federal financial resources:

- FY 2024 CDBG Funds: \$1,210,308.00
- CDBG Program Income: \$0.00
- FY 2024 HOME Funds: \$182,769.00
- HOME Program Income: \$0.00
- **Total: \$1,393,077.00**

During the FY 2024 CDBG and HOME Program Year, the City of Johnstown proposes to address the following priority need categories and goals/strategies from the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan:

- HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
- HSS-2 Homeownership
- HSS-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation
- HMS-1 Operation/Support
- CDS-1 Community Facilities
- CDS-4 Public Services
- CDS-5 Nutritional Services
- CDS-6 Clearance/Demolition
- CDS-7 Public Safety
- EDS-1 Employment
- EDS-2 Financial Assistance
- AMS-1 Overall Coordination
- AMS-3 Fair Housing

There was one (1) needs hearing held on Friday, February 2, 2024 and another public hearing was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 to obtain public comments on the “draft plan”. The “draft plan” was on public display for a period of 30 days. All comments that were received are included in the Exhibits Section - Citizen Participation. In addition, the City had received applications requesting CDBG and HOME funds. Applications were due to the City by 4:00 PM on Friday, February 23, 2024. These applications were reviewed and considered for funding. Through the citizen participation process, the City uses resident input to develop how the plan will best serve the needs of the low- and moderate-income population and to reach its goals of the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

The first public hearing was held on Friday, February 2, 2024 at 12:00 PM prevailing time. The advertisement was published on Monday, January 22, 2024 in the "The Tribune-Democrat." This ad also informed the public about the availability of CDBG and HOME funding applications and the due date. The information for eligibility for the CDBG and HOME programs was found in the RFPs that were provided to non-profits and other public and private agencies for request for funding.

The “draft” FY 2024 Annual Action Plan was on public display beginning Monday, June 10, 2024 through Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at the following locations in the City and on the City’s website (<https://www.johnstownpa.gov/>):

- **City Hall** – 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Cambria County Public Library** – 248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **The Johnstown Housing Authority** – 501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

Another ad was published in the “Tribune Democrat” on Friday, June 7, 2024 to inform the public that the “draft plan” was on public display, and that a second public hearing would be held to obtain public comments on the “draft plan” on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 5:00 PM, prevailing time, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA.

Both newspaper ads and public hearings targeted outreach to the following City residents: minorities; persons with disabilities; non-targeted/broad community; residents of public and assisted housing; and agencies/organizations. In addition, the newspaper ads were posted at the Housing Authority Communities and at their Administration Office to reach residents of public and assisted housing.

Upon completion of the 30-day comment period, the City of Johnstown submitted the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Pittsburgh Office on or before Friday, July 19, 2024.

Substantial Amendment # 1:

City Council approved the Substantial Amendment on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 and the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan was re-submitted to HUD.

- **CD-24-02 Fair Housing** - decrease this project/activity budget by \$10,000 and delete the project/activity. Reallocate that amount of \$10,000 in CDBG funds to Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs.
- **CD-24-10 Sewer Lateral Line Replacement Program** - decrease this project/activity budget by \$25,000 and delete the project/activity. Reallocate that amount of \$25,000 in CDBG funds to Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs.
- **CD-23-04 Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs** - increase this project/activity budget line-item by \$35,000 for a new budget line-item amount of \$75,000.
- **CD-24-12 Park Improvements** - increase this project/activity budget line-item by \$100,000 for a new budget line-item amount of \$211,247.
- **CD-24-13 Sidewalks** - decrease this project/activity budget by \$100,000 and delete the project/activity. Reallocate that amount of \$100,000 in CDBG funds to Park Improvements.

Copies of the Substantial Amendment were on public display for viewing by the public for a period of 30 days beginning on Monday, July 14, 2025 and ending on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at the City of Johnstown’s website <https://www.johnstownpa.gov/> and the following locations:

- **City Hall** - 401 Main Street, Room 200, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Cambria County Public Library** - 248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Johnstown Housing Authority** - 501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

Substantial Amendment # 2:

City Council approved the Substantial Amendment on Wednesday, May 15, 2026 and the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan was re-submitted to HUD.

- **CD-24-12 Playground Improvements** - delete this project/activity in its entirety and reallocate a total of \$210,757 in CDBG funds to a new project/activity.
- **HOME-24-18 Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (HOME)** - delete this project/activity in its entirety and reallocate a total of \$137,077 in HOME funds to a new project/activity.
- **CD-24-19 Cypress Avenue Park** - create a new project/activity with a budget amount of \$210,757 in previously allocated CDBG funds and \$19,722.68 in unallocated CDBG funds for a total budget amount of \$230,479.68. This is a multi-year activity. The CDBG funds will be used to develop a new recreation area on the former Cypress Ave. School site in the Moxham neighborhood. Funds will be used to pay for the following items: professional fees, resurfacing the area with asphalt, installing interior and exterior fencing, stormwater management, retaining walls, walking paths, sporting areas with equipment (for tennis, pickleball, basketball, bocce, etc.), playground equipment, pavilions, benches, trash cans, lighting, etc.
- **HOME-24-20 Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale** - create a new project/activity with a budget amount of \$137,077 to provide HOME funding for the acquisition, rehabilitation, and resale of single-family housing units located within the City of Johnstown for low- and moderate-income residents.

Copies of the Substantial Amendment were on public display for viewing by the public for a period of 30 days beginning Monday, April 13, 2026 and ending on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 on the City’s website at <http://johnstownpa.gov> and at the following locations:

- **City Hall** - 401 Main Street, Room 200, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Cambria County Public Library** - 248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Johnstown Housing Authority** - 501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	City of Johnstown	Department of Community and Economic Development
CDBG Administrator	City of Johnstown	Department of Community and Economic Development
HOME Administrator	City of Johnstown	Department of Community and Economic Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Johnstown Department of Community and Economic Development is the administrating agency for the CDBG and HOME programs. The Department of Community and Economic Development prepares the Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records (ERRs), the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day to day basis. In addition, the City of Johnstown has a private planning consulting firm available to assist the City on an as-needed basis.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

While preparing the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, the City of Johnstown consulted with the Johnstown Housing Authority, social services agencies, housing providers, and members of the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC's South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB), which includes nine (9) counties in South Central Pennsylvania, including Cambria County.

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

The City of Johnstown works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **City of Johnstown, Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)** - oversees the CDBG and HOME programs.
- **Johnstown Housing Authority** - oversees the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, improvements to public housing communities, and the development of scattered site affordable housing.
- **Social Services Agencies** - provides services to address the needs of low- and moderate-income persons.
- **Housing Providers** - rehabilitates and develops affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families and individuals.
- **Eastern Pennsylvania CoC - South Central RHAB** - oversees the Continuum of Care Network for Central Pennsylvania for the following counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset.

A part of the CDBG and HOME application planning process, local agencies, and organizations were invited to submit proposals for CDBG and HOME funds for eligible activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and submission of funding applications.

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

The City of Johnstown is part of the Eastern PA CoC, South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB), which oversees the Continuum of Care Network for Central Pennsylvania for thirty-

three (33) counties. Cambria County agencies in the CoC, which serve the City of Johnstown, include the Cambria County Redevelopment Authority, Northern Cambria Community Development Corporation, the Community Action Partnership of Cambria County, Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, and the Women's Help Center.

CoC standing committees, membership, and functions are defined in the Governance Charter. Committee members are recruited by the Board or by the Committee and are drawn from the CoC and community-at-large to provide needed expertise. Key to meeting the goals of Opening Doors, which is the nation's first comprehensive federal strategy to prevent and end homelessness, include: 1) Data Management, Collection, and Outcomes Committee, which develops and maintains a system for tracking CoC performance outcomes and progress in meeting goals of Opening Doors; 2) a Funding Committee, which develops ranking criteria; reviews and ranks projects; and determines a reallocation strategy to best meet the Opening Doors goals; and 3) an Ad Hoc Coordinated Entry Committee, which works with a consultant to oversee Coordinated Entry planning and provides tools for the CoC to meet Opening Doors goals.

The CoC solicits and considers a full range of opinions through the five (5) Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHABs) monthly meetings and semi-annual full CoC meetings. Both forums provide opportunities for knowledgeable persons to provide input and assistance in ending homelessness. The RHAB Co-Chairs represent multiple interest groups including: CDBG Jurisdictions, Public Housing Authorities, domestic violence service providers, Veterans, youth service providers, Community Action Partnerships (CAP), homeless service providers, and faith-based organizations.

The Eastern PA CoC intends to release RFPs for Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing projects once HUD releases their 2024 NOFA application. In addition, HUD has added the category of Joint Transitional Rapid Rehousing that combines elements of both Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing. The CoC will also accept applications for Joint Transitional Rapid Rehousing. The CoC set "threshold" requirements for all new projects, including: Housing First priority; providing assistance with Mainstream Benefits; experience with the population proposed to be served; cost-effective; and client-centered/culturally competent services. Projects prioritized included those proposed in communities where significant TH resources were reallocated, and those targeting one or more "Opening Doors" populations.

The CoC collaborated with twelve (12) of thirteen (13) Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions. Pennsylvania's Department of Community and Economic Development (PA-DCED), the Collaborative Applicant, covers thirty (30) of forty-two (42) CoC Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN) Geographies. PA-DCED uses web-based forums for annual meetings with Regional Housing Advisory Committees (RHACs). The RHACs include state grantees, housing officials, developers, nonprofits, CoC Chairs and PA-DCED staff. As part of the citizen participation process, members of the CoC receive notice of public meetings, documents available for review, and citizen

comment periods. The County and City Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions follow the Consolidated Plan guidelines for consultation, including interviews, surveys and focus groups with stakeholders that are knowledgeable about homelessness in their communities.

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 South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) comprises a diverse set of representative stakeholders throughout the region, including many social service and governmental organizations. The RHAB identifies regional and local homeless issues; coordinates regional planning; identifies regional housing gaps and needs, strategies, and priorities; provides input for Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SVF) and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) applications; participates in completion of the CoC application; monitors Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) participation and implementation; and coordinates the Point in Time (PIT) count and AHAR.

Most ESG funding for the Eastern PA CoC is allocated by PA-DCED. The CoC participated in developing priorities, target populations, outcome measures, and evaluation processes for ESG, including prioritizing Rapid Rehousing. They also had input on the development of the scoring tool used to select ESG proposals for funding. Each year, they provide input about applicants, including: CoC participation, coordination with other providers, and capacity. PA-DCED, as the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead, has access to Point in Time Count (PITC) and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data. Coordination between the CoC and ESG funding will be furthered through CoC/ESG strategic planning.

Other than CoC, ESG, Housing Choice Voucher Programs and Public Housing, there are other subsidized or low-income housing opportunities that exist within the CoC that target persons experiencing homelessness. Multiple funding sources are being used in the Eastern PA CoC to provide affordable housing for persons experiencing homelessness including: State Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund (PHARE) funds through the Pennsylvania Housing Trust Fund, Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program (AHP), Section 811 Rental Assistance, and additional resources planned through the PA Department of Human Services Five Year Housing Plan targeting homeless, which includes expanding affordable housing and housing services funded through Medicaid.

Recipients of ESG in Cambria County include the Cambria County Redevelopment Authority, Community Action Partnership of Cambria County, Catholic Charities of Cambria County, and the

Women's Help Center. The Cambria County Redevelopment Authority administers the ESG Grant for Cambria County.

Throughout different times of the year, the CoC and the HMIS lead work together to assess data quality throughout the CoC. This includes working on Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) submission, the PIT count, project review/ranking, and working with individual programs while completing their Annual Performance Reports (APRs). Participation among Emergency Shelter (ES) providers in HMIS remains the most significant challenge. This is most significantly related to the lack of participation among non-HUD funded volunteer/faith-based ES, as well as the lack of participation among providers of seasonal shelters and hotel/motel vouchers. According to the Eastern PA CoC, the largest overall barrier to HMIS-participation remains non-HUD funded volunteer and faith-based operated projects and VA-funded projects, such as VASH. Additional outreach to volunteer and faith-based organizations will occur through the implementation of coordinated entry. Increased engagement and education among these groups should lead to increased HMIS participation. The CoC will work with Veterans to improve participation among VA-funded projects. In regard to VASH, the CoC built a new bed/voucher-based process within the CoC's HMIS and will begin piloting this enhancement with Public Housing Authorities.

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

1.	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Johnstown
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Local Planning organization Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City's Departments of Community and Economic Development and City Management were interviewed for their input on the housing needs, homeless needs, non-homeless special needs, community development, and economic development needs and goals for the City of Johnstown.

2.	Agency/Group/Organization	Johnstown Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Other government - Local Planning organization Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Johnstown Housing Authority was contacted to determine the housing needs of its very low-income clients.
3.	Agency/Group/Organization	Johnstown Fire Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Health Services - Victims Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Local Grantee Department

	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Johnstown Fire Department was contacted to determine the emergency management needs of the community. The City reviewed its program and funded activities that met the goals and objectives as outlined in the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan to address these needs.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Eastern PA CoC - Regional Homeless Advisory Board (South Central-RHAB)</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services-homeless Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Regional organization</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The Eastern PA CoC South Central-RHAB was contacted and presented the homeless needs in the region, Point In Time Survey results, and 2023 CoC funding amounts.</p>

5.	Agency/Group/Organization	Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, Inc. (dba Summit Legal Aid)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Service - Fair Housing Services - Victims Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Fair Housing Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services (dba Summit Legal Aid) was contacted to determine the Fair Housing needs of the City. The City reviewed the CDBG funding application and funded the activity because it met the goals and strategies as outlined in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.
6.	Agency/Group/Organization	Johnstown Redevelopment Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City of Johnstown Redevelopment Authority was contacted to determine the housing and community development needs of residents of the City of Johnstown.</p>
<p>7. Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Cambria County Redevelopment Authority</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing Services - Housing Regional organization Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy</p>
<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Cambria County Redevelopment Authority was contacted to determine the homeless, housing and community development needs of residents of the City of Johnstown.</p>

8.	Agency/Group/Organization	Cambria County Behavioral Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Children Services - Persons with Disabilities Services - Health Health Agency Other government - County
	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 Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Cambria County Behavioral Health was contacted to determine health and community development priorities in the City of Johnstown.
9.	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Homeless Services - Health Services - Victims Regional organization Planning organization

	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Catholic Charities was contacted and presented the homeless needs in the City and the region. The City reviewed the CDBG funding application and funded the activity because it met the goals and strategies as outlined in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Johnstown Area Regional Industries</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services - Employment Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Johnstown Area Regional Industries was contacted to determine economic development and workforce priorities.</p>

11.	Agency/Group/Organization	The Learning Lamp
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Children Services - Education Child Welfare Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Learning Lamp was contacted to determine community development priorities in the City of Johnstown. The City reviewed the CDBG funding application and funded the public service activity because it met the goals and strategies outlined in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.
12.	Agency/Group/Organization	PA Department of Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services - Health Health Agency Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City consulted the 2021 Childhood Lead Surveillance Annual Report released by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The data identified in the Report is incorporated in the Annual Action Plan.

13.	Agency/Group/Organization	Northern Cambria County Development Corporation (NCCDC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services – Housing Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	NCCDC was contacted to determine housing needs in the City of Johnstown.
14.	Agency/Group/Organization	Greater Johnstown YMCA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homeless Needs - Unaccompanied Youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Greater Johnstown YMCA was contacted to determine community development priorities in the City of Johnstown. The City reviewed the CDBG funding application and funded the public service activity because it met the goals and strategies outlined in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Cambria County</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services-Children Services-Education Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Other government - County</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Cambria County was contacted to determine community development priorities in the City of Johnstown. The City reviewed the CDBG funding application for the Backpack program. The City reviewed the CDBG funding application and funded the public service activity because it met the goals and strategies outlined in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.</p>

16.	Agency/Group/Organization	Flood City Youth Mentoring
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Flood City Youth Mentoring was contacted to determine community development priorities in the City of Johnstown.
17.	Agency/Group/Organization	Peer Empowerment Network
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Persons with Disabilities Services - Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Peer Empowerment Network was contacted to determine community development priorities in the City of Johnstown.
18.	Agency/Group/Organization	Women’s Help Center, Inc.

	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Homeless Services - Victims Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Women’s Help Center, Inc. was contacted to determine the homeless needs in the City and the region.
19.	Agency/Group/Organization	Verizon
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Regional Organization Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Verizon internet plans were examined to see the services they offer for City residents.</p>
<p>20.</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Comcast/Xfinity</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Regional Organization Business Leaders</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Comcast Xfinity internet plans were examined to see the services they offer for City residents.</p>

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

All known agency types were consulted and contacted during the planning 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	Eastern Pennsylvania South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (Central-RHAB)	They are incorporated in the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
PHA Five Year Plan and Annual Plan	Johnstown Housing Authority	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
City of Johnstown Comprehensive Plan	City of Johnstown	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Cambria County Comprehensive Plan	Cambria County	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
City of Johnstown Master Plan	City of Johnstown	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Sixth Amended Recovery Plan	City of Johnstown	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Revitalization Strategy for the City of Johnstown	City of Johnstown	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Johnstown 20/20: Report and Recommendations	City of Johnstown	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
2021 Childhood Lead Surveillance Annual Report	PA Department of Health	The data is incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Broadband Enhancement Plan	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The City of Johnstown has consulted and coordinated with various agencies and organizations city-wide, county-wide, and Commonwealth-wide. The culmination of these efforts has resulted in the development of the City's FY 2024 Annual Action Plan.

The Johnstown Department of Community and Economic Development is the administrating agency for the CDBG and HOME programs. Close coordination is maintained with other City departments such as the Public Works and Recreation, Administration, Police and Fire Departments, as well as County departments such as the Cambria County Redevelopment Authority, Johnstown Housing Authority, Greater Johnstown/Cambria County Chamber of Commerce, Johnstown Area Regional Industries (JARI), Johnstown Redevelopment Authority, the Eastern PA Continuum of Care, and Cambria County Behavioral Health/Intellectual Disabilities Programs. Coordination with various non-profit organizations such as Cambria County Redevelopment Authority, the Community Action Partnership of Cambria County, Catholic Charities, the United Way, Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, and the Women’s Help Center helped aid the planning process and develop priorities. The City works closely with the Cambria County Commissioners and County staff to address projects and activities that extend beyond the City limits. The City and the County agencies have a good working relationship.

DCED works with the Eastern PA CoC for coordinating Con Planning, CoC strategic planning and ESG policies/priorities/allocations. A partnership of Cambria County Behavioral Health and the Greater Johnstown Landlord Association administers the ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) for Cambria County.

DRAFT

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 FY 2024 Annual Action Plan has many components which include citizen participation. There was one (1) needs hearings held and another public hearing to obtain public comments on the “draft plan” which was on public display. All these comments are included in the Exhibits Section - Citizen Participation. In addition, the City had CDBG and HOME funding request applications. These applications were reviewed and considered for funding. Through the citizen participation process, the City uses resident input to develop how the plan will serve the low- and moderate-income population needs and to reach its goals of the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

Substantial Amendment # 1:

In order to broaden citizen participation, the City placed the “draft” FY 2024 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment # 1 on its website to solicit public comments; <http://cityofjohnstownpa.net> and at the following locations:

- **City Hall** - 401 Main Street, Room 200, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Cambria County Public Library** - 248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Johnstown Housing Authority** - 501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

The display period started on Monday, July 14, 2025 through Tuesday, August 12, 2025 for a period of at 30 days. An in-person public hearing was held on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed substantial amendment and solicit resident comments. Upon completion of the public comment period, the City of Johnstown submitted the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Pittsburgh Office on or before Friday, August 29, 2025.

Substantial Amendment # 2:

The City put the “draft” FY 2024 Annual Action Plan - Substantial Amendment on public display on the City’s website: <http://johnstownpa.gov> and at the following locations:

- **City Hall** - 401 Main Street, Room 200, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Cambria County Public Library** - 248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901

- **Johnstown Housing Authority** - 501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

The display period started on Monday, April 13, 2026 and ended Tuesday, May 12, 2026. A Public Hearing was held on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 401 Washington Street, Johnstown, PA 15901 to discuss the proposed substantial amendment and solicit resident comments. Upon completion of the public comment period, the City of Johnstown submitted the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment No. 3 to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Pittsburgh Office on or before Wednesday, May 20, 2026.

Citizen Participation Outreach

#	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of Response / Attendance	Summary of Comments Received	Summary of Comments Not Accepted and Reasons	URL (if applicable)
1.	Newspaper Ad # 1	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	The needs public hearing notice was published on Monday, January 22, 2024 in the local "Tribune-Democrat" newspaper. A copy can be found in the Citizen Participation Section of the Annual Action Plan.	None.	None.	Not Applicable.
2.	Public Hearing # 1	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	The First Public Hearing was held on Friday, February 2, 2024. See first public hearing minutes in the summaries and the sign-in sheets.	See first public hearing minutes in the Citizen Participation section of the Plan.	None.	Not Applicable.

#	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of Response / Attendance	Summary of Comments Received	Summary of Comments Not Accepted and Reasons	URL (If applicable)
3.	Funding Applications	Agencies/ Organizations	The City published a notice in the "Tribune-Democrat" on Monday, January 22, 2024 that non-profit funding applications were available for pickup at the Community and Economic Development Office. The notice advised the public that funding applications were due by 4:00 PM on Thursday, February 23, 2024.	The City received funding requests.	The City staff reviewed the funding requests, determined eligibility, and submitted their recommendations to Council for final approval.	Not Applicable.
4.	Newspaper Ad #2	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies	The second public hearing notice was published on Friday, June 7, 2024 in the "Tribune-Democrat." A copy can be found in the Citizen Participation Section of the Annual Action Plan.	None.	None.	Not Applicable.
5.	Public Hearing #2	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	The Second Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2024. See second public hearing minutes in the summaries and the sign-in sheets.	See second public hearing minutes in the Citizen Participation section of the Plan.	None.	Not Applicable.

#	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of Response / Attendance	Summary of Comments Received	Summary of Comments Not Accepted and Reasons	URL (If applicable)
6.	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	None.	None.	None.	https://www.johnstownpa.gov/
7.	Posting at the Housing Authority Communities	Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	None.	None.	None.	Not Applicable.
8.	Substantial Amendment # 1 - Newspaper Ad	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	The public hearing notice was published on Saturday, July 12, 2025 in the “Tribune-Democrat.” A copy can be found in the Citizen Participation Section of the Annual Action Plan.	None.	None.	Not Applicable.
9.	Substantial Amendment # 1 - Public Meeting	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	The public hearing was held on Thursday, July 31, 2025. See public hearing minutes in the summaries and the sign-in sheets.	See public hearing minutes in the Citizen Participation Section of the Annual Action Plan.	None.	Not Applicable.
10.	Substantial Amendment # 1 - Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	None.	None.	None.	https://www.johnstownpa.gov/
8.	Substantial Amendment #	Minorities Persons with	The public hearing notice was published on Friday, April 10,	None.	None.	Not Applicable.

#	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of Response / Attendance	Summary of Comments Received	Summary of Comments Not Accepted and Reasons	URL (If applicable)
	2 - Newspaper Ad	disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	2026, in the “Tribune-Democrat.” A copy can be found in the Citizen Participation Section of the Annual Action Plan.			
9.	Substantial Amendment # 2 - Public Meeting	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	The public hearing was held on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 5:30. See public hearing minutes in the summaries and the sign-in sheets.	See public hearing minutes in the Citizen Participation Section of the Annual Action Plan.	None.	Not Applicable.
10.	Substantial Amendment # 2 - Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	None.	None.	None.	https://www.johnstownpa.gov/

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Johnstown is receiving \$1,210,308 from FY 2024 CDBG funds and \$182,769 from FY 2024 HOME funds. The program year goes from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

These funds will be used to address the following priority needs: Housing; Homeless; Community Development; Economic Development; and Administration, Planning, and Management. The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2024 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Substantial Amendment # 1:

The following financial resources are identified for the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment # 1 to address the priority needs and goals/strategies identified in the City of Johnstown's Five-Year Consolidated Plan using the CDBG funds. These financial resources are unchanged from the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment # 1 described above.

Substantial Amendment # 2:

The following financial resources are identified for the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment # 2 to address the priority needs and goals/strategies identified in the City of Johnstown's Five-Year Consolidated Plan using the CDBG funds. These financial resources are unchanged from the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment # 1 described above.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,210,308	0	0	1,210,308	0	Fifteen (15) projects/activities were funded based on FY 2024 CDBG allocations.
HOME	Public federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	182,769	0	0	182,769	0	Three (3) projects/activities were funded based on FY 2024 HOME allocations.

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

In addition to the entitlement funds, the City of Johnstown anticipates the following federal resources may be available to local non-profit organizations to undertake the housing strategies identified in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

- The Johnstown Housing Authority received \$4,568,380 in its FY 2024 Capital Fund Grant.
- The City has received \$305,609.66 in combined funding from Lead Hazard Control funds, the HUD Healthy Homes Program, and ARPA funding. The funds are being used for lead hazard mitigation in combination with the City's Owner-Occupied and First-Time Homebuyer Housing Rehabilitation programs.
- The City is receiving a Brownfield grant for \$600,000 over 4 years from the EPA to address petroleum and other hazards.

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

Not Applicable. The City of Johnstown does not have any publicly owned land or property within the jurisdiction that was part of the CDBG Program.

Discussion

Private and non-federal resources that may be available to the City of Johnstown in FY 2024 to address needs identified in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan are listed below.

- **PHFA Home Purchase Programs** – The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency offers a variety of home purchase loans at competitive rates. Loan products include HFA loans and Keystone loans. Many of these loans are provided below market rate for qualified buyers. Local mortgage lenders apply to PHFA for a commitment of a pool of mortgage loan funds.
- **Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit** – This program allows business corporations to receive a tax credit from a variety of State taxes for donations made to community based non-profit organizations for the implementation of housing, job training, and education programs.
- **Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation** – OVR will provide funds to make housing units accessible if such improvements will

assist persons with disabilities in an employment situation.

- **Housing and Redevelopment Assistance Program (HRA)** – The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) provides funding for community development and housing assistance.
- **Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program (AHP)** – Congress has mandated that ten (10%) of the Federal Home Loan Bank's profits be allocated to provide affordable housing. The FHLB encourages its members to work with public agencies and non-profit housing development organizations in creating highly leveraged affordable housing initiatives. Both sales and rental housing are eligible.
- **Financial Institutions** – Several local financial institutions have developed flexible underwriting criteria to encourage homeownership.

The following federal resources may be available to local non-profit organizations to undertake the homeless strategies identified in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

- **Cambria County Behavioral Health and the Greater Johnstown Landlord Association** administer the ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) as partners for Cambria County.

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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.	HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$290,000 HOME: \$137,077	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 17 Household Housing Units
2.	HSS-2 Homeownership	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$12,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households
3.	HSS-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	HOME: \$164,493	Homeowner Housing Added: 1 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Units
5.	HMS-1 Operation/Support	2020	2024	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$10,000	Homelessness Prevention: 45 Households
6.	CDS-1 Community Facilities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$230,479.68	Other: 1 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8.	CDS-4 Public Service	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$20,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2,600 Students, 58 Persons Assisted
9.	CDS-5 Nutritional Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$10,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Youth Assisted
10.	CDS-6 Clearance/Demolition	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$100,000	Buildings Demolished: up to 10 Buildings
11.	CDS-7 Public Safety	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$180,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities Other Than Low/Moderate-Income Housing Benefit: 18,429 Persons, 1 Other
12.	EDS-1 Employment	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$150,000	Jobs created/retained: 6 Jobs Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
13.	EDS-2 Financial Assistance	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs
14.	AMS-1 Overall Coordination	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$242,061 HOME: \$18,276	Other: 3 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
15.	AMS-3 Fair Housing	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$0	Other: 0 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1.	Goal Name	HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Continue to rehabilitate the existing owner and renter occupied housing stock in the City, including handicap accessibility modifications.
2.	Goal Name	HSS-2 Homeownership
	Goal Description	Promote homeownership in the City by providing down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, and providing housing counseling training to low- and moderate-income residents in the City.
3.	Goal Name	HSS-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Increase the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing that is affordable to owners and renters in the City through new construction and rehabilitation.
5.	Goal Name	HMS-1 Operation/Support
	Goal Description	Assist homeless providers in the operation of housing and supportive services for the homeless and persons who are at-risk of becoming homeless.

6.	Goal Name	CDS-1 Community Facilities
	Goal Description	Improve the City's parks, recreational centers, and public and community facilities through rehabilitation and new construction.
8.	Goal Name	CDS-4 Public Service
	Goal Description	Improve and enhance public services including programs for youth, the elderly, disabled, and other public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
9.	Goal Name	CDS-5 Nutritional Services
	Goal Description	Promote and support programs that provide more access to food and nutritional programs for low income residents.
10.	Goal Name	CDS-6 Clearance/Demolition
	Goal Description	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures in the City.
11.	Goal Name	CDS-7 Public Safety
	Goal Description	Improve the public safety facilities, equipment, crime prevention programs, community policing, and ability to respond to emergency situations.
12.	Goal Name	EDS-1 Employment
	Goal Description	Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development for low- and moderate-income residents.
13.	Goal Name	EDS-2 Financial Assistance
	Goal Description	Support the expansion, growth and new development of business and commercial enterprise through technical assistance programs, low interest financing and façade improvement programs.

14.	Goal Name	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and local funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports, environmental review and clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
15.	Goal Name	AMS-3 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Provide funds for training, education, outreach, and monitoring to affirmatively further fair housing in the City of Johnstown.

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

The City of Johnstown proposes to assist the following:

- Extremely Low-Income – 2 household
- Low-Income – 8 households
- Moderate-Income – 13 households

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Johnstown proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2024 CDBG and HOME funds:

Projects

#	Project Name
1.	Public Service
3.	Fire Department - Firetruck
4.	Fire Department - Turnout Gear
5.	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (CDBG)
6.	First Time Homebuyer Rehabilitation Assistance
7.	First Time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance
8.	Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs
9.	Demolition/Clearance
11.	Community & Economic Development
12.	Playground Improvements
14.	CDBG Administration
15.	Planning
16.	HOME Administration
17.	CHDO Set-Aside (HOME)
18.	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (HOME)
19.	Cypress Avenue Park
20.	Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale

Table 7 - Project Information

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

Rationale for funding activities were based on the eligibility of the activity, the activity must meet a national objective, and evidence of the need in the City or by the agency/organization. Additional consideration was given based on the agency/organization's past history of expenditure of CDBG and HOME funds, and the ability to leverage other funds for this activity. The City of Johnstown will provide CDBG and HOME funds to activities principally benefiting low/mod income persons in the City. Such assistance is not directed to any specific geographic area, but is based on income benefit.

The City of Johnstown allocated its FY 2024 CDBG and HOME funds to provide assistance with activities that met the underserved needs of the residents. The activities that meet HUD criteria for benefit to low- and moderate-income households are located in those Census Tracts or Block Groups that are defined as low/mod area in the City.

The City of Johnstown has established the following criteria for residents when establishing priorities for housing related CDBG projects:

- Those who are considered to have very low, low, or moderate incomes;
- Those who are cost-burdened and pay more than 30% of their median household income for housing;
- Those who live in substandard housing;
- Those who live in overcrowded housing;
- Residents who live under any combination of the above;
- First-time homebuyers, including potential homeowners who are minorities;
- Homeless individuals and families in need of emergency shelters, transitional shelters, and permanent housing.

For non-housing and community development needs, the following objectives were identified:

- Improve the Public Infrastructure: Street, Sidewalk, and Other Infrastructure Improvements
- Enhance Youth Recreation Programs/Crime Prevention
- Encourage the Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Commercial/Industrial Facilities
- Assist with Commercial/Industrial Improvements
- Create a Loan Funding Mechanism for New and/or Expanding Businesses in the NRSA and throughout the City
- Plan for Future Growth and Improvements

The City of Johnstown does not anticipate any obstacles in the performance of the FY 2024 CDBG activities. Affordable housing and/or financial housing assistance for qualified residents was identified as the largest underserved need in the City of Johnstown in the Five Year Consolidated Plan. The primary obstacle to meeting the underserved needs is the limited financial resources available to address the identified needs in the City. The City of Johnstown will continue to partner with other agencies when feasible to leverage resources and maximize outcomes in housing and community development programs.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1.	Project Name	Public Service
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HMS-1 Operation/Support CDS-4 Public Service CDS-5 Nutritional Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000.00
	Description	Funding for public service organizations that serve low- to moderate-income populations.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The estimated number by activity is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambria County Backpack Project - 250 students • Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance – 45 households • Learning Lamp - Learning Lamp to Go - 2,600 students • YMCA - Scholarship Memberships - 58 persons
	Location Description	Citywide.

3.	Planned Activities	<p>The City is going to fund the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambria County Backpack Project (\$10,000.00) - CDBG funds will be used to provide backpacks filled with food items for children to carry home over the weekends within the City of Johnstown. (CDS-5) The national objective is Low/Mod Income Limited Clientele (LMC). The Matrix Code is 05W Food Banks. • Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance (\$10,000.00) - Funds will be used to provide Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) to prevent the loss of basic needs such as heat, water, electricity in order to provide a suitable living environment. (HMS-1) The national objective is Low/Mod Income Limited Clientele (LMC). The Matrix Code is 05Q Subsistence Payments. • Learning Lamp - Learning Lamp to Go (\$10,000.00) - Funds will be used to pay for eligible delivery costs of “Learning Lamp To Go” Program that will provide science, geography, and math curriculum for low- and moderate-income elementary and middle school aged learners in the City through mobile/portable outreach. (CDS-4) The national objective is Low/Mod Income Limited Clientele (LMC). The Matrix Code is 05D Youth Services. • YMCA - Scholarship Memberships (\$10,000.00) - CDBG funds will be used to pay for youth and family scholarships for YMCA memberships, to allow them to use facilities and participate in programs. (CDS-4) The national objective is Low/Mod Income Limited Clientele (LMC). The Matrix Code is 05Z Other Public Services.
	Project Name	Fire Department - Fire Truck
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-7 Public Safety
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to purchase one (1) Fire Truck complete with a specialized ladder per specifications to serve low- and moderate-income neighborhoods to be housed in Fire Station #1. This is a multi-year activity.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	18,429 persons 1 Other
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod-Income Area Benefit (LMA). The Matrix Code is 030 Fire Stations/Equipment.
4.	Project Name	Fire Department - Turnout Gear
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-7 Public Safety
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to pay for turnout gear for the City of Johnstown Fire Department. Turnout gear is a Fire Fighters’ protective clothing (pant and jacket) intended to protect the fire fighter from radiant and thermal exposure, unexpected flashover conditions, and puncture and abrasion hazards while still maintaining an adequate level of dexterity and comfort.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	18,429 persons 1 Other
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod-Income Area Benefit (LMA). The Matrix Code is 030 Fire Stations/Equipment.
5.	Project Name	Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (CDBG)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority

	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000
	Description	Funds used for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing on a citywide basis. Deferred loans up to a maximum of \$22,000 per household.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 low-income households.
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The Matrix Code is 14A Rehab; Single Unit Residential.
6.	Project Name	First Time Homebuyer Rehabilitation Assistance
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000,00
	Description	Funding for First Time Homebuyers to make repairs to their homes at the time of purchase. Deferred loans up to a maximum of \$22,000 per household.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 low-income households.
	Location Description	Citywide.

	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The Matrix Code is 14A Rehab; Single Unit Residential.
7.	Project Name	First Time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-2 Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$12,000.00
	Description	Funding for closing cost assistance to help First Time Homebuyers at the time of purchase. Grants up to a maximum of \$3,000 per household.
	Target Date	6/20/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 low-income households
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The Matrix Code is 13 Direct Homeownership Assistance.
8.	Project Name	Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000.00
	Description	Funding for rehabilitation delivery costs, including staff, supplies, a vehicle for the housing construction coordinator, etc., for housing assistance programs.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	22 low-income households.
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The Matrix Code is 14H Rehabilitation Administration.
9.	Project Name	Demolition/Clearance
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-6 Clearance/Demolition
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000
	Description	Funding for the removal of vacant substandard structures and delivery costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 10 structures.
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Slum and Blight Removal on a Spot Basis (SBS). The Matrix Code is 04 Clearance and Demolition.
11.	Project Name	Community & Economic Development
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	EDS-1 Employment EDS-2 Financial Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000.00

	Description	<p>The funding allocated in the budget for community and economic development will be used to support entrepreneurial initiatives within low-income and vulnerable communities in the city. Eligible applicants can use the grant money to start their businesses, purchase equipment, renovate or refurbish business spaces, or provide services in accordance with the laws and guidelines of the CDBG entitlement programs.</p> <p>To ensure transparency, equity, and alignment with the city's mission statement of promoting health, wellness, and a sustainable future, the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) will implement a detailed application process. This process will ensure a fair and equitable distribution of funds, upholding the principles of transparency and fairness. Additionally, each funded project is expected to create at least 3-5 jobs, promoting economic mobility within the community.</p> <p>Furthermore, applicants must present a realistic and sustainable business plan to ensure the longevity and growth of their ventures within the City of Johnstown. This requirement aims to foster enduring economic development and community stability.</p>
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 6 jobs.
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	<p>The national objective is Low/Mod-Income Jobs (LMJ).</p> <p>The Matrix Codes are: 14E Rehab: Publicly or Privately Owned Commercial/Industrial; 17A Commercial/Industrial: Acquisition/Disposition; 17C Commercial/Industrial: Building Acquisition, Construction, Rehabilitation; and 18A Economic Development: Direct Financial Assistance to For-Profits.</p>
12.	Project Name	Playground Improvements
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-1 Community Facilities

	Needs-Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$211,247.00
	Description	<p>The funding allocated for playground improvements will be used to renovate and rehabilitate play areas and open spaces, promoting recreation, health, and wellness in low- and moderate-income communities. The hierarchy of improvements will adhere to guidelines set by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to ensure that playgrounds and open spaces in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods are prioritized.</p> <p>Our goal is to target five playgrounds in the following low/mod neighborhoods: Woodvale, Morrellville, West End, Kernville, and Walnut Grove. These enhancements aim to provide safe and enjoyable environments for community members, fostering a sense of well-being and community spirit.</p>
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 public facility
	Location Description	Low- and moderate-income areas of the City; Woodvale, Morrellville, West End, Kernville, and Walnut Grove neighborhoods.
	Planned Activities	<p>The national objective is Low/Mod-Income Area Benefit (LMA).</p> <p>The Matrix Code is 03F Parks and Recreational Facilities.</p>
14.	Project Name	CDBG Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$212,061.00
	Description	Funding for administration of the various HUD programs including oversight, coordination, accounting, audit, environmental review, CAPER, and Annual Action Plan preparation.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	18,429 people 1 Other
	Location Description	Department of Community and Economic Development, City of Johnstown, 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901.
	Planned Activities	The Matrix Code is 21A General Program Administration.
15.	Project Name	Planning
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	18,429 people 1 Other
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The Matrix Code is 20 Planning.
16.	Project Name	HOME Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$18,276.00
	Description	To provide planning activities and administration for the City's HOME programs.

	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	18,429 people 1 Other
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The Matrix Code is 21A General Program Administration.
17.	Project Name	CHDO Set-Aside
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$27,416.00
	Description	Funding for the acquisition and rehabilitation of single family homes to be sold to low income households.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 low-income household.
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The Matrix Code is 14G Acquisition for Rehabilitation.
18.	Project Name	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (HOME)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$137,077.00

	Description	Funds used for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing on a citywide basis. Deferred loans up to a maximum of \$22,000 per household.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	7 low-income households.
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The Matrix Code is 14A Rehab; Single Unit Residential.
19.	Project Name	Cypress Avenue Park
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$230,479.68
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to develop a new recreation area on the former Cypress Ave. School site in the Moxham neighborhood. Funds will be used to pay for the following items: professional fees, resurfacing the area with asphalt, installing interior and exterior fencing, stormwater management, retaining walls, walking paths, sporting areas with equipment (for tennis, pickleball, basketball, bocce, etc.), playground equipment, pavilions, benches, trash cans, lighting, etc.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 Other
	Location Description	325 Cypress Avenue, Johnstown, PA 15902

	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA). The project matrix code is 03F, Parks, Recreational Facilities.
20.	Project Name	Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$137,077
	Description	Funding for the acquisition and rehabilitation of single family housing units located within the City of Johnstown for low- and moderate-income residents.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 low-income household.
	Location Description	Citywide.
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The Matrix Code is 14A Rehab: Single Unit Residential.

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 following information provides a profile of the population, age, and racial/ethnic characteristics of the City of Johnstown. This information was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau website, <https://data.census.gov>. The 2018-2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates and 2020 U.S. Census, the most recent data sources, were used to analyze the social, economic, housing, and general demographic characteristics of the City of Johnstown.

Population:

Between the 1980 and 2020 Censuses, the population decreased by 48.13% from 35,496 to 18,411. The estimated 2022 Johnstown population is 18,429.

Age:

The City of Johnstown median age is 44.0 years old, up from 42.9 years old in 2017.

- Youth under age 18 are 22.8% of the population, up from 22.2% in 2017.
- Young adults aged 18 to 34 are 17.5% of the population, down from 20.1% in 2017.
- Adults aged 35 to 64 are 40.2% of the population, up from 39.0% in 2017.
- Seniors aged 65 and over are 19.5% of the population, up from 18.7% in 2017.

Race/Ethnicity:

- 72.4% are White, down from 76.6% in 2017
- 16.8% are Black or African American, up from 14.1% in 2017
- 0.4% are Asian, up from 0.2% in 2017
- 1.7% identify as Some Other Race, up from 0.5% in 2017
- 8.6% are Two or More Races, nearly the same as 8.5% in 2017
- 4.3% are Hispanic or Latino (of any race), up from 3.7% in 2017

The City has become more diverse, but the actual number of non-White residents has increased only slightly while the White population has decreased significantly.

Income Profile:

The 2018-2022 American Community Survey median household income in the City of Johnstown was \$33,466, less than half of Pennsylvania's median household income (\$73,170). Only 61.6% of Johnstown

households reported earnings as opposed to 75.5% of households statewide.

- 39.5% of households receive Social Security income.
- 7.3% of households receive cash public assistance.
- 25.2% of households receive retirement income.
- 68.2% of female-headed households with children under the age of 18 and no spouse present were living in poverty, double the statewide rate of 34.2%.
- 53.6% of youth under 18 years were living in poverty, over triple the statewide rate of 16.2%.

According to HUD, the median income for a family of four (4) in the Johnstown, PA MSA is \$80,900 for 2023.

In the City of Johnstown, the overall percentage of low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons was 66.68%. Out of a total of 10 census tracts and 25 block groups in the City, 20 block groups have a low- and moderate-income population of over 51%.

Economic Profile:

- **Occupation:** 27.7% of the employed civilian population hold occupations classified as management, business, science, and arts. The smallest proportion, 8.2%, have an occupation in natural resources, construction, and maintenance.
- **Industry:** 23.8% of those employed were in the education, health, and social service industry, followed by 16.2% in the retail trade industry. Only 0.2% of Johnstown workers are in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining industries.
- **Class:** 86.2% of workers were private wage and salary workers, 9.3% were government workers, and 4.5% were self-employed in their own non-incorporated business.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, the City's preliminary unadjusted unemployment rate in May 2024 was 4.3%. Cambria County's rate was 3.7%, and the Commonwealth's rare was 3.2%. The unadjusted national unemployment rate is 3.7%.

The City of Johnstown will provide CDBG and HOME funds to activities principally benefiting low/mod income persons in the City. Such assistance is not directed to any specific geographic area, but rather based on income benefit.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	100%

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Most of the City's FY 2024 activities are operated on a citywide basis. The City cannot predict which homeowners or businesses will apply for assistance, what parts of the City will require code enforcement, which structures will require demolition, etc. Therefore, the City cannot allocate funds geographically within the City on a pre-determined basis. Instead, the City can only report the geographic distribution of funds in its CAPER, which are limited to low- and moderate-income areas.

Rationale for funding activities were based on the eligibility of the activity. The activity must meet a national objective, and evidence of the need in the community or by the agency/organization must be presented. Additional consideration was given based on the community's or the agency/organization's past history of expenditure of CDBG funds; the ability to leverage other funds for this activity; the ability to complete the project in a timely manner; and whether the FY 2024 request was related to projects that if not funded, would result in a special assessment against low-income homeowners. The City of Johnstown will provide CDBG funds to activities principally benefiting low/mod income. Such assistance is not directed to any specific geographic area, but is based on income benefit.

Affordable housing and/or financial housing assistance for qualified residents was identified as the largest underserved need in the City of Johnstown in the Five Year Consolidated Plan. The primary obstacle to meeting the underserved needs is the limited financial resources available. The City of Johnstown will continue to partner with other agencies when feasible to leverage resources and maximize outcomes in housing and community development needs.

In its 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, the City of Johnstown defined areas of racial or ethnic minority concentration as geographical areas where the percentage of a specific minority or ethnic group is 20 percentage points higher than in the City overall. The most recent data available on the concentration of racial or ethnic minorities is the 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-year estimates by Census Tract and Block Group. According to this data, the City of Johnstown has an overall minority population of 24.6% of its total population. By HUD's "minority neighborhood" definition, a Census Tract or Block Group in Johnstown would have to have a minority population of at least 40% to be considered a minority neighborhood.

According to the 2018-2022 ACS, Black or African American residents made up 3.7% of the Johnstown Metropolitan Area population while they comprised 16.8% of the City's population. The following Census Tracts and Block Groups have a higher Black or African American population that is 20 percent higher than the Johnstown Metropolitan Area, which meets the HUD definition of a "Minority Area."

- C.T. 000500 B.G. 1
- C.T. 013400 B.G. 1
- C.T. 013400 B.G. 2
- C.T. 013400 B.G. 3
- C.T. 013600 B.G. 1
- C.T. 013600 B.G. 2

The CDBG Program includes a statutory requirement in which at least 70% of funds must benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons. As a result, HUD provides the percentage of LMI persons in each block group for entitlements such as Johnstown. HUD data reveals that in 20 of the City's 25 block groups, the percentage of LMI persons exceeds 51%. All of the block groups in the census tracts identified as areas of “minority concentration” are also areas of concentration of LMI persons. The City of Johnstown overall low- and moderate-income percentage is 66.68%.

Discussion

The geographic locations and the public benefit for the FY 2024 CDBG and HOME Activities/Projects are as follows:

- **Cambria County Backpack Project** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Clientele (LMC)
- **Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Clientele (LMC)
- **YMCA - Scholarship Memberships** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Clientele (LMC)
- **Learning Lamp - Learning Lamp to Go** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Clientele (LMC)
- **Fire Department - Firetruck** - Citywide; Low/Mod-Income Area Benefit (LMA)
- **Fire Department - Turnout Gear** - Citywide; Low/Mod-Income Area Benefit (LMA)
- **Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (CDBG)** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH)
- **First Time Homebuyer Rehabilitation Assistance** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH)
- **First Time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH)
- **Rehabilitation/Delivery Costs** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH)
- **Demolition/Clearance** - Citywide; Slum/Blight on Spot Basis (SBS)
- **Economic Development** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Jobs (LMJ)
- ~~Playground Improvements - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA)~~
- **CDBG Administration** - Citywide
- **Planning** - Citywide
- **HOME Administration** - Citywide
- **CHDO Set-Aside** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH)
- ~~Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (HOME) - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH)~~
- **Cypress Avenue Park** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Area (LMA)
- **Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH)

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Johnstown will utilize its CDBG and HOME funds to rehabilitate owner occupied housing. The one-year goals for affordable housing in the City of Johnstown for FY 2024 are the following:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	45
Non-Homeless	23
Special-Needs	0
Total:	68

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	45
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	19
Acquisition of Existing Units	4
Total:	68

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

Discussion

The City of Johnstown will fund the following projects with FY 2024 CDBG and HOME funds:

- **Public Service - Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist at-risk households. (45 households)
- **First Time Homebuyer Rehabilitation Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist low- and moderate-income first-time residents rehabilitate their first home. (5 households)
- **First Time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist low- and moderate-income first-time residents purchase their first home. (4 households)
- **CHDO Set-Aside** - The City will continue to fund CHDO Organizations to rehabilitate a single family house for re-sale in the City. In 2024, the City anticipates rehabilitating one (1) low income unit. (1 household)
- **Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program** - The City will continue to fund this program that provides CDBG and HOME funds to rehabilitate owner-occupied housing for low-income families. (12 households)
- **Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale** - The City will fund this program for the acquisition, rehabilitation, and resale of single-family housing units located within the City of Johnstown for

low- and moderate-income residents. The City anticipates acquiring, rehabilitating, and reselling one (1) low-income unit. (1 household)

DRAFT

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Johnstown Housing Authority (JHA) is the only municipal housing authority in Cambria County that is designated to oversee public housing. Johnstown Housing Authority has eleven (11) public housing developments in Cambria County consisting of a total of 1,504 public housing units. Nine (9) of these developments with 1,400 total units are in the City of Johnstown. There are a total of 983 units for general occupancy, 251 units for mixed populations (elderly or disabled), and 270 units for elderly occupancy. The current occupancy rate is 95%, but is expected to increase due to relocation due to repair work on the Prospect complex.

Johnstown Housing Authority also administers 960 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, to be used by low/mod households throughout the County. It does not administer any VASH Vouchers.

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

Each year Johnstown Housing Authority (JHA) receives an allocation of funds from HUD under the Capital Fund Program to undertake physical improvements. In addition, the JHA receives operating subsidies to offset the operating deficits associated with public housing units and to carry out maintenance. The Johnstown Housing Authority received \$4,568,380 under a HUD Capital Fund grant for FY 2024.

The Housing Authority is using the FY 2024 grant amount for the following activities:

- **Operations:** \$380,000
- **Administration:** \$380,000
- **Fees and Costs:** \$140,000
- **Site Improvement:** \$0
- **Dwelling Structures:** \$3,668,380
- **Non-dwelling Structures:** \$0

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

The JHA has an active five (5) person Resident Advisory Board which consists of four (4) Public Housing Residents and one (1) Housing Choice Voucher participant. The Resident Advisory Board provides input on such things as the Operating Budget, Agency Plan (Five-Year Plan), Annual Plan, and Policies.

JHA has active Resident Councils at six (6) of its communities: Vine Street Tower, Connor Tower, Town House Tower, Loughner Plaza, Nanty Glo, and Portage. The Authority meets with the community residents on a monthly basis to update them on activities, programs and various stages of modernization on their

respective communities. They are also consulted in the preparation of various projects and plans for submission to HUD. Council presidents report on the various initiatives at their developments.

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

Johnstown Housing Authority is not designated as "troubled" by HUD. Its most recent designation is Standard Performer for FY 2024. Therefore, no assistance is needed to improve operations of this Public Housing Authority.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

DRAFT

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

Introduction

The Eastern PA CoC serves a total of thirty-three (33) counties. The 33 counties are organized into five (5) geographically dispersed Regional Homeless Advisory Boards (RHABs). The City of Johnstown belongs to the South Central Pennsylvania Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) which oversees the Continuum of Care Network for Central Pennsylvania for nine (9) counties. The South Central RHAB includes Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset counties.

According to the Governance Charter for the PA Eastern Continuum of Care Collaborative, the mission of the PA Eastern CoC is to end homelessness throughout the 33-county Continuum of Care. The CoC works toward ending homelessness by providing a framework for a comprehensive and well-coordinated regional and local planning process. This includes identifying needs, conducting a system-wide evaluation of existing resources and program activities, and building a system of housing and services that addresses those needs. This mission will be pursued through the development of long-range plans to prevent and end homelessness in the geographic area, as well as the coordination necessary for successful implementation. The objectives of the CoC include the following:

- Promote development of adequate funding for efforts for preventing homelessness, rapidly re-housing homeless persons, and stabilizing their housing;
- Maximize potential for self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness; and
- Promote full access to, and effective use of, mainstream programs.

The Funding Committee is responsible for coordinating the annual application to HUD. In this capacity, it reviews all documents from the previous funding round; sets a schedule and timeline for the current funding round; develops and edits forms for new project and renewal evaluations; develops ranking criteria; collaborates with the Data Management, Collection, and Outcomes Committee, as necessary; and provides ranking reports to the CoC. In addition, in order to increase CoC-wide performance, ensure the strategic use of HUD funds, and develop new resources, this Committee will also be charged with developing the CoC's reallocation strategy. This includes setting policy to make any funding cuts or allocate new resources, based on the NOFA for the Continuum of Care.

Cambria County also receives ESG funds through PA-DCED, which are administered by the Cambria County Redevelopment Authority and distributed to agencies in the county helping the homeless and those at-risk of homelessness. ESG funds were distributed to Catholic Charities, Blair County Community Action, and Cambria County Community Action.

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 Continuum of Care completes a regular “Point in Time Count Survey” (PITC) each January to determine the number of homeless individuals and families in the Eastern Pennsylvania Region. The January 2024 PITC reported the following numbers of homeless persons in Cambria County:

- **Unsheltered** - 22 individuals, 1 family with children, and 0 children only
- **Transitional Housing** - 0 individuals, 0 families with children, and 0 children only
- **Emergency Shelter** - 88 individuals, 15 families with children, and 0 children only

The CoC uses a complete census count for its sheltered PITC, using both Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and interviews of sheltered persons to gather population and subpopulation data. In most cases, the PITC is primarily conducted as a service-based count or only in known/probable locations (i.e. downtown corridors, main street areas, town squares, truck stops and other 24/7 locations). HMIS was used to collect PITC data for ES and TH providers with strong data quality. HMIS is the preferred data collection method. However, only 59.5% of all sheltered beds in the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC and 40.3% of sheltered beds in Cambria County participate in HMIS. In order to ensure that a complete census count was conducted, the second data collection method, sheltered interviews, was required.

The unsheltered count was conducted on a single night throughout the CoC’s 33-county geographic area. Each county had an identified coordinator who organized the county-level PIT planning. As a result, some counties did a complete canvas, while others focused on the most populated sections of the county or only known locations. Due to the CoC’s large size and rural nature, a service-based count was conducted in some counties with locations known to be frequently utilized by persons experiencing homelessness. To prevent duplication, survey forms asked if a household was previously surveyed that night. Each county determined their methodology based on the prevalence of unsheltered homeless, the size of the county, volunteer availability, and weather-related factors (snowfall, cold). Search areas excluded mountains, forests, and extremely remote areas. In the most remote areas, some counties developed partnerships with state police and park rangers, who notified a designated contact if someone was identified as unsheltered. Unsheltered homelessness is not common in the mostly rural Eastern PA CoC, with a total of 492 unsheltered persons in the thirty-three (33) county CoC (up from 287 persons in 2023). Nine (9) counties reported zero unsheltered persons, and another eleven (11) counties reported ten (10) or fewer unsheltered persons; in 2023, this was thirteen (13) and fifteen (15) counties respectively. The 2024 unsheltered count in Cambria County was twenty-two (22) persons, up from zero (0) unsheltered persons in 2020.

There were thirteen (13) chronically homeless persons identified in Cambria County on the night of the PITC, up from zero (0) in 2023 and 2022.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) providers conduct the most widespread outreach

throughout the COC. A by-name-list has been created through the Veteran subcommittee of the CoC, which is used to track Vets in the region. Resources provided through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs are used to rapidly rehouse any Veterans identified. There was one (1) homeless Veteran identified in Cambria County on the night of the 2024 PITC, up from zero (0) in 2023.

Cambria County also receives ESG funds through PA-DCED, which are administered by a partnership of Cambria County Behavioral Health and the Greater Johnstown Landlord Association. These organizations distribute funds to agencies in the county helping the homeless and those at-risk of homelessness. ESG funds support outreach in Cambria County.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Since the City of Johnstown doesn't receive Emergency Solutions Grants, it works as a partner in the Continuum of Care process to address the needs of persons who are not homeless but may be at risk. A partnership of Cambria County Behavioral Health and the Greater Johnstown Landlord Association administers the ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) for Cambria County.

As of the 2023 CoC housing inventory, Catholic Charities of Cambria County no longer receives Emergency Solution Grant funds to operate the Martha and Mary House homeless shelter in Dale Borough. The shelter was built with Cambria County CDBG funds, ESG funds, State PHARE (Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement) funds, and Cambria County Affordable Housing Trust Funds. The shelter has been operating since the beginning of March 2015, with four (4) bedrooms offering a maximum occupancy of fifteen (15) residents. Martha and Mary House provides temporary housing, individualized service plans for success, and case management services to homeless men, women, and families in Cambria County for up to 30 days (those with a history of violent or sexual crimes will not be admitted; priority will be given to Cambria County residents). Portions of the funding for the program come from private and State grants, but ongoing community support will be required to maintain the program. The City of Johnstown and Cambria County participate in the Emergency Shelter Committee, which has about twenty-two (22) agencies represented, to continue an ongoing conversation with Cambria County human services stakeholders on the needs of the homeless population and the available resources to help support the population's community re-integration from the shelter setting.

The Women's Help Center provides shelter for women, men, and their children who are victims of domestic violence. The Women's Help Center has identified a need for additional transitional and permanent supportive housing. With the help of the community, victims can learn about their different options, but many still face barriers to receiving more permanent supportive housing. The Women's Help Center did not receive FY 2023 ESG funds.

No agencies in the City of Johnstown received Balance of State Continuum of Care funds from the FY 2023 CoC NOFA. The following projects were funded in Cambria County:

- Blair County Community Action Program - Rapid Rehousing Program
- Center for Community Action - South Central PA Rapid Rehousing Program
- Northern Cambria Community Development Corporation - Independence Gardens
- PCADV - Eastern PA CoC Comprehensive DV Rapid Rehousing 2023 renewal

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

Using HUD System Performance Measure Guidance, the HMIS Lead developed a CoC Performance Report with metrics for “Length of Time Homeless” (LOTH) and reviewed this data with the CoC Data Committee, which meets quarterly to review CoC Performance and identify needed interventions. The CoC continues to use its funds for Rapid Rehousing and Coordinated Entry. HMIS is used to monitor and record returns to homelessness, which is monitored through the Data Subcommittee each quarter. The CoC is significantly increasing Permanent Housing resources through reallocation and Permanent Housing bonuses, which will assist those exiting shelters.

Severity of need is taken into consideration in prioritizing people experiencing homeless. This is determined in a number of different ways in the ranking criteria. Specific vulnerabilities considered included chronic homelessness; most significant health and behavioral health needs; youth; and victims of domestic violence. CoC policies require all Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects to prioritize beds to those with the greatest LOTH, but some PSH projects have had very little turnover since the adoption of policy. As a result, the level of vulnerability within PSH projects may widely vary. To adjust for this discrepancy, the ranking included a question measuring “severity of need” based on the vulnerabilities from the Annual Performance Report to HUD. This question asked about additional criteria relevant to vulnerability, including not scoring victims of domestic violence on recidivism, and scoring youth differently on employment outcomes.

2-1-1 Human Services Helpline

The United Way of the Laurel Highlands free 2-1-1 Human Services Helpline is available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week in Cambria and Somerset Counties. The helpline offers up-to-date resources to callers looking for utility, financial, and rent assistance; housing and shelter assistance; food assistance; drug and alcohol treatment and support; medical assistance; transportation; and other related information.

Chronic Homeless

The CoC has prioritized reducing chronic housing. As such, all Public Supportive Housing beds are

dedicated to the chronically homeless. PSH beds are located throughout many of these 33 counties, however, the majority of chronically homeless households are concentrated in a small number of counties. While the procedures outlined in the CoC's PSH prioritization policy require all projects to advertise available PSH beds, logistics and client choice often result in the bed being occupied by the highest prioritized non-chronic household within the given county.

Veterans

The number of homeless veterans has been significantly reduced throughout the CoC over the years. This decrease has largely been accomplished through the extensive outreach efforts of Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) funded providers. Additionally, they participated in PITC efforts throughout the CoC in order to identify and engage any known and unknown Veterans. SSVF providers have developed relationships with a significant number of shelters across the CoC. They conducted outreach throughout the CoC in unsheltered locations as well as through partnerships with Emergency Shelter Programs, etc. The number of sheltered Veterans also decreased due to the Lebanon Veteran Affairs Medical Center's Domiciliary Care program no longer being included in the Point In Time Count (PITC). The CoC has also increased coordination through Vets@HOME technical assistance, which is a toolkit that provides information on best practices to identify and engage Veterans experiencing homelessness.

Victims of Domestic Violence

The CoC has adopted an emergency transfer plan, where victims living in scattered site housing requesting emergency transfers have their needs addressed as quickly as possible. Victims make contact with trained, trauma-informed, victim-centered Coordinated Entry operators and Managers. Coordinated Entry operators work in partnership with domestic violence centers while maintaining confidentiality of victims.

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) prioritized its partnership with the CoC. PCADV is a state-based organization that acts as a funding conduit for domestic violence shelters and related organizations. The CoC acknowledges the need for a data driven system to show the permanent housing outcomes for survivors and the ongoing creation and implementation of permanent housing acquisition and retention through survivor-first services. The partnership between the CoC and PCADV will prioritize funding the creation of this system.

Youth

The CoC's strategic plan includes the goal of reducing youth homelessness by 75% by 2022. In addition, the CoC will be providing quarterly training to share best practices for working with youth experiencing homelessness.

The CoC tracks the increases in total dollars dedicated to resources and bed increases set aside for homeless youth. With the addition of resources and beds dedicated to homeless youth, the CoC has also developed collaboration and education services and created additional discharge planning. Collaboration efforts include youth development and workforce development programs, the creation of a coalition

among state education agencies to improve resources for youth experiencing homelessness, and partnerships with school districts across the CoC.

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

In the Eastern PA Continuum of Care’s Five-Year Strategic Plan to Reduce and End Homelessness, the CoC outlines the following goals and actions under “Strategy 1: Prevent and Divert Homelessness.”

A. Evaluate and Improve Discharge Planning where Needed:

- Evaluate current discharge planning from these systems to help stem the flow of individuals leaving institutional settings and entering homelessness because they lack stable housing options.
- Research and provide information to other systems/organizations on effective discharge planning policies/procedures for individuals and households at risk of entering homelessness upon discharge, as well as information on available housing resources.
- Engage with statewide efforts to improve discharge planning policies across systems, emphasizing the need for permanent housing placement for those exiting institutions.

B. Increase Coordination of Homeless Prevention Sources:

- Assess the use of existing funding available for prevention and identify gaps.
- Coordinate funding (including ESG, HAP, PHARE) across the CoC so that resources are used effectively. For example, the CoC may decide to channel prevention resources to geographic areas where emergency shelter access is limited, either due to wait lists or lack of shelter facilities.
- Investigate the use of tools, such as the Prevention VI-SPDAT, to help the CoC more effectively assess households requesting assistance.
- Ensure coordination of prevention activities with Coordinated Entry to increase the effectiveness of the system.

Furthermore, “Strategy 2” of the CoC’s Five-Year Strategy Plan focuses on the streamlining of the system and better coordination among housing and social services through the CoC’s Coordinated Entry System. Lack of resources, combined with the lack of a well-developed coordinated entry process, results in severe hardships for persons experiencing homelessness who often face long wait times to receive assistance or are screened out of needed assistance. Coordinated entry processes help communities prioritize assistance based on vulnerability and severity of service needs to ensure that people who need assistance the most can receive it in a timely manner. Coordinated entry processes also provide information about

service needs and identify gaps to help communities plan their assistance and resources.

The CoC's strategic plan includes the goal of reducing youth homelessness by 75% by 2022. In addition, the CoC will be providing quarterly training to share best practices for working with youth experiencing homelessness. The CoC currently funds three (3) youth-dedicated projects, all of which are located in the Lehigh Valley Area.

The CoC tracks the increases in total dollars dedicated to resources and bed increases set aside for homeless youth. With the addition of resources and beds dedicated to homeless youth, the CoC has also developed collaboration and education services and created additional discharge planning. Collaboration efforts include youth development and workforce development programs, the creation of a coalition among state education agencies to improve resources for youth experiencing homelessness, and partnerships with school districts across the CoC.

The following types of organizations in the Eastern PA CoC provide referrals to the Coordinated Entry Process: law enforcement agencies; hospitals; EMT/Crisis Response Teams; Mental Health Service Organizations; Substance Abuse Service Organizations; non-CoC funded Youth Homeless Organizations; school administrators/homeless liaisons; non-CoC funded Victim Service Organizations; Street Outreach Teams; homeless or formerly homeless persons; Coordinated Entry virtual and physical entry points; Veterans programs; and faith-based organizations.

Discussion

In addition to the resources listed above, the CoC-funded housing projects listed below serve Cambria County:

- Blair County Community Action Program - Rapid Rehousing Program
- Center for Community Action - South Central PA Rapid Rehousing Program
- Northern Cambria Community Development Corporation - Independence Gardens
- PCADV - Eastern PA CoC Comprehensive DV Rapid Rehousing 2023 renewal

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

Introduction:

The largest housing problem in the City of Johnstown is affordability. According to the 2018-2022 ACS data, 43.8% of all renter households are cost burdened by 30% or more, as are 22.6% of all owner households with a mortgage and 16.6% of all owner households without a mortgage.

The City of Johnstown also experiences a lack of accessible affordable housing for the elderly and disabled. The housing stock is older and most single-family residential structures are two stories in height, and therefore, are not accessible.

The City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). In accordance with the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, each entitlement community must "affirmatively further fair housing." In order to "affirmatively further fair housing," each entitlement community must conduct a Fair Housing Analysis which identifies any impediments to fair housing choice. The City has prepared the FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in conjunction with the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. The impediments identified by the City include the following:

Impediment 1: Fair Housing Education and Outreach

There is a continuing need to educate persons about their rights under the Fair Housing Act and to raise community awareness to affirmatively further fair housing choice, especially for low-income residents, minorities and the disabled population.

Goal: Improve tenants and landlord's knowledge and awareness of the Fair Housing Act, related Laws, regulations, and requirements to affirmatively further fair housing in the community.

Impediment 2: Continuing Need for Affordable Housing

As of the 2018-2022 ACS, the median value and cost to purchase a single-family home in Johnstown that is decent, safe, and sound is \$40,000, far below the county median of \$110,900 and only a fifth of the Commonwealth median of \$226,200. About 8.09% of homeowners and 21.94% of renters in the City are cost burdened by more than 50% of their household income.

Goal: Promote the development of additional housing units for lower income households through new construction, in-fill housing, and rehabilitation of vacant houses, outside areas of low-income concentration.

Impediment 3: Continuing Need for Accessible Housing Units

As an older built-up urban environment, there is a lack of accessible housing units and developable sites in the City of Johnstown. 83.4% of the City’s housing units were built prior to 1970 and may not have accessibility features now required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, and 27.7% of the City’s population is classified as disabled.

Goal: Increase the number of accessible housing units through new construction and rehabilitation of existing housing units for the physically disabled and developmentally delayed.

Impediments 4: Economic Issues Affect Housing Choice

There is a lack of economic opportunities in the City which prevents low-income households from improving their income and their ability to live outside areas with concentrations of low-income households, which makes this a fair housing concern.

Goal: The local economy will provide new job opportunities, which will increase household income, and will promote fair housing choice.

Actions 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:

Johnstown’s Zoning Ordinance does not distinguish housing type by occupants or income and does not place any restrictions on housing developed with a public subsidy. Group homes are permitted by special exception in R2, R3, TND, and H districts.

Group homes should not be considered as a “special exception” in the Multi-Family R3 District and the Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) District. The group homes should be listed as a permitted use.

The 2011 Zoning Ordinance defines *family* as follows:

- A single person or two or more persons related by blood, marriage, adoption, guardianship, or any other duly authorized custodial relationship; living together as a single cohesive and nonprofit housekeeping unit which shares common facilities; or
- Two unrelated people and any children related to either of them; or
- Any group of three unrelated people; or
- A group of not more than five unrelated people whom can be classified as “disabled” living together as a single cohesive housekeeping unit which shares common facilities as considered

reasonably appropriate for a similar number of persons related by blood, marriage, adoption, or guardianship.

Under section 105 Purpose of Community Development Objectives, the City should consider adding another purpose to the text as evidence that the City does affirmatively further fair housing. The following language is suggested:

Section 105

“This ordinance is also intended to affirmatively further fair housing in the City of Johnstown by: abiding by the provisions of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended; promoting fair housing choice for all residents in the City; assuming the rights of all individuals that are identified as members of a protected class by the Federal Government; and prevention of discrimination in housing based on a person’s race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or handicap.”

Under Section 202 Definitions, the City should consider adding the following definitions and revising other definitions:

Section 202

Group Home: Revise the definition to state “A residential living arrangement for a group of more than five (5) ‘disabled’ persons not considered a ‘family’ by the City of Johnstown Zoning Ordinance.” This will bring the definition into compliance with the definition of family.

Fair Housing Act: Add a new definition.

Americans with Disabilities Act: Add a new definition.

Accessibility: Add a new definition.

Visitability: Add a new definition.

The City has been reviewing and revising its Zoning Ordinance on a regular basis and the last revision was in November 2013. These recommendations should be considered in the next revision and presented to the City Planning Commission for review.

The City has adopted the Pennsylvania State Building Code which contains the 2009 International Building Code Amendments.

Discussion:

The City of Johnstown has allocated FY 2024 CDBG and HOME funds for the following activities to affirmatively further fair housing:

- **Public Service - Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist at-risk households. (CDBG \$10,000)
- **Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation** - Funds used for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing on citywide basis. (CDBG \$100,000 and HOME \$137,077)
- **First Time Homebuyer Rehabilitation Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist low- and moderate-income first-time residents rehabilitate their first home. (CDBG \$100,000)
- **First Time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist low- and moderate-income first-time residents purchase their first home. (CDBG \$12,000)
- **CHDO Set Aside** - Funds will be used for the acquisition and rehabilitation of single family homes for resale to low-income households. (HOME \$27,416)
- **Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale** - Funds will be used for the acquisition, rehabilitation and resale of single family housing units located within the City of Johnstown for low- and moderate-income residents (HOME \$137,077)

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AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Johnstown has developed the following actions planned to:

- Address obstacles to meeting underserved needs,
- Foster and maintain affordable housing,
- Reduce lead-based hazards,
- Reduce the number of poverty-level families,
- Develop institutional structures, and
- Enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Johnstown will work to address these obstacles through the agencies and programs to be funded in FY 2024. Some of the activities to address these obstacles include:

- **Public Service - Cambria County Backpack Project** - CDBG funds will be used to provide backpacks filled with food items for children to carry home over the weekends within the City of Johnstown.
- **Public Service - Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance** - Funds will be used to provide Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) to prevent the loss of basic needs such as heat, water, electricity in order to provide a suitable living environment.
- **Public Service - Learning Lamp - Afterschool Outreach Program** - Funds to pay for the costs to run this program that will provide science, geography, and math curriculum for low- and moderate income elementary and middle school aged learners in the City through mobile/portable outreach.
- **Public Service - YMCA - Scholarship Membership** - CDBG funds will be used to pay for youth and family scholarships for YMCA memberships, to allow them to use facilities and participate in programs.
- **CHDO Set-Aside** - The City will continue to fund CHDO Organizations to acquire and rehabilitate single family homes for resale to low-income households in the City. In 2024, the City anticipates acquiring and rehabilitating one (1) low-income unit.
- **Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program** - The City will continue to fund this program that provides CDBG and HOME funds to rehabilitate owner-occupied housing for low-income families.
- **Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale** - The City will fund the acquisition, rehabilitation and resale of single family housing units located within the City of Johnstown to low- and moderate-income residents

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

During the FY 2024 CDBG program year, the City of Johnstown does not plan to fund any projects that will construct new units or provide any rental assistance. All the projects are open to the residents of the City.

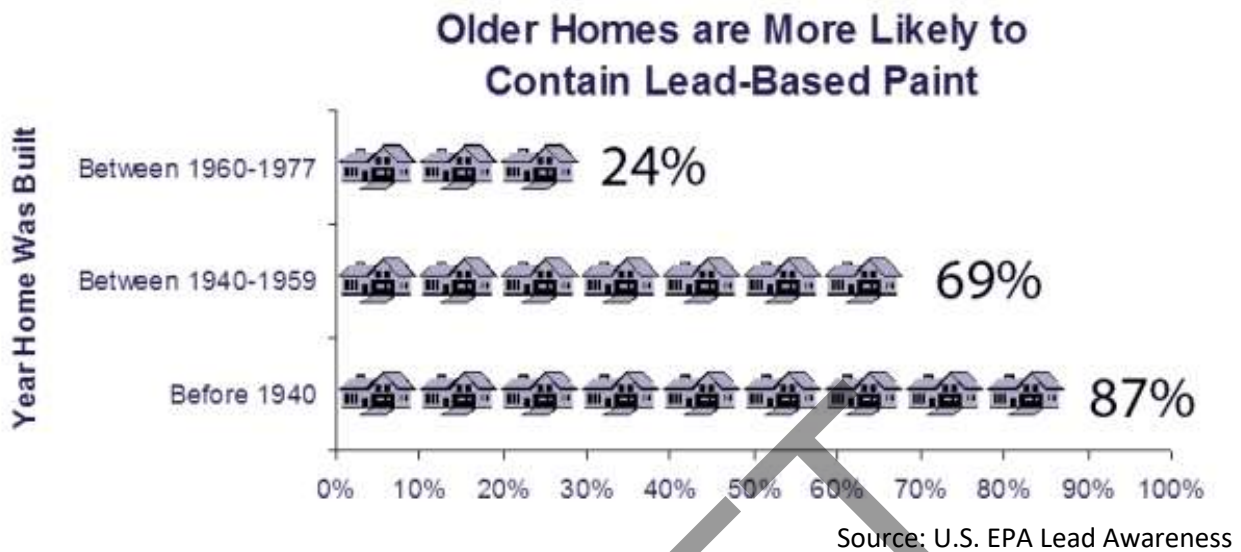
The City of Johnstown will fund the following projects with 2024 CDBG and HOME funds:

- **Public Service - Catholic Charities - Emergency Financial Assistance** - Funds will be used to provide Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) to prevent the loss of basic needs such as heat, water, electricity in order to provide a suitable living environment.
- **First Time Homebuyer Rehabilitation Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist low- and moderate-income first-time residents rehabilitate their first home.
- **First Time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance** - The City will fund this program to assist low- and moderate-income first-time residents purchase their first home.
- **CHDO Set-Aside** - The City will continue to fund CHDO Organizations to acquire and rehabilitate single family homes for resale to low-income households in the City. In 2024, the City anticipates acquiring and rehabilitating one (1) low-income unit.
- **Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program** - The City will continue to fund this program that provides CDBG and HOME funds to rehabilitate owner-occupied housing for low-income families.
- **Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resale** - The City will fund the acquisition, rehabilitation and resale of single family housing units located within the City of Johnstown to low- and moderate-income residents

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Lead-based paint poses a particular hazard to children under the age of six. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is making efforts to raise awareness of the problem and mitigate or eliminate the hazard. Lead-based paint was banned in 1978, but housing constructed prior to that time

typically contains lead-based paint to some degree. The following graphic explains the risks:



Lead hazards were addressed during housing rehabilitation efforts. All homes that received rehabilitation assistance were tested for the presence of lead-based paint. When evidence of the paint was found, the paint surfaces were removed and/or the material was encapsulated to prevent exposure.

The City of Johnstown currently has two (2) contractors who are certified by the PA-Department of Labor and Industry to perform Lead-Based Paint hazard reduction work. During the FY 2022 CAPER period, the City continued to operate a housing rehabilitation program with HOME funds: the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program. The City performs risk assessments on all units under these programs regardless if there are children aged 6 and under or no children at all. If the unit has lead hazards, then the City used the lead interim control method to make the unit lead safe. The City required that contractors follow Lead Safe Work Practices on all projects that tested positive for LBP hazards.

The City of Johnstown entered into an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Lead Hazard Control Program in FY 2019 for \$365,000 to provide lead hazard reduction work over the next three (3) years from February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2024. A total of twenty-six (26) homes are proposed to be completed over the two (2) year period. Of the total \$390,315.98 award, \$60,000 will be used for Healthy Homes interventions at \$2,300 per unit (which may differ on a case-by-case basis) for items such as radon, pests, electrical hazards, etc. There are twenty-nine (29) additional hazards that HUD recognizes as suitable for Healthy Homes interventions. Under the terms of the grant, the City will be required to complete thirty-nine (39) risk assessments and enroll at least twenty-six (26) families. In addition, the City must complete outreach and education to at least fifty-six (56) individuals. Outreach and education will consist of the City speaking to health care providers, child care providers, and neighborhood groups, as well as ensuring that the City contractors are current with their lead paint education. The Grant will cover outreach/education, travel, administration fees, and inspection fees, in addition to lead hazard control

measures.

The units utilizing the Lead Hazard Control Program funding must have children under the age of 6 who either reside in the unit or spend a significant amount of time in the unit. As part of the Lead-Based Paint grant agreement, for every dollar of funds spent the City of Johnstown shall spend a 25% matching amount from local funds. The 25% match can come from CDBG funds being used specifically dedicated to and integrated into units on which lead-based paint hazard control work is being performed under the agreement. The City of Johnstown's housing rehabilitation programs (CDBG and HOME) follow these procedures. The City of Johnstown will document all matching fund expenditures in writing and submit them to the Department on the required forms.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

According to the 2018-2022 ACS, an estimated 32.9% of the City of Johnstown's residents live in poverty, which is higher than the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania where 11.8% of residents live in poverty. Female-headed households with no spouse present and children under 18 years are particularly affected by poverty at 68.2%, and 53.6% of all youth under the age of 18 were living in poverty. The City's goal is to reduce the extent of poverty by actions the City can control, and through work with other agencies and organizations.

The resources and opportunities that the City has for reducing the number of families with incomes below the poverty line are limited. Since poverty is a function of income, its effect on housing opportunity and choice is apparent. Conversely, without adequate, stable housing, alleviating poverty is more difficult. Still, the means of addressing both issues are fragmented. Several structural barriers to poverty are addressed through different local policies. For example, the City has a policy that requires the employment of Section 3 households in construction contracts when possible.

More direct efforts to alleviate poverty by combining case management, social services job training, and housing assistance are becoming more common. City and County social service agencies have become more committed to the Continuum of Care models being introduced across the country. As these agencies become more proficient at providing services to the needy, the poverty rates will decline.

The City's anti-poverty strategy is based on attracting a range of businesses and supporting workforce development including job-training services for low income residents. In addition, the City's strategy is to provide supportive services for target income residents.

Planned economic development programs include:

- **EDS-1 Employment** - Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development for low- and moderate-income residents.
- **EDS-2 Financial Assistance** - Support the expansion, growth and new development of business and commercial enterprise through technical assistance programs, low interest financing and

façade improvement programs.

- **EDS-3 Redevelopment Program** - Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites and facilities.

The City of Johnstown will fund the following anti-poverty projects with FY 2024 CDBG funds:

- **Economic Development** - Funds for competitive economic development awards targeted to for-profits and non-profits in the City of Johnstown that will remain in business for a minimum of five years. Potential awards include:
 - Financial assistance in the form of grants to private commercial property owners located within the City of Johnstown for the purpose of correcting existing building code violations and facade improvements;
 - Funds to acquire property within the City of Johnstown for the purpose of promoting new commercial development;
 - Funds to acquire and/or rehabilitate commercial buildings within the City of Johnstown.
 - Financial assistance to non-profits in the form of grants to rehabilitate commercial buildings; and/or
 - Financial assistance in the form of grants to for-profit businesses for the purpose of acquiring property, clearing structures, expanding or rehabilitating a building, and purchasing equipment.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Johnstown's CDBG and HOME Program funds are administered by the City of Johnstown's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The Department of Community and Economic Development ensures compliance with the program guidelines through monitoring of the sub-recipients. The DCED staff coordinates with the agencies to ensure that they perform in the time frame that is stated in their agreement. The DCED staff meets regularly with these agencies to promote coordination among these agencies.

DCED works with other City Departments to address infrastructure, recreational, code enforcement, and public safety needs. These partnerships have identified areas of need throughout the City, and help the City address these problems.

Historically, the largest gap in the institutional structure was the lack of communication. The City of Johnstown is continuing to overcome this through communication and consultations with the following public and private organizations:

- **City of Johnstown, Department of Community and Economic Development** - oversees the CDBG and HOME programs.
- **Johnstown Housing Authority** - oversees the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, improvements to public housing communities, and the development of scattered site affordable

housing.

- **Social Services Agencies** - the City provided funds to address the needs of low- and moderate-income persons.
- **Housing Providers** - the City provided funds to rehabilitate and develop affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families and individuals.

Each year, as part of the CDBG and HOME application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for CDBG and HOME funds for eligible activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and informational meetings, and by completing survey forms.

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

Public Institutions: The City will act as a clearinghouse and facilitator for many of the activities described in the annual action plan. As the local unit of government, the City is empowered to apply for and administer certain types of grants. Support from the City, expressed as a certification of consistency or some other instrument, may be all that is required for some activities. Other activities will involve the more direct participation of the City for funding, acquisition of land or buildings, or in convening meetings of various agencies to iron out differences or strategies on how to seize opportunities. The City will continue to administer the CDBG and HOME programs.

The Johnstown Housing Authority administers public housing and Section 8 Rental Assistance Programs in the City. This Authority is responsible for the management and maintenance of public housing units. The Housing Authority will continue in its efforts to modernize these public housing units in order to provide decent, affordable housing in the City.

Non-Profit Organizations: Non-profit housing agencies play a role in the implementation of this plan. Through the construction of new housing, and the rehabilitation of existing units, these agencies access financing sources such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, HOME funds from PHFA, and charitable contributions that increase the supply of affordable housing. While some groups focus on the rehabilitation of single units for resale to first time homebuyers, others have attempted to create assisted rental developments. In the future, the union of such groups with social service agencies that serve specific special needs populations will address the Five Year Consolidated Plan strategy for creation of supportive housing and affordable housing opportunities.

Social service agencies are a link between the provision of housing and the population it is intended to serve. The agencies work directly with providers of services to persons with special needs including mental health, mental disability, the elderly, drug and alcohol addiction and families that are at risk of becoming homeless. Although these agencies cannot provide housing, they can direct housing efforts where needed and are integral in the planning of housing and services for target populations. Emergency shelters,

including the Women's Help Center, will continue to provide shelter for the homeless.

Private Industry: Several lending institutions cooperate with the City to provide first mortgage financing for first-time homebuyers that participate in the City's program to rehabilitate units that are substandard. Those lending institutions play an important role by providing financing that would not otherwise be available.

Discussion:

Monitoring:

The Monitoring Plan represents the City of Johnstown's strategy for overseeing the activities of entities that carry out CDBG and HOME assisted activities. The Monitoring Plan identifies the following:

- The organizations to be monitored
- The issues to be explored and the methodology to be utilized in conducting the monitoring
- Identification of the specific DCED staff members that will assume responsibility for monitoring
- The follow-up measures to be followed in communicating the results of the monitoring to affected organizations and the methods that will be utilized to obtain feedback from affected organizations

The CDBG and HOME monitoring will be carried out at two (2) separate levels. First, the City will conduct an internal monitoring to review the homeowner rehab program and to ensure that the CDBG and HOME Programs are being administered in accordance with CDBG, HOME, and other federal regulatory and statutory requirements. Second, the City will conduct external monitoring to review the activities of its sub-recipients.

The purpose of the City's monitoring efforts is:

- to identify and correct issues that prevent the City from achieving full compliance with the regulatory requirements of the CDBG and HOME Programs and other Federal requirements before deficiencies lead to HUD monitoring findings, and
- to learn more about the strengths and weaknesses of the various organizations that play a role in the City's CDBG and HOME programs, and to use this knowledge as the basis for structuring future CDBG and HOME activities.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The City of Johnstown receives an annual allocation of CDBG and HOME funds. Since the City receives a CDBG and HOME Federal allocation, the questions below have been completed as applicable.

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	\$0.00
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	\$0.00
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	\$0.00
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.	\$0.00
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	\$0.00
Total Program Income:	\$0.00

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	\$0.00
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.	89.7%

**HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)**

- 1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:**

The City of Johnstown does not anticipate the receipt of any additional program income funds prior to July 1, 2024 that it has not yet programmed. The City does not anticipate that it will receive any HOME Program Income during the FY 2024 Program Year.

- 2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:**

See attached Resale/Recapture Policy in the appendix section of the Annual Action Plan.

- 3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:**

No HOME funds are used for acquisition during this program year. Not Applicable.

- 4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:**

The City of Johnstown does not intend to use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds. Not Applicable.

Discussion

The City solicits applications for CDBG and HOME funds; applications are sent out to a list of agencies, organizations, and housing providers that have previously submitted an application or which have expressed an interest in submitting an application. The application is reviewed by the Department of Community and Economic Development staff and any questions are discussed with the applicant.

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.220 (l)(2)(vii) the participating jurisdiction may limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the low-income population only if described in the annual action plan. The City of Johnstown has chosen to not limit beneficiaries or provide preference to any segment of the low/mod income population under the HOME Program.

Information on the Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation program, First Time Homebuyer program, and the Sewer Lateral Assistance program is available on the City's website (<https://cityofjohnstownpa.net/residential-development/>), which is continuously updated. Applications are available and are accepted on a first-come first-served basis. Using the most current HOME and Housing Trust Fund Homeownership Sales Price Limits (95% Value Limits) the City verifies, the home selected by an income eligible applicant, the initial purchase price or after-rehabilitation value of homeownership units assisted with CDBG and HOME funds do not exceed 95 percent of the area median purchase price for single family housing, as determined by HUD.

HOME Match Requirements:

- The City's HOME-funded activities are limited to owner-occupied housing rehabilitation, which traditionally does not generate any HOME Match. There may be homeowner contributions by owners whose projects are HOME-funded, but where the cost for the work exceeds the funding limit of \$22,000. The spending of CHDO funds could also produce a HOME Match. The City of Johnstown has distressed status as a municipality by HUD, and the City has a 100% reduction in the HOME match requirement.

HOME Program Income:

- The City of Johnstown does not anticipate it will receive any HOME Program Income during this program year.

CHDO Organizations:

- The City of Johnstown has one (1) certified CHDO organization, which is Northern Cambria Community Development Corporation (NCCDC.)

CDBG Program Income:

- The City of Johnstown does not anticipate it will receive any CDBG Program Income during this program year.

CDBG Percentages:

- Administrative Percentage: 20.0%
- Public Service Percentage: 4.1%
- Low and Moderate-Income Percentage: 89.7%
- Slum and Blight Percentage: 10.3%

HOME Percentages:

- Administrative Percentage: 10%
- CHDO Set-Aside: 15%

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