



# First Program Year Action Plan- City of Slidell

The CPMP First Annual Action Plan includes the [SF 424](#) and Narrative Responses to Action Plan questions that CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The Executive Summary narratives are optional.

## Narrative Responses

### GENERAL

#### **Executive Summary-City of Slidell Annual Action Plan 2010**

The Executive Summary is required. Include the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan and an evaluation of past performance.

##### *Program Year 1 Action Plan Executive Summary:*

*As part of the Consolidated Planning process, the City has prepared an annual action plan which provides a summary of the actions, activities, and programs that will take place during the next year. These listed items should address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan strategy. A new annual plan will be prepared for each annual period described in the five year Consolidated Plan. The attached Tables 3A, 3B and 3C identify the annual objectives and listing of projects proposed by the community. For facilitating the planning and administration processes involved with the Consolidated Plan, and for monitoring of progress on the Plan, the City has appointed the City Planning Department as the lead agency.*

*This Consolidated Plan identifies priority needs and proposed activities that the City will undertake to provide a suitable living environment, strengthen infrastructure, protect the environment, provide decent affordable housing, guarantee fair housing for all persons, help the homeless in a continuum of care, and generally improve targeted neighborhoods. Most proposed spending of HUD dollars will occur in the lowest income census tract in Slidell, Census Tract 409, in a neighborhood referred to as Lincoln Park, just off of Third Street or Sergeant Alfred Drive. The City's estimated 2010 year allocation of CDBG entitlement funding that will be used with this plan is about **\$213,942**, along with annual Section 8 and estimated \$23,000 in ESG homeless assistance funding through other local organizations. During this first year of the Consolidated Plan time period the City will concentrated funding on the rebuilding of the Rufus Viner Community Center, sidewalk improvements or construction of new sidewalks, fair housing awareness, along with program administration.*

##### **Annual FY 2010 Plan Budget Proposed:**

*Rufus Viner Center Construction... \$180,000*

Sidewalk Improvements...	\$28,442
Fair Housing...	\$ 500
Administration...	\$ 5,000

## General Questions

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year. Where appropriate, the jurisdiction should estimate the percentage of funds the jurisdiction plans to dedicate to target areas.

*All of the direct CDBG funds that are spent on programs and activities included in this year's Plan will take place within the CDBG Target Area, Census Tract 409, which is a predominantly minority and lower-income area. No funds are proposed during the 5 year plan period, to be spent outside of this area (referred to as the target area or neighborhood revitalization area). This area has the lowest median household income of all Census Tracts within the City of Slidell and includes an estimated 400 homes.*

2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities. *This was decided based upon the City trying to concentrate funding into a single low income geographic area in order to have the greatest impact. The priorities decided were based upon public input and review of the needs in the neighborhood.*
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

*From input provided and from a number of surveys done of lower income communities, the low to moderate income population believe that they are underserved in three overall categories. **The first is in housing**, or access to capital for housing. The second is in **protection against crime**. And the third is **access to social service programs**, public information, and awareness of programs. Housing is covered more completely in a later section herein on barriers to affordable housing. However, in this program year, the City is building a new community multi-purpose center called the Rufus Viner Center. One of its main purposes is for community meetings, crime programs such as safe neighborhoods, after school tutoring, a location for homeowner training programs, credit counseling programs, and programs dealing with community health and social service delivery. The public location therefore will help provide a venue for meeting underserved needs. The City also funds an annual fair housing awareness program which will help address access to, and options for, housing.*

4. Identify the federal, state, and local resources expected to be made available to address the needs identified in the plan. Federal resources should include Section 8 funds made available to the jurisdiction, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds expected to be available to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan.

*The City of Slidell believes that it has significant resources to help address the identified needs if it includes non-City resources provided through other programs. As an example, this includes \$25,000 that the City will have available this year from the State for ESG homeless assistance funds. The Slidell Housing Authority will also have approximately 500 housing vouchers with the Section 8 program and 124 public housing units open later in 2010. The CDBG program will provide about \$217,000 in funding for housing, community centers, and infrastructure programs within the target area. The St. Tammany Parish Weatherization program received \$167,993 for funding of approximately 21 housing units, although only a percentage of these will be in the Slidell area. Additional funding provided for meeting identified needs in Slidell include a tax credit allocation of \$1,633,750 and a CDBG allocation (State HOME funds) of \$22,000,000 for 250 mixed income rental units at Lakeside Apartments (already built and occupied).*

### **Managing the Process**

1. Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.  
*The lead agency is the Slidell Planning Commission, working together with the Slidell Housing Authority.*
2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.

*During the Citizen's Participation part of the planning process, the City of Slidell held two public hearings specifically tailored to solicit public. These meetings were held on February 18 and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. In addition, there were two public hearings related to a proposed amendment to add other projects to the Consolidated Plan list of projects, and a 30 day public review of the draft plan was made available to the public. The City also solicited the input of various private and non-profit groups by mailing a written survey to them. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the Consolidated Planning process include those that responded to the written survey sent out or that attended public meetings or contacted the lead agency representatives. This includes the City Planning Department, the Slidell Housing Authority, Habitat for Humanity, Starc, private banking representatives, homeless services organizations such as the Caring Center, Community Christian Concern, city councilpersons, Neighborhood Housing Services of the Northshore, Olde Town Association, Sunshine Village, Sunshine House, and many individuals. This public input helped to shape the Annual Plan budgeting and needs programs.*

3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, and social service agencies.  
*The best way for Slidell to enhance the coordination among private and public affordable housing providers, the City government, and social service agencies is through the use of a coordinating Council, such as the Social Service Council, already formed for this purpose. Slidell is participating in this organization at this time.*

### **Citizen Participation**

1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.

*The City held two public hearings tailored to solicit public input and 2 other public hearings relating to amendments to the past 5 year Consolidated Plan. Through these four meeting and the written surveys, the City gathered most of the public information it needed. In addition, the City Planning Department had several meetings with the City Councilpersons to gather their priorities and concerns. In addition, the City had a 30 day public review of the draft plan and Annual Plan made available to the public. The City also solicited the input of various private and non-profit groups by mailing a written survey to them. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the Consolidated Planning process include those that responded to the written survey sent out or that attended public meetings or contacted the lead agency representatives. This includes the City Planning Department, the Slidell Housing Authority, Habitat for Humanity, Starc, private banking representatives, homeless services organizations such as the Caring Center, Community Christian Concern, city councilpersons, Neighborhood Housing Services of the Northshore, Olde Town Association, Sunshine Village, Sunshine House, and many individuals. This public input helped to shape the Annual Plan budgeting and needs programs. The Citizen's Participation Plan for the City of Slidell is attached in Attachment 1 of the Consolidated Plan.*

2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.

*Although the City received no written comments on the Plan and annual funding, it did receive comments during the public meetings and through the written surveys. The comments primarily related to the need for rebuilding the Rufus Viner Community Center and for providing housing repair assistance to lower income families. The Housing Authority provided input that said they would like additional land on which to build new public housing units and that they had a priority for 3 and 4 bedroom units. Habitat for Humanity also mentioned the need for land to build single family housing units.*

3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.

*The City broadened public participation by meeting with residents of the most impacted neighborhoods in the City of Slidell, by meeting with present and past City Council representatives, by reaching out to the public housing authority, and through its use of the survey forms. Individual meetings were held between representatives of the City of Slidell and the Housing Authority, among other groups.*

4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

*There were no citizens comments not accepted and all comments have resulted in some level of addresses those comments within the 5 year Consolidated Plan. All areas of assistance needed did receive funding or technical assistance in the 5 year Plan, even if not addressed in this year 1 Annual Plan.*

## Institutional Structure

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to develop institutional structure.

*The City of Slidell will take several actions needed to strengthen the institutional structure of managing the Consolidated Plan and in providing better response to the needs identified.*

*First, the delivery of needed social services by private, for-profit, or non-profit organizations in Slidell is not as organized as local government would like it to be, but it is being improved. This is partly because of the work being done by partnering groups such as the Northlake Homeless Coalition, the Florida Parishes Human Services Authority, the St. Tammany Affordable Housing Task Force, and the St. Tammany Parish CAP agency, which all provide coordinated social service program planning. The City of Slidell itself does not control organizations like this but will continue to take part in the Parish-wide organizations. This process as it is now allows ample opportunity for community input and awareness.*

*Secondly, the physical distance between the City Planning Department as the CP lead agency, and the City of Slidell Administration, causes problems in the program structure. This is because the 2 City offices are located a mile from each other and not on the same campus. Within a two year period, this problem should be resolved when the Planning Department moves into a new building to be constructed adjacent to the Mayor and City Council offices. This structure will allow for more efficient communication.*

## Monitoring

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.

*Evaluation and monitoring of the Plan will be an important priority to this City's administration and will be accomplished in several ways:*

1. *The City will follow all guidelines established in OMB Circulars A-102, A-87, and A-128, in addition to the administrative guidelines established by HUD. A CAPER (performance review) will be completed on an annual basis.*
2. *The City will have an independent audit completed annually, which will review the expenditures of the City and program compliance.*
3. *Program CDBG staff and the Planning Director will hold regularly scheduled meetings to review each project's progress and to discuss any problems.*
4. *Staff evaluations shall be in writing and will be designed around the priorities and annual plan that are part of the Consolidated Plan.*
5. *Amendments to the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, or Citizen Participation Plan will only take place after notification of public hearings and after public input. This will allow the citizens of Slidell continual access to the progress taking place in the planning process.*

6. Each proposed project activity funded with CDBG, ESG, or other grant funds includes an estimated number of beneficiaries. Actual project results will be compared to the projected number of beneficiaries.

The City will prepare an ANNUAL CAPER REPORT and an ANNUAL ACTION PLAN for each year represented in the Consolidated Plan. These documents will be available for public review. The CAPER will be a tool used by the City in analyzing each project in relationship to adopted and written priorities.

## Lead-based Paint

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to evaluate and reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards in order to increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families, and how the plan for the reduction of lead-based hazards is related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Lead-based Paint response:

Health providers and health care agencies, such as the St. Tammany Parish Health Unit and the Parish School System nurse were interviewed during Slidell's Citizen Participation Process for the Consolidated Plan. The results of those interviews helped to provide a strategy for this one year plan. Although it is impossible to know how many persons have been harmed by lead-based paint and how many houses have potential hazards, it is possible to arrive at estimates based upon the age of the existing housing stock. The Parish Health Unit routinely screens children, starting at 6 months old, for lead levels. If problems are found, the Health Unit staff utilizes an "environmental survey," in order to locate the suspected cause of high lead levels. Lead-based paint reduction and the public's awareness of its dangers is a continuing priority of the City of Slidell. Since Slidell has so much of its housing stock built after 1976, lead-based paint is not as much of a problem as in some of the older cities. Although the Parish Health Unit in Slidell indicated that they have not recorded any cases of lead poisoning many years, it is estimated that 400 to 500 housing units in Slidell may still contain various levels of lead-based paint because of the age of the structure. The City's primary role in lead based paint reduction is public awareness and education, which will be an integral part of any housing or community programs. Working together with the City Housing Authority and the Community Action Agency, Slidell proposes to have a significant impact on the public's awareness of lead based paint hazards, especially among the lower income populations that are more likely to live in older housing units. During this year, through the City of Slidell web site, it is expected that up to 1000 local households will receive information about lead based paint and the hazards thereof.

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## HOUSING

## Specific Housing Objectives

\*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve during the next year.
2. *During the 2010 program year, the City added no CDBG funding to address structural housing concerns. The City did however, add \$500 towards Fair Housing Awareness and \$25,000 in ESG funds towards homeless assistance. Because of the budget demands for rebuilding of the Rufus Viner Center, CDBG housing funds are proposed for years 2011-2014 rather than 2010. The City has met and been in correspondence with the St. Tammany Parish home weatherization program and minor repair program however, to get a small number of housing units repaired and weatherized with Parish funds. The City expects to get at least 5 homes, occupied by the elderly or disabled, repaired within this program year. This will help meet the priority goals for elderly housing assistance.*
3. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.  
*The City of Slidell will use the identified resources this year to help increase public awareness of fair housing legislation and rights (CDBG funds) and will use ESG funding to increase services to homeless and homeless prevention cases that are serviced by the Caring Center for Domestic Abuse and the Miramon Center for adult men. The existing Parish operated housing weatherization program will help with up to 5 homes in Slidell that are occupied by low to moderate income owners. In addition, the public housing authority in Slidell will receive 115 Section 8 vouchers for temporary rental housing assistance.*

## Needs of Public Housing

1. Describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing and activities it will undertake during the next year to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership.  
*The City of Slidell has indicated in its 5 year Consolidated Plan, but not with Year 2010 CDBG funding, its desire to begin a homeownership counseling program. It will use a non-profit organization to do that. The City Housing Authority itself is addressing several of the public housing resident needs by encouraging resident initiatives such as resident councils and drug abuse prevention programs. In addition, public housing has indicated a need for additional staffing because of the growth of its Section 8 program. Through an increase in administrative fees, the Housing Authority will be able to hire that additional staff needed. The Housing Authority will be able to house up to 500 Section 8 assisted families this year, along with 124 families in public housing units this year. This will be more families assisted than ever before. In addition, the City is assisting the Housing Authority through the acceptance of additional vouchers for displaced families.*

2. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction shall describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance in improving its operations to remove such designation during the next year.

*The Slidell Housing Authority was rated by HUD in 2009 as a "troubled performer" with an assessment rating slightly less than 60. The City of Slidell has met with the Housing Authority during the Consolidated Plan review process and has offered any financial or management assistance needed. The Housing Authority has a plan of action for re-opening closed housing units that were impacted by Hurricane Katrina and is in contract with the HUD Field Office concerning this.*

## **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to remove barriers to affordable housing.

*An investigation of the City's policies that may negatively impact the construction price, sales price, or rental cost for affordable housing was undertaken in 2010, as part of the consolidated Plan review process. Affordable housing is considered to be housing that has monthly costs less than 30% of a household's gross income and that is assumed to meet minimum standard building codes and fire codes, and that is considered safe housing. In many cases, such housing cannot be provided to low and very low income individuals and families without some form of governmental assistance. With this definition established, it is generally found that Slidell's own housing or land development policies are not burdensome and do not reduce the availability of affordable housing. These codes primarily include the high standards set by the State of Louisiana when adopting the International Building Code, the updated Fire Safety Code, and the International Electrical Code. The federal government added the Flood Hazard Standards and the Wind Resistance Codes that resulted in higher standards and more costs for housing construction. The City has no control on these policies nor do they have the authority to reduce or change them. Although the majority of these regulations and codes are vital and necessary for safe housing construction, upgraded state and federal housing codes and standards have caused an increase in housing construction prices, placing many homes out of the affordable range of moderate-, low and very low income individuals and families. The City is trying to help remove or lessen barriers to affordable housing through certain actions. These include:*

- providing HMGP funding that pays at least 75% of the cost of elevating homes to meet the new flood level requirements.*
- providing funding for Habitat for Humanity to purchase new land for affordable housing construction.*
- providing permitting and approval of over 250 new tax subsidized affordable rental units*
- providing for an extensive amount of property that is zoned to allow multi-family housing*

*In addition, the Slidell Planning Department annually sponsors Fair Housing awareness programs, often in conjunction with the Housing Authority. These programs help to educate the public about fair housing laws, as well as provide*

information and phone numbers that citizens need if they need to file fair housing complaints. This will again be done in the 2010 CDBG program.

The City will also annually publish the toll-free fair housing “hot-line” phone number for HUD based complaints of housing discrimination (the number is 1-888-560-8913).

## **HOME/ American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI)**

1. Describe other forms of investment not described in § 92.205(b).

*The City of Slidell is not an entitlement for either one of these programs, administered by HUD and the Louisiana Housing Finance Agency (LLHFA). However, there are several banking institutions that are certified lenders under the ADDI program and can recommend that those funds be used in a home loan. In addition, though the City government does not receive HOME funds, there are several tax credit rental projects in Slidell that have received HOME funds from LHFA in order to make those housing units more affordable. This includes the 250 unit Lakeside Apartments in Slidell and the 164 unit Sienna Apartments.*

2. If the participating jurisdiction (PJ) will use HOME or ADDI funds for homebuyers, it must state the guidelines for resale or recapture, as required in § 92.254 of the HOME rule. *NA*
3. If the PJ will use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines required under § 92.206(b). The guidelines shall describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt. At a minimum these guidelines must:
  - a. Demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing.
  - b. Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestments in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.
  - c. State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.
  - d. Specify the required period of affordability, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.
  - e. Specify whether the investment of HOME funds may be jurisdiction-wide or limited to a specific geographic area, such as a neighborhood identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.215(e)(2) or a Federally designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community.
  - f. State that HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.

*This part is not applicable to the City of Slidell*

4. If the PJ is going to receive American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) funds, please complete the following narratives:
  - a. Describe the planned use of the ADDI funds.
  - b. Describe the PJ's plan for conducting targeted outreach to residents and tenants of public housing and manufactured housing and to other families assisted by public housing agencies, for the purposes of ensuring that the ADDI funds are used to provide down payment assistance for such residents, tenants, and families.
  - c. Describe the actions to be taken to ensure the suitability of families receiving ADDI funds to undertake and maintain homeownership, such as provision of housing counseling to homebuyers.

Program Year 1 Action Plan HOME/ADDI response: *This item not applicable to the Slidell of Slidell.*

## HOMELESS

### Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

\*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Sources of Funds—Identify the private and public resources that the jurisdiction expects to receive during the next year to address homeless needs and to prevent homelessness. These include the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs, other special federal, state and local and private funds targeted to homeless individuals and families with children, especially the chronically homeless, the HUD formula programs, and any publicly-owned land or property. Please describe, briefly, the jurisdiction's plan for the investment and use of funds directed toward homelessness.

*The City of Slidell proposes to invest at least part of its \$25,000 ESG grant toward homeless prevention this year. Those funds will be used to help pay utility bills and rent if there are proven cases of pending eviction or power being cut off to a household, thereby possibly forcing the family into homelessness. This funding is expected to assist 27 families with homeless prevention or homeless assistance. There is no proposed CDBG funding for homeless prevention in program year 1.*

2. Homelessness—In a narrative, describe how the action plan will address the specific objectives of the Strategic Plan and, ultimately, the priority needs identified. Please also identify potential obstacles to completing these action steps.

*As indicated in attached Tables 1A, 1B, and 1C, the City has prioritized homeless objectives as creating additional beds (DH-1) and services for homeless victims of domestic violence, the elderly, and those persons with severe mental illnesses. Through the use of ESG funds available from the State, the City is able to provide for services and homeless assistance through use of the Caring Center facilities. Although no CDBG or ESG funds will be provided this program year to the Sunshine House/Sunshine Village for those with mental illnesses, those non-profit organizations (through East St. Tammany Mental Health Association) are able to provide homeless and homeless prevention services to this targeted group.*

3. Chronic homelessness—The jurisdiction must describe the specific planned action steps it will take over the next year aimed at eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012. Again, please identify barriers to achieving this.

*The City has no direct funding in this program year to address chronic homelessness, which a significant problem to end. However, the City of Slidell works closely with the Northlake Homeless coalition for plans to address the issue of chronic homelessness. The Coalition's specific future-oriented goals and action steps to be undertaken over the next 18 months in carrying out the strategy to end chronic homelessness in our community are:*

- Goal 1: *Increase the supply of permanent supportive housing, other long-term housing and emergency shelter for chronically homeless persons.*
- Goal 2: *Strengthen outreach, permanent housing placement and service linkages for chronically homeless persons.*
- Goal 3: *Find additional funding to help assist with chronic homelessness and its recurrence.*

4. Homelessness Prevention—The jurisdiction must describe its planned action steps over the next year to address the individual and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

*As outlined in the City's five year Strategic Consolidated Plan, the City will primarily work together with homeless prevention organizations and service providers over the next year in addressing homeless prevention. Since this is not a specialty area of a small city government, the City must rely on the Northlake Homeless Coalition to suggest proper action steps that it and the City could take. Those action steps are outlined herein, although they are not only made for this program year but for many years to come. The planned steps include the following:*

1. *Access resources needed to prevent homelessness of persons being released from hospitals, prisons, and other institutions, by collaborating with governmental and other institutions in the region, in order to establish effective discharge planning.*
2. *Strengthen emergency rent, mortgage, utility, and related services through increased private sector donations and implementation of an HMIS system to increase coordination, reduce duplication, and facilitate increased access to these services.*
3. *Strengthen and expand current CDC financial management training for low- and very low-income residents.*
4. *Increase availability of decent affordable housing for low- and very low-income persons at risk of homelessness in the region.*
5. *Increase the amount and awareness of homeless prevention services available in the area, while also increasing the funding available to existing shelter providers.*

5. Discharge Coordination Policy—Explain planned activities to implement a cohesive, community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy, and how, in the coming year, the community will move toward such a policy.

*Every jurisdiction such as Slidell and the St. Tammany Parish Council, receiving McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care, or Section 8 SRO Program funds must develop and implement a Discharge Coordination Policy, to the maximum extent practicable. Such a policy will include “policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent such discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for such persons.” Although the City of Slidell itself is not the proper agency to prepare such a policy, it must provide cooperation in administration of the policy for any homeless assistance agency funded by homeless assistance funds. The City therefore cooperates with the Northlake Homeless Coalition and its Continuum of Care in making sure that the coordinated discharge policy is addressed. This organization is preparing such a plan and policy.*

## Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

*Not applicable to Slidell. Slidell does receive about \$25,000 per year in ESG funds from the State of Louisiana.*

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Community Development

\*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table 2B, public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.

*The City of Slidell has identified drainage improvements, sidewalks, recreation, and community center improvements as high priority needs within one designated community development target area. The summary of the non-housing needs and priorities are outlined below, as proposed for the 2010 Annual Plan period. (see Appendix Tables 2B and 2C).*

### **SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION**

**Objective PI-2:** *The City has prioritized certain areas with the Lincoln Park target area in which they would like to install new sidewalks or repair existing. These locations are shown on the Appendix 6 map of the area. The planning concept is to*

*provide pedestrian interconnectivity to recreational and other activity centers within the neighborhood while also increasing public safety by separating pedestrians from the vehicle traffic.*

*Some of the proposed drainage activities are related to the sidewalk improvements in that drainage ditches must be covered in certain areas in order to make room for sidewalks.*

*Basis for assigning priorities: The City has been and will be following the Consolidated Plan priorities and work based upon public input and identified non-housing community development needs. Sidewalk needs are also related to public safety concerns.*

*Proposed accomplishments: The long-term community development objective is that the sidewalk improvements will improve not only the public safety in the area, but also the quality of life for their residents, while primarily benefitting low to moderate income persons. This project has a SL-1 and SL-3 outcome.*

*Funding source: CDBG funds*

### **COMMUNITY CENTER CONSTRUCTION**

**Objective PF-1:** *The replacement of the damaged and removed Rufus Viner Center that was located on Schely Street in the target area has been a high priority need area residents during the past few years. The Center, which had been located adjacent to Possum Hollow Community Park, was used for educational and public awareness events, community meetings, and various programs. Rebuilding the Center to the new flood and wind zone standards will take several years since the estimated cost is about \$600,000. The City has already allocated an estimated \$400,000 from past CDBG allocations, along with a new 2010 CDBG proposed allocation for assignment to this project. This Center will be built on public land owned by the City of Slidell and maintained by the City.*

*Basis for assigning priorities: The City has been and will be following the Consolidated Plan priorities and work based upon public input and identified non-housing community development needs. The community center project has been requested by the target area residents for many years.*

*Proposed accomplishments: The long-term community development objective is that the community center construction and operation will improve the quality of life for the targeted neighborhood and will benefit primarily low to moderate income persons. This project has a SL-1 and SL-3 outcome.*

*Funding source will be CDBG funds.*

2. **Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.**

*\*Note: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.*

Program Year 1 Action Plan Community Development response:

*The Community Development Objectives are summarized herein, and are also shown in Tables 2C and 3C included in this plan.*

## **Antipoverty Strategy**

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.

*This Consolidated Plan Annual Plan addresses some of the antipoverty needs addressed in the 5 year Plan. Not all of the needs discussed within this Slidell area can be met by the City, federal dollars, and/or a combination of both. However, through the planned consolidation of resources, it is the hope of the City (as HUD had envisioned) that limited resources can be put to better and more efficient use, in order to serve the local population.*

*This section of the Consolidated Plan summarizes the one year actions that the City will take to help reduce poverty. To encourage investment and security in the City's low-to-moderate and minority neighborhoods, and by actively improving infrastructure, education, housing, crime issues, and code enforcement in that area may help reduce poverty.*

*One year Actions: Enforce violations of City codes that include junked cars, condemnation and clearance of housing units that cannot be repaired, improvements in unsafe or unsanitary housing condition. Increase the visibility and activity of police surveillance, to reduce crime and drug activity in lower-income neighborhoods. Evaluation records of City-sponsored activities should show the number of code violations enforced and the number of houses demolished or improved. Three to four vacant, dilapidated houses per year should be cleared after condemnation. The construction of two new housing units in Census Tract 409 will be pursued by Habitat for Humanity, along with City managed rehabilitation of owner-occupied units. New recreation, sidewalk and drainage funds will be invested to alleviate blighted conditions in the target area. It is recommended in this Consolidated Plan that the various local housing organizations form a more structured alliance to plan and deliver housing services for the homeless and lower-income families. The groups that are now involved in a cooperative structure have provided input, including: The Slidell Housing Authority; the City Planning Department; private banking representatives; Northlake Homeless Coalition; and homeless services organizations, such as the Caring Center, the Sunshine House, and Community Christian Concern.*

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## **NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING**

## Non-homeless Special Needs (91.220 (c) and (e))

\*Please also refer to the Non-homeless Special Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve for the period covered by the Action Plan.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

*Census 2000 estimates show 21% of the City of Slidell's population represent some case of disability status; although, an exact number of people needing the services is not currently available. There are Federal, State, local public and private sector resources that provide services to individuals with different mobility and cognitive handicap issues. The City works very closely with many of these agencies, groups, organizations who provide assistance to these individuals. These are some of the organizations that provide services in the Slidell area:*

*a. Sunshine House: A mental health program that enables members to reach their fullest potential and to avoid re-hospitalization. Sunshine House's Psychosocial Rehabilitation program (PSR) offers support and education opportunities to members, helping them to learn pre-vocational and daily living skills in the kitchen, clerical or home maintenance training. They offer re-socialization opportunities through social, cultural, or educational activities in the surrounding community. The staff and members actively work to de-stigmatize mental illness and educate members of the community concerning mental illness.*

*b. STARC – St. Tammany Association for Retarded Citizens – A private non-profit organization committed to providing services and support, enable people with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities to reach their fullest potential as independent, contributing members of society. STARC provides special education, vocational services, in-home services, housing, daycare, physical, occupational and speech therapy, counseling, and many more services to individuals with disabilities.*

*c. Slidell Addictive Disorders Clinic – This is a public agency that provides alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment services. Some of these services include: Prevention activities, parent education, drug education, intervention, assessments, individual and group therapy, intensive outpatient treatment, problem and compulsive gambling counseling, relapse prevention, after care/continuing care, and assistance with drug court.*

*d. St. Tammany Council on Aging: The St. Tammany Council on Aging operates two Senior Citizen Centers in the Parish. One of these is located in the city limits of Slidell, which is within the Target Area.*

*e. Mt. Olive Food Ministry: Interchurch food kitchen, provides food and clothing to individuals and families in crisis. Serves mostly elderly on waiting list for meals on wheels (approximately 150 persons) and walk-ins, many of whom are homeless (40 – 50 persons).*

*The City of Slidell recognizes that a broad-based coalition of agencies, community groups, academic institutions and individual community leaders are necessary, in order to provide housing and specific service needs for the special needs population.*

*Where feasible, the City will provide such organizations with in-kind services, technical support, and various forms of assistance as appropriate.*

## **Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS**

\*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Provide a Brief description of the organization, the area of service, the name of the program contacts, and a broad overview of the range/ type of housing activities to be done during the next year.
2. Report on the actions taken during the year that addressed the special needs of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, and assistance for persons who are homeless.
3. Evaluate the progress in meeting its specific objective of providing affordable housing, including a comparison of actual outputs and outcomes to proposed goals and progress made on the other planned actions indicated in the strategic and action plans. The evaluation can address any related program adjustments or future plans.
4. Report on annual HOPWA output goals for the number of households assisted during the year in: (1) short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to avoid homelessness; (2) rental assistance programs; and (3) in housing facilities, such as community residences and SRO dwellings, where funds are used to develop and/or operate these facilities. Include any assessment of client outcomes for achieving housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness and improved access to care.
5. Report on the use of committed leveraging from other public and private resources that helped to address needs identified in the plan.
6. Provide an analysis of the extent to which HOPWA funds were distributed among different categories of housing needs consistent with the geographic distribution plans identified in its approved Consolidated Plan.
7. Describe any barriers (including non-regulatory) encountered, actions in response to barriers, and recommendations for program improvement.
8. Please describe the expected trends facing the community in meeting the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and provide additional information regarding the administration of services to people with HIV/AIDS.
9. Please note any evaluations, studies or other assessments that will be conducted on the local HOPWA program during the next year.

Program Year 1 Action Plan HOPWA response:

### **Specific HOPWA Objectives**

Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Specific HOPWA Objectives response: *The City of Slidell does not have HOPWA program funds but will participate in the New Orleans area coalition that helps to address the HIV/AIDS issues.*

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### **Other Narrative**

Include any Action Plan information that was not covered by a narrative in any other section.