



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

September 20, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: James Makshanoff, City Manager

Submitted By: Benita DeFrank, Neighborhood Services Director

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020-2021 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER) FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG), HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME) AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) FUNDS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Funds;
- 2) Upon conclusion of the public hearing, direct staff to incorporate comments received into the final FY 2020-2021 CAPER;
- 3) Approve the FY 2020-2021 CAPER for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City of Pomona receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds from HUD annually. As a requirement of receiving these funds, the City must submit the following documents for receipt of federal funds: a Consolidated Strategic Plan every five years, an Annual Action Plan also known as the application for funds, and a CAPER each year after closeout of the City's

program year. Staff has prepared the attached CAPER outlining the accomplishments of FY 2020-2021 for City Council review prior to submitting to HUD.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

PUBLIC NOTICING REQUIREMENTS: In accordance with Federal requirements for public noticing, a 15-day notice of public comment for the CAPER was published on August 26, 2021, in the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RELATED ACTION: The City Council approved the FY 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan on May 4, 2020.

DISCUSSION:

Federal requirements by HUD mandate at a minimum, two public hearings per year with at least one focused on program performance. During various stages of the development of the FY 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan, the City held two public hearings and distributed a Community Needs Survey. The CDBG Community Needs Survey was placed on the City's website for on-line completion. The survey was available in both Spanish and English. Outreach efforts to promote the on-line survey included: mailing postcards to over 44,000 households with access information, notifying residents through the citywide Nixle-System and posting information on the City of Pomona Facebook and Twitter pages. Other outreach efforts to solicit citizen participation included staff presenting at virtual community meetings to receive input from residents, soliciting input from Pomona community agencies and local government partners, and requesting feedback from City Departments and the Pomona Housing Authority.

This FY 2020-2021 CAPER represents the third performance report for the 2018-2023 Consolidated Plan, which covers the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The CAPER meets all content requirements as established by HUD and is consistent with the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The CAPER outlines and evaluates the overall progress the City has made in carrying out its goals and objectives in utilizing Federal entitlement funds awarded during FY 2020-2021. The CAPER was made available to the public for a 15-day public comment period commencing on August 26, 2021, and is presented to the Council for approval prior to submittal to HUD.

This public hearing will allow for public input during the 15-day CAPER public comment period on the City's progress in meeting goals outlined in the FY 2020-2021 Action Plan.

Highlights of Fiscal Year 2020-2021

In FY 2020-2021, the City accomplished the following utilizing Federal and State grant funds:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The formula entitlement allocation for CDBG funded projects was \$2,077,103. These funds provided both public and non-public services to the residents of Pomona. Activities included:

- Providing 2,093 residential housing unit inspections for health and safety violations through the City's Code Enforcement Division.
- Providing public services including, youth services for tutoring, after-school activities, sports programs, dental assistance, parenting/communication classes, outdoor programs, JROTC activities, music program, youth employment and fair housing services to over 2,093 persons. Services were primarily rendered virtually.
- Distribution of a Community Needs Survey soliciting input on community needs from over 44,000 households for FY 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan activities. The City received 216 survey responses.

Housing Assistance

In FY 2020-2021, Pomona homeowners received rehabilitation loans or grants to improve their property and help the City maintain quality-housing stock. Housing assistance activities included the following:

- CDBG funds were allocated for a Housing Improvement Program (HIP) that included Emergency Repair and Façade Improvements. A total of 11 homes were rehabilitated utilizing these funds.

Pomona Business Assistance Program (PBAP)

In FY 2020-2021, \$350,000 was allocated for Pomona business owners to receive stabilization grants of \$5,000 (maximum per business) to address the adverse impacts of the novel Corona Virus (COVID-19). A total of 56 business benefited with \$281,166 in expenditures.

Community Development Block Grant-Corona Virus Emergency Relief and Economic Security (CARES-CV)

The special allocation of funds is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19"). The primary objective of the funding is to support activities that impact short-term and long-term social welfare and economic development recovery efforts.

Food Delivery Program

In FY 2020-2021, \$100,000 in CDBG-CV funds were allocated for the food delivery program that provided vulnerable seniors a well-balance meal, seven days a week, meeting their nutritional needs. "Delivering so much more than just a meal", weekly phone outreach by Community Services staff provided unique opportunities to meet nutritional needs, combat social isolation and address safety hazards. A total of 541 persons benefited and there were \$100,000 in expenditures.

Emergency Rent/Mortgage and Utility Assistance (Round 1)

In FY 2020-2021, \$750,000 in CDBG-CV funds were allocated for the housing payment assistance program to address the adverse repercussions of the novel corona virus to the economy, to jobs and therefore housing. Specifically, this program assisted Pomona residents undergoing financial

hardship due to job loss or reduction in wages from COVID-19. This program provided a one-time assistance of \$1,500 to pay for the cost of rent or mortgage and utilities. A total of 230 households were assisted and there were \$170,755 in expenditures.

Emergency Rental Assistance Program (Round 2)

In round II of the Emergency rental, program 122 households were benefited by the one-time housing payment assistance. A total of \$48,654 was expended.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

For FY 2020-2021, \$2,932,921 HOME funds were allocated to ensure affordable, decent, safe and sanitary housing. HOME goals included preserving the existing housing stock and providing access to affordable housing. During FY 2020-2021, the following was accomplished:

- Two mobile homes were rehabilitated through the Substantial Rehabilitation Program utilizing State Cal Home funding.
- HOME funds were used to provide homeownership assistance (down-payment and/closing costs) for five first-time homebuyers;
- HOME funds were used to rehabilitate three housing units to provide decent affordable housing to low-income households.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

For FY 20-21, the City was awarded \$182,448 in ESG funds. Funded categories included emergency shelter operations and homeless management information systems. A total of 226 eligible persons were served during FY 2020-21 with ESG funds.

Emergency Solutions Grant – Corona Virus Emergency Relief and Economic Security (ESG-CV)

The CARES Act made available Emergency Solutions Grants Program to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”). The primary objective of the funding is to support additional homeless assistance and prevention activities to mitigate the impact created by coronavirus.

Motel 6 Pomona Voucher Program

Participants of the Motel 6 Pomona Voucher Program who had underlying COVID high-risk medical conditions received vouchers. Participants received ongoing case management and housing navigation services until either of these solutions were accomplished:

- Individuals have achieved permanent housing
- Individuals requiring long-term case management and to support and address complex barriers preventing them from securing housing.

In FY 2020-2021, \$300,000 in ESG-CV funds were allocated for the Motel 6 Pomona Voucher Program. A total of 483 eligible persons were served thru emergency shelter.

Lead Hazard Control & Healthy Homes Initiative Grants (LHCHHIG)

For FY 2020- 2021, Lead Hazard Control & Healthy Home Grant funds were used to continue Lead Education, Awareness and Control (LEAC) and expanded efforts to address a variety of environmental health and safety concerns. During FY 2020-2021 four housing units occupied by low-income households benefited from lead abatement and the removal of housing-related hazards. A total of four low-income households benefited from both programs with \$60,958 in expenditures.

Pomona Housing Authority

Housing Choice Vouchers

- The Pomona Housing Authority (PHA) was authorized to expend \$15,491,220 to provide Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) to 935 extremely low (30% of median income) and very low-income (50% of median income) households. In FY 2020-2021, HCV units were leased up at 99%;
- The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program continues to provide eligible low-income participants with a comprehensive approach to becoming self-sufficient. By using housing as a stabilizing force, this allows families to put more emphasis on developing life skills, short and long-term goals and achieving economic independence. During FY 2020-2021, there were 49 participants in the program. As of June 30, 2021, 26 of those participants maintained an escrow account. Program participants, must achieve all established goals, be welfare-free for one year and be gainfully employed prior to graduating from the program. Three participants graduated from the program during FY 2020-2021. A total of \$48,474 in escrow funds were disbursed to FSS participants.

Mainstream Vouchers

Mainstream vouchers assist non-elderly persons with disabilities. Aside from serving a special population, Mainstream vouchers are administered using the same rules as other housing choice vouchers. The 2017, 2018 and 2019 Appropriations Acts provided funding for new Mainstream vouchers.

In 2018, the PHA applied for FY 2017 Mainstream NOFA and received award of 17 Vouchers
In 2020, the PHA received a CARES Act incremental award of 6 vouchers
In 2020, the PHA received a CARES Act award of 40 additional vouchers

In FY 2020-2021 the PHA allocated \$383,988 of which \$292,504 was expended serving on average 20 non-elderly disabled homeless families.

Foster Youth Vouchers

In FY 20/21, the Pomona Housing Authority (PHA), was allocated \$70,499 thru the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019 to serve youth under the age of 25, with a history of child welfare services, for up to 36 months, These vouchers were provided to the PHA thru the Foster Youth to

Independence initiative, as Tenant Protection Vouchers (TPVs) for youth eligible under the Family Unification Program. In FY 20-21 \$48,000 was expended serving four foster youth households. The PHA will continue to assist youth in crisis for the upcoming year.

As required by HUD, all public noticing requirements have been met and program performance data made available to the public. Therefore, it is recommended that the City Council, after hearing all public comment, approve the FY 2020-2021 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) prior to submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

COUNCIL PRIORITIES & GOALS:

GOAL J: Encourage the development and maintenance of quality housing opportunities for all.

GOAL K: Reduce the unsheltered homeless population by 10% annually and take actions to mitigate the impacts of homelessness on the Community.

Prepared by:

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ATTACHMENT(S):

Attachment No. 1 – Public Notice

Attachment No. 2 – FY 2020-2021 Draft CAPER