

I. INTRODUCTION

The City's 2019-23 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidated Plan sets forth the priority needs and goals for the CDBG program over a five-year period. In October 2019, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved this plan. HUD also recommended that the City amend its 2019-23 Consolidated Plan to improve impact and reduce administrative burden.

In preparing revisions to the plan, Consultant and City staff first reviewed previous survey results, and collected feedback from stakeholders at a quarterly subrecipient meeting held on November 6, 2019. Subsequently, City staff collected feedback from City Council at a shirtsleeve meeting held on December 10, 2019, which focused on receiving additions, deletions, and revisions to preliminary draft goals; identifying the higher priority community needs and goals; and analyzing the use of CDBG funds for each project. On December 10, 2019, at a Lodi Improvement Committee meeting, committee members and stakeholders also provided input regarding preliminary revisions. Lastly, on December 14, 2019, consultant staff attended the Winter Wonderland Holiday Resource Fair and collected feedback on priority goals from approximately 50 members of the public.

As a result of this feedback, this amendment was drafted and is made available for a 30-day public comment period beginning December 17, 2019 and ending January 15, 2020.

Formation of Community Needs and Goals

The 2019-23 Consolidated Plan outlines the actions to be undertaken over the next five years, in relation to capital improvements, public services, infrastructure improvements, housing, homelessness, special needs, and various other community development-type activities, as identified by the City and the community.

The process of developing the 2019-23 Consolidated Plan community needs and goals involved a significant amount of community outreach and public involvement. The originally drafted 2019-23 Consolidated Plan goals were completed in a format very similar to the previous 2014-18 Consolidated Plan. These goals were formed based on public feedback, City Council comments, City Staff review, and locally sourced data.

Outreach to the community included the distribution and collection of a community needs survey; a workshop focused on noticing the public of CDBG funding and community needs; consultations with local organizations and stakeholders; Lodi Improvement Committee meetings that encouraged citizen participation and public comment; a 30-day public review period for the draft Consolidated and Annual Plan documents; and public hearings to allow for public feedback after the approval of the Draft 2019-23 Consolidated Plan and 2019-20 Annual Action Plan.

HUD Recommendations

HUD is recommending that the City of Lodi amend the Consolidated Plan to have more specific goals and priority needs identified in its Strategic Plan, which is the priority needs and goal setting section of the Consolidated Plan. It should be noted that no prior direction on the specificity of these goals was given by HUD and Lodi's strategic plan goals were similar to previously approved strategic plan goals.

Lodi’s HUD representative explained that Consolidated Plans have historically had more general goals in the past; however, HUD is now encouraging local jurisdictions to have more specific priority needs and goals. HUD also recommends that the City create specific goals for addressing affordable housing and homelessness issues in the community, since community feedback identified those as significant issues. Lastly, HUD suggests that it is better to focus funds on fewer community needs/goals and projects to reduce administrative burden on the City and applicants, while also creating a larger impact per project.

Please refer to the official HUD letter attachment at the end of this staff report for a detailed explanation of recommended improvements to the Consolidated Plan.

Consolidated Plan Amendment Process

The timeline below outlines the 2019-23 Consolidated Plan Amendment #1 process:

November

- November 6th - Collected feedback from stakeholders on priority populations, needs, and goals
- Reanalyzed results of community survey on forming priority populations, needs, and goals
- Staff drafted revised preliminary needs and goals

December

- December 10th - Shirtsleeve session to obtain City Council feedback on preliminary draft needs and goals
- December 10th - Lodi Improvement Committee meeting to review preliminary draft needs and goals
- December 14th - Community engagement at Winter Wonderland Holiday Resource Fair
- Contact stakeholders and community members for feedback, as needed
- Incorporate feedback and complete Consolidated Plan Draft Amendment and release for 30-day public comment period

January

- End of 30-day public comment period
- City Council public hearing to approve Consolidated Plan Amendment

II. FEEDBACK ON PRIORITY POPULATIONS AND NEEDS

During the Consolidated Plan Amendment process, City staff reached out to local community stakeholders, Lodi Improvement Committee members, as well as Lodi City Council to gather feedback on the prioritization of needs and populations to be revised and selected for the 2019-23 Consolidated Plan. The information below displays the compiled results that were gathered from this outreach.

Draft - Revised Two (2) Priority Populations:

- A. Very low-income persons, specifically children, youth, single-parent families, individuals, seniors, and persons with disabilities
- B. Extremely low-income persons, specifically children, youth, single-parent families, individuals, seniors, and persons with disabilities

Draft – Revised Twelve (12) Priority Needs:

1. Safer Neighborhoods and more resident pride for neighborhoods within CDBG target area:
 - a. Neighborhood watch groups or neighborhood policing
 - b. Streetlights (Note: more information to be gathered on issue of lighting)
 - c. Garbage clean ups
 - d. Graffiti Abatement
 - e. Locally empowered leaders
2. Park/Green Space that attracts more local resident use, especially for youth:
 - a. Park cleanup
 - b. Park improvements for youth recreational activities
 - c. Community gardens
3. Improved Access to Transportation for priority populations:
 - a. Financial assistance programs for transportation for priority populations
4. Improve access within alleys, sidewalks, and buildings for those living in the CDBG target area:
 - a. Alley improvements in CDBG target area
 - b. ADA improvements
 - c. Sidewalk infill in CDBG target area
5. Fewer barriers to affordable housing:
 - a. Create new affordable housing units
 - b. Improve affordability of rental units
 - c. Improve homeownership
 - d. Farmworker housing
6. Improve housing conditions within CDBG target area:
 - a. Critical repair program
 - b. Code enforcement
 - c. Housing rehabilitation
 - d. Rehabilitate affordable housing units
7. Housing for homeless and at-risk homeless:
 - a. Transitional/supportive housing units
 - b. Emergency units
 - c. Housing/rental assistance vouchers
8. Services for Children/Youth:
 - a. Childcare
 - b. After-school programs
 - c. Gang prevention
 - d. Homework help
 - e. Mental health

9. Services for very-low income adults, seniors, disabled:
 - a. Meal and emergency food services
 - b. Mental health
 - c. General supportive services

10. Services for homeless/at-risk homeless individuals:
 - a. Mental Health Services
 - b. General assistance
 - c. Job training and employment opportunities
 - d. Domestic violence and emergency health services

11. Fair housing services (HUD requires this through AFFH rule)

12. More Local Leaders in low-income neighborhoods to help make community improvements (beyond City resources) for a safer neighborhood and more pride/cultural identity within neighborhood.
 - a. ABCD Program
 - b. Youth leadership

HUD recommends that priority needs be identified as either high or low priority (only a high or low classification is permitted); and that the number of priority needs (high or low) be more focused or narrowed down. Based on this direction, consultant staff recommends that Council select approximately four to five priority needs to be classified as high priority, which leaves the remaining priorities to be low priority. Additionally, Council may remove or modify any of the above priority needs to narrow down the number of priorities further. The following three tables display the results that were individually collected from community stakeholders, Council members, and members of the Lodi improvement Committee regarding the community needs above. The total score represents the number of votes in favor of a high, instead of a low, priority designation for the priority need.

Total Responses:

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
High	7	2	1	7	7	7	9	5	10	8	2	4
Low	-3	-5	-6	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-2	-3	-2

Remove	-0	-2	-2	-1	-1	-0	-1	-2	-1	-2	-3	-3
Keep	+2	+0	+0	+1	+3	+1	+1	+1	+2	+2	+1	+1

Total Score	6	-5	-7	6	8	7	8	2	10	6	-3	0
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City Council Response:

#1 #2 #3 #4 #5 #6 #7 #8 #9 #10 #11 #12

High	III	II	I	IIII	II	III	III	II	III	III	I	II
Low	I	I	II		I	I	I	II	I	I	I	I

Remove										I	I	III
Keep	II			I		I			I			

Total Score	5	1	-1	6	1	4	3	0	6	3	1	-2
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Stakeholders Response:

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
High	II			I	III	III	III	III	III	III	I	II
Low	I	III	III	II						I	I	I

Remove		II	II	I							I	
Keep					II		I	I	I	I		

Total Score	1	-5	-5	0	5	3	4	4	4	4	-1	1
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Lodi Improvement Committee Response:

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
High	I			I	II		II		I	II		
Low	I	I	I	I								

Remove					I		I	I	I	I		I
Keep					I					I		

Total Score	2	-1	-1	0	2	NA	2	-1	0	2	NA	-1
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III. PROPOSED REVISED GOALS

During the Consolidated Plan Amendment process, City staff reached out to local community stakeholders, Lodi Improvement Committee members, residents of the City, as well as Lodi City Council to gather feedback on the prioritization of goals to be chosen and selected for the 2019-23 Consolidated Plan. The information provided in the tables below illustrates the top goals and the top activities that were chosen to be funded.

Once this amendment has been released for 30 days to the public, Council will decide on the final goals and priority needs at a formal public hearing that will be held on January 15, 2020.

Draft-Revised Goals:

Activities highlighted in grey received overall support, based on the feedback received. Those without a highlight had lower levels of support and will be potentially be removed. *Based on HUD direction to be specific and narrow down goals, consultant staff recommends that Council identify which activities to keep and or modify, and which activities to remove. Council may want to consider the feedback received, alternative funding sources, priority needs, or other relevant factors.*

Goal #	Goal Name	Description	Draft Allocations – Will be adjusted/modified if activities change.
1	<i>Promote Safer Neighborhoods</i>	<p>The City will support projects and/or programs that support the development of safer neighborhoods.</p> <p>The City will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Evaluate streetlights in high-crime neighborhoods for maintenance and lighting — Create up to 5 neighborhood watch groups — Conduct 5 community garbage clean ups — Allocate up to \$100,000 to the graffiti abatement program (*potentially removed; support for this activity was extreme – either very much in support or not much in support) — Other_____ 	<p>\$100,000 from public services for graffiti abatement (26.5% of public service cap)</p> <p>\$50,000 for other Capital projects (3.1% of Capital Improvements)</p>
2	<i>Improve Community Parks and Green Space in CDBG target area</i>	<p>The City will improve public parks and green spaces within low-income areas of the City by implementing park and facility improvements that enhance park conditions, add youth recreational activities, and implement or maintain community gardens.</p> <p>The City will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fund up to 2 park improvement projects, including improved youth recreational activities. — Fund up to 1 green space/ community gardens project — Fund up to 5 park clean-up projects — Other_____ <p>Notes: City anticipate receiving non-CDBG grants to support three park improvement projects.</p>	<p>\$300,000 for 2 Park improvement projects (Facilities) (18.3% of Capital Improvements)</p> <p>\$20,000 for other capital improvement Park projects (clean-ups, etc.) (1.2% of Capital Improvements)</p>
3	<i>Infrastructure and Facility Improvements</i>	<p>The City will improve public spaces within low-income areas of the City by implementing facility and public infrastructure improvements.</p> <p>The City will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fund up to 2-3 ADA improvement construction projects (including to 2-3 Gap Closure Sidewalk projects) 	<p>\$513,000 for 2-3 Infrastructure/Facility projects (31.3% of Capital Improvements)</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fund up to 2-3 projects that support the improvement of alleyways in low-income neighborhoods — Other _____ 	
4	<i>Increase and Maintain Supply of Affordable Housing</i>	<p>The City will fund activities that focus on creating and maintaining affordable housing within the City.</p> <p>The City will allocate up to \$200,000 to: (Note: Additional funds would need to be allocated to accomplish these goals; perhaps from other non-CDBG funding sources (e.g. HOME, ESG, HEAP, etc).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fund the creation of up to 5 new permanent/transitional affordable housing units for very low-income persons that may be disabled or senior. — Rehabilitate up to 10 housing units for disabled, senior, and low-income populations (Housing Rehab or Critical Repair) — Rental Housing Inspection and Code Enforcement programs — Other _____ 	\$200,000 for Housing Supply and Maintenance Projects (12.2% of Capital Improvements)
5	<i>Build Capacity in CDBG Target Area</i>	<p>The City will fund activities that help to create community cohesion and agency among residents. (Combine this with Goal 1 above?)</p> <p>The City will allocate up to \$30,000 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fund the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) program \$ _____ — Fund youth leadership initiatives \$ _____ — Other _____ 	\$30,000 to ABCD and youth leadership (1.8% of Capital Improvements)
6	<i>Support Public Service Programs for Priority Populations</i>	<p>The City will fund activities that provide access to affordable services needed by priority populations.</p> <p>The City will allocate up to \$278,000 in funds for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — after-school programs — childcare — gang prevention — homework help for youth — meal and emergency food services — mental health for children/youth — mental health for parents, disabled, seniors — general supportive assistance — immigration services — Other _____ 	\$278,000 to Public Services (73.5% of Public Service cap)
7	<i>Improve or support access to transportation for priority populations</i>	<p>The City will provide funds to support or improve projects and programs that assist with public transportation.</p> <p>The City will allocate up to \$75,000 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Financial Assistance for transportation programs 	\$75,000 to programs and projects that support access to transportation (4.6% of Capital Improvements)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Infrastructure that improves transportation — Other_____ 	
8	<i>Affirmatively Further Fair Housing</i>	<p>The City will fund activities that focus on affirmatively furthering fair housing.</p> <p>The City will allocate up to \$100,800 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fair Housing Discrimination Testing (lower priority) — Fair Housing Help Hotline — Fair Housing Counseling and Education (higher priority) — Fair Housing Legal Assistance — Other_____ 	\$100,800 to Fair Housing programs (100% of Fair Housing from Program Admin)
9	<i>Improve Housing Affordability</i>	<p>The City will fund activities that focus on removing barriers to affordable housing.</p> <p>The City will allocate up to \$150,000 in CDBG funds to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — First-time homebuyer programs — Farmworker financial assistance — Tenant-based rental assistance — Other_____ <p>Note: HOME funds may be an eligible grant source for these programs.</p>	\$150,000 to Housing Financial Assistance (9.2% of Capital Improvements)
10	<i>Support Programs and Projects that Reduce and Prevent Homelessness</i>	<p>The City will fund activities that provide resources and assistance to homeless and at-risk homeless populations.</p> <p>The City will provide up to \$150,000 in CDBG funds to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Tenant-based rental assistance — Mental health services (divergent opinions and no consensus was found on which of the other activities should be prioritized; should we remove these other activities or can we focus on support another one or two?) — Supportive and emergency services (for domestic violence victims) — Job training and employment opportunities — Transitional and supportive housing services — Other_____ 	\$150,000 (9.2% of Capital Improvements)
11	<i>Create and Promote Housing for Homeless Populations</i>	<p>The City will fund projects that focus on the creation of housing opportunities for homeless populations within the City, such as the creation of transitional units, permanent supportive units, and/or providing housing assistance programs.</p> <p>The City will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fund the construction of up to 6 permanent supportive housing units for homeless and at-risk homeless individuals (i.e. HEAP) — Create up to 10 new transitional/supportive/emergency housing units — Provide up to 30 individuals with housing assistance. — Other_____ 	\$150,000 (9.2% of Capital Improvements)

Questions regarding this Consolidated Plan amendment should be directed to:

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