

CITY OF BESSEMER



C.A.P.E.R 2019

CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

Since the beginning of the most recent Consolidated Plan on 06/01/2015 through the end of the FY 2019 Program Year on 05/31/2020, the City of Bessemer disbursed \$ 516,599.10 for Emergency Housing Repairs Grants and \$ 552,000.00 for an ADA Sidewalk and Paving Project in FY2019. There were no Housing Rehabilitation Loans nor Economic Development Loans issued for this program year. It should be noted that one of the Public Improvement projects that began during this present Consolidated Plan period was completed this year in the amount of \$ 45,060.00. Another \$ 38,491.68 was disbursed for Public Facilities project.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Delivery Costs	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	3	0	0.00%			

Delivery Costs	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	5	0	0.00%			
Delivery Costs	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	50	14	28.00%			
Delivery Costs	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	8	0	0.00%			
Delivery Costs	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	8	10	125.00%			
Down Payment Assistance Grants (EN)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	5	0	0.00%			
Down Payment Assistance Grants (EN)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	0	0		5	0	0.00%
Economic Development Loan (RL)	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	8	0	0.00%	3	0	0.00%

Economic Development Loan (RL)	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	8	0	0	0.00%	2	0	0.00%
Emergency Repair Grants (EN)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	179	85	47.49%	25	14	56.00%	
Historic Facade Grants (EN)	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	3	0	0.00%	0			
Housing Matching Grant (EN)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	25	0	0.00%	25	0	0.00%	
Housing Rehabilitation Loans (RL)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	35	0	0.00%	4	0	0.00%	
Program Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	27000	27000	100.00%				
Program Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	3	0	0.00%				
Program Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	5	0	0.00%				

Program Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	50	0	0.00%		
Program Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	8	0	0.00%		
Program Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	8	0	0.00%		
Public Facilities (EN)	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	27000	27000	100.00%	27000	100.00%

Table 1 - Accomplishments -- Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

PRIORITY #1: To provide rehabilitation assistance to low, low-to-moderate income homeowners by upgrading the existing stock of affordable housing through rehabilitation of structures classified as substandard, but suitable for rehabilitation. To bring housing into compliance with the International Housing CODE. To provide assistance for repairs to maintain housing stock in a decent, safe and sanitary condition. To limit the loss of affordable housing and to promote and provide for rehabilitation of historic properties. During the FY2019, the City provided 14 Emergency Housing Repair Grants and no Housing Rehabilitation Loan.

PRIORITY #5: To address the needs of the elderly and disabled by providing Emergency Housing Repair Grants to the elderly homeowners, low to moderate income, to address health, safety, satability and accessibility issues and to maintain the stock of affordable housing at the highest level possible. Fourteen Emergency Housing Repair Grants were provided in FY 2019 for elder and disable persons.

In addition to the aforementioned housing related priorities the City Completed ADA Sidewalk improvements projects during FY2019. And its

expeceted that the Bessemer Recreation Center ADA Accessible doors project will be underway in FY 2020.

CAPER

5

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG
White	0
Black or African American	14
Asian	0
American Indian or American Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
Total	14
Hispanic	0
Not Hispanic	0

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

An estimated 71.4% of Bessemer's population is African-American, 22.8% is White and 4.3% is Hispanic. Approximately 55% of the total population has an income level at or below the low-to-moderate standard for the metro Birmingham/Hoover area. Approximately 34.1% of the households in the City live below the poverty level. The racial makeup of those receiving CDBG-related services through the City of Bessemer has historically been in excess of 95% black/African-American. Given that the population makeup of the city is over 70% black/African American, and an even greater percentage of those in the extremely low-and low-income categories are black/African American, the makeup of the universe served is understandable.

Therefore, the percentage of minorities served by the Emergency Housing Repair Grant program was 100%. Of the 14 housing grants completed, 13 participants were female head of household and 1 was male. All benefactors were over the age of 62.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,434,220	1,170,291

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Bessemer, Alabama	100	100	

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Approximately 55% of the population of Bessemer is at or below 85 % of the median income for the area. Therefore, all areas of the City of Bessemer are eligible. The City issued 11 Emergency Housing Repair Grants on the Northside community of Bessemer (Census Tracts 101 and 138.01), 1 on the Eastside of Bessemer and 2 on the SouthSide of Bessemer (Tracts 103.01 and 103.02). The Planned percentage allocation was 100% Low-Mod benefit for the FY 2019.

There were no Housing Rehabilitation Loans made during the FY2019 Program year. The City completed one Public Improvement project in the Northside Community of Bessemer and one Public Facilities project is underway. There were no Economic Development Loans made during the FY 2019 Program year. Approximately 71.4 % of Bessemer's population is Black/African American, 22.8% is White and 7.3% is Hispanic. However, housing program eligibility is based on income. Public Improvement projects service all the citizens of Bessemer.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Federal funds were not used to directly leverage additional resources. No publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction was used to address needs identified in the plan.

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	59	14
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	59	14

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	54	14
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	5	0
Total	59	14

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The City of Bessemer believes the overall goals projected in its Consolidated Plan for FY2015-FY2019, related to housing, were reachable in providing resources to assist an adequate number of households in improving affordable housing conditions.

The City disbursed \$ 81,135.00 for the 14 Emergency Housing Repair Grants in FY 2019 but additional grant funding was approved. Weather conditions and limited personnel proved problematic in achieving the program's goals.

The demand for housing grants remains strong. The City will continue its outreach efforts and expects to increase the number of benefactors served through the Emergency Grant program to increase for FY 2020. The City did not undertake any Housing Rehabilitation loans in FY2019 due to a desire to review the loan program's administration. The city will perform a Buy/Rehab/Sell housing activity during the FY2020 program year. Financial requirements and changes in the bank lending protocols continue to affect the ability of individuals at and below the low-moderate income level to qualify for loans with banks.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Future Action Plans will likely focus on Housing Emergency Repair Grants in order to address affordable housing goals. The number of completed grants for the program year and the Consolidated Plan period will serve as a baseline for identifying the expected outcomes for future years. An increase in staffing will allow the program to expand further and reach additional households.

While the city will dedicate funding to address areas such as Public Improvements and Public Facilities, the demographic conditions in the city. The needs of the disabled continues to rise as the population ages and the city's housing stock grows in LMI neighborhoods ages. Therefore, Emergency Housing Repair Grants will continue to be a central tenant of the CDBG program for the City of Bessemer. The Emergency Housing Repair Grant is designed to address the needs of the elderly and the disabled with repairs specific to address compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act and Health and Safety. Bessemer has a large elderly populations that is addressed by this program. While not a direct part of the action plan the City will continue to pursue partnerships with agencies like Habitat for Humanity and others to leverage funding and expand service opportunities.

The City also plans to spend \$50,000 in CDBG Entitlement funds for Bus Shelter's in low to moderate areas of the City.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	13	0
Low-income	1	0
Moderate-income	0	0
Total	14	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Through its outreach efforts the city was able to use CDBG funds to assist 13 extremely low-income individuals and 1 low-income individual with housing assistance. The Emergency Housing Grant program was the principal program which assisted these individuals.

All City Housing programs are designed to serve individuals at or below the low-to-moderate income level. In addition, the majority of programs are designed to address the needs of the elderly and disabled. The Emergency Housing Repair Grant is targeted to elderly and disabled home owners with the goal of addressing specific repairs that address disabilities, as well as health and safety. Typical projects include wheel chair ramps and ADA bathroom improvements and other issues of accessibility. The demand for grant funds from those with disabilities and age 62 remains high.

The City currently has no programs designed to address rental property of "Worst Case Needs" of renters. However, the City does work with the One Roof organization to address the needs of the homeless. Therefore, the worst case needs of the homeless are addressed through collaboration with other entities. It should be noted the City receives no Emergency Service Grant funding.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The City of Bessemer receives no Emergency Solutions Grant funding or funding of any type designated to address the needs of the homeless. The City does use CDBG funds through its Emergency Housing Repair Grant Program to conduct repairs that would allow a disabled person to continue living in their home. Despite this lack of funding the city works collaboratively with organizations such as The Foundry and the Latch and Live Foundation to address issues related to homelessness. The city does this by providing referrals to those agencies. In addition, the city has worked with the One Roof organization in addressing homelessness.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The One Roof organization indicated that there were at least 64 homeless individuals living in the Bessemer area in FY 2019. This is a decrease from previous years. This decrease may be attributed to fewer Bessemer area volunteers during the 2019 survey rather than a true decrease in homelessness.

The city has worked with the Latch and Live Foundation to assist individuals with Emergency Shelter needs. The Red Cross has also assisted individuals in our city with emergency shelter needs. There are currently no transitional housing opportunities in Bessemer. Many groups that work with those in need of transitional housing are located in neighboring Birmingham.

Homelessness remains a problem in Alabama.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The city uses CDBG funds as part of its Emergency Housing Repair Grant Program in order to remove barriers associated with disabilities and medical conditions of homeowners. Many of those assisted are extremely low income persons. In many cases housing is not accessible for those with disabilities. Eliminating those accessibility issues can allow a person to live in a house that would not work for them

otherwise. The City works with UAB West to address the needs of the disabled or those with long term medical issues, when they are discharged from UAB West. The programs often make it possible for an elderly or disabled person to continue living in their own home.

Currently, there are no adequate facilities in the Bessemer-area to assist with individuals who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions. Individuals are often referred to facilities in neighboring Birmingham due to the lack of such programs in Bessemer.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The city has worked collaboratively with local organizations such as the Latch and Live Foundation to assist homeless persons who are chronically homeless, but especially those families with children. This program seeks to assist families in finding permanent housing.

However, programs designed to assist other groups are not currently present in the city of Bessemer. Most programs aimed at assisting individuals find permanent housing are based in neighboring Birmingham. The city plans to seek to collaboratively engage these programs in the coming years to expand services within the Bessemer community and assist needed groups in finding solutions to homelessness.

In addition, the existing housing repair programs of the City act to prevent families from becoming homeless. The Emergency Housing Grant program by its focus on barriers to the disabled has definitely allowed the disabled and elderly an opportunity to continue living in their own homes.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Housing Authority of the City of Bessemer operates about 702 publically-assisted units, 475 housing choice vouchers(Section 8) and about 70 Veterans Affairs Supported Housing, or VASH, vouchers. The BESHHA had a waiting list of 580 for public housing units, according to the agencies 2019 plan. All residents of the waiting list were listed as very low-income families. The waiting list included 212 families with children, 35 elderly families and 91 families with disabilities. Five percent of the waiting list was white, while 94 percent of the waiting list was comprised of Black/African-American families. Less than one percent of the waiting list was comprised of Hispanic or Asian families. The public housing waiting list was reported as open. The waiting list for Section 8 is currently comprised of 1771 persons and has been closed by the PHA for the last two years.

The BESHHA listed seven continuing goals in its 2019 Action Plan:

1. Expand the supply of assisted housing through leveraging private or other public funds to create additional housing opportunities or through development of new units.
2. Increase assisted housing choice through programs such as a voucher homeownership programs or through conversion of public housing to vouchers.
3. Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of assisted households, including increasing the numbers of housing residents who are employed.
4. Expand environmental "green" improvement in its properties.
5. Ensure 504 and Americans with Disabilities Act(ADA) compliance.
6. Violence against Women Act
7. Increase marketing efforts.

The Bessemer Public Housing Authority began a multi-million dollar rehabilitation of 198 low-income units in 2013 under the Rental Assistance Demonstration, RAD, initiative of HUD. The project focused on properties as Davis Heights and Asbury Howard communities. RAD seeks to use private capital when federal funding is limited to improved affordable housing opportunities for low-income residents. RAD essentially allows more public and affordable housing owners to use Section 8 contract to solicit private investments they can use to improve and maintain their properties.

The city has also worked collaboratively with the Bessemer Housing Authority on its plans to construct new housing with the Juanita Hill Place Development. The city has provided technical assistance and a speedier permitting process to help the Housing Authority with the development. In addition, the city

and Housing Authority are working to identify vacant properties in the city which can be used to provide housing opportunities, especially for those who take part in the Housing Authority's self-sufficiency program.

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

The Bessemer Public Housing Authority has Public Housing resident sit on the Housing Authorites Board of Directors. The Bessemer Public Housing Authority has also established a program designed to help transition Public Housing residents into homeownership. The program teaches various financial and life skills necessary to become a homeowner. The City of Bessemer has cooperated in this effort and provides assistance where needed. The city and Housing Authority have also discussed identifying vacant properties or vacant lots where new housing for FSS program graduates can be constructed.

The Agency plans to expand its FSS program to facilitate a Homeownership program for both Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher residents. The PHA will aslo develop a lease Purchase Program for qualified residents and other income eligible.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Bessemer Public Housing Authority is not a troubled PHA. Therefore, it was not necessary for the City of Bessemer to provide assistance in that regard.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

The City did not find that its public policies, such as land use controls, tax policies, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations and policies affecting the return on residential investments were barriers to affordable housing.

The city's Analysis of Impediments identified other areas of concerns which could be deemed as barriers to affordable housing within the community. These concerns included a lack of affordable housing for low-moderate residents, and the quality of aging housing stock, coupled with low wages, and credit issues which impact the ability of families to own or secure safe, sanitary dwellings.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The city of Bessemer has taken the following steps to address obstacles in meeting the underserved needs and foster and maintain affordable housing. In addressing affordable housing stock, the city has used CDBG funds to address housing repair needs related to the elderly and those with disabilities. These programs assist in maintaining, and even expanding, the supply of affordable housing in the city. In addition, the city has sought partnerships with its Housing Authority and private interest in expanding affordable housing opportunities.

The city, through its partnerships with the state of Alabama, has attracted hundreds of new jobs to the city. Amazon opened its first Fulfillment Center in Alabama in Bessemer in March 2020. About 10 percent of Amazon's workforce is comprised of Bessemer residents. In addition, industry locating within the city has an estimated 12 to 15 percent of its payroll comprised of Bessemer residents, many coming from the 35020 zip codes which comprise the highest levels of poverty concentration in the city. As job opportunities expand in the city, so will opportunity for residents to find employment to lift them out of poverty.

The City provides a Emergency Housing Repair Grant program designed to serve low and low-to-moderate income individuals with a focus on the elderly and disabled. The grant program can, in many cases, allow homeowners to continue living independently in their homes. A provision of the grant address lead-based paint hazards in homes where repairs are made.

The City also works to refer individuals to the Bessemer Public Housing Authority as necessary and the City has partnered with Habitat for Humanity and the Church of Highlands to accomplish housing rehabilitation in situations that are not appropriate for the CDBG funds.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City of Bessemer follows all rules and regulations regarding the reduction of lead-based paint. The City provides testing in every instance where a painted surface could be disturbed by repairs or assumes the existence of lead based paint and proceeds appropriately. The City also notifies all participants of the dangers of lead based paint. Contractors working under the CDBG program are required to have all the certifications necessary to allow for the proper abatement of lead based paint hazards. The City has followed this policy consistently for many years.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City has an active and aggressive development program that has attracted retail and industrial jobs. These jobs have a direct effect of improving the economic status of families throughout Bessemer. New Business such as Amazon, Carvana, Dollar General Distribution Center and Milo's Tea have located to Bessemer within the past five years, providing opportunity for new jobs for Bessemer residents.

The City's has and will continue to add literally thousands of jobs to the Bessemer economy, which will help alleviate poverty conditions. In addition, many of those in poverty are elderly who can not work due to age. The city will assist these families through its emergency housing repair program with the aim of removing poverty conditions.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City has taken action to more effectively utilize all the department that could impact housing related matters and well as matters related to Public Service and Public Facilities. The Housing and Inspections Department inspects and identifies non-conforming CODE conditions and assures those condition are rectified as part of the process involving Housing Rehabilitation Loans.

Economic and Community Development Department personnel are trained and licensed in Lead Base Paint procedures and the Environmental Review process. The IT Department has update the City web site so that it now includes Language translation capabilities.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City has addressed and plan to continue addressing the problems associated with the poor condition of its housing stock and the opportunities for home ownership with CDBG Housing Program. The City, as a CDBG entitlement, has a broad and effective housing program designed to provide loans and grants to improve housing and to provide opportunities for homeownership. The office of Economic and Community Development and the Bessemer Public Housing Authority actively work to provide opportunities for home ownership to persons transitioning from public housing.

Housing is an ongoing issues, but existing programs, initiative and partnership are and will continue to address those issues at an increasing rate.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

The city of Bessemer found no public policy impacts which were serving as impediments to fair housing choice. However, the following are impediments to fair housing choice identified and proposed actions to address impediments.

1. Renew efforts to address housing affordability and reduce housing cost especially among lower income residents.

Action. Housing in Bessemer is affordable when compared with housing in the county and state. The data does show about 44 percent of residents in Bessemer pay 30 percent or more of their income toward housing costs. This is especially true among lower income residents. This percentage drops as a person's income rises, according to the data.

2. Pursue efforts to improve the supply of affordable housing in Bessemer.

Action. The city currently has an emergency housing repair grant program funded through the CDBG program aimed at assisting low-income seniors and those with disabilities in maintaining staple housing through assistance with ADA improvements. The department will continue the program over the next five years and explore expanding the program by possibly more access to younger homeowners. The city will seek to expand its partnership with the Bessemer Housing Authority on projects such as RAD and self-sufficiency programs to expand and address the availability of quality housing.

3. Pursue programs aimed at providing citizens education relative to Fair Housing, financial management and credit worthiness, as a means to expand opportunity and impact housing stability.

Actions: The Economic and Community Development Department will seek partnership with local financial institutions to expand educational opportunities in areas such as financial management and fair housing counseling for residents. Such partnerships have proven fruitful in other communities in equipping residents with the necessary knowledge regarding financial management, credit worthiness and its impact on stable housing and housing choice.

4. Seek to connect public transportation, housing and employment opportunities being produced in the city.

Action: The department will seek to work with city leaders, the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority and other partner agencies to link transportation, housing and employment. As new employment opportunities flourish in Bessemer, the goal is to connect residents to these potential jobs.

opportunities through programs aimed at training, innovation and transit delivery services.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

The City of Bessemer's Department of Economic and Community Development reviews all annual plan goals and projects on a quarterly basis, with more frequent reviews on those items requiring additional oversight. The purpose of such monitoring reviews is to determine that all program are being carried out in accordance with the Consolidated Plan, and to ensure that statutory and regulatory requirements including Section 3 requirements, are being met. Special attention is given to maintain an expenditure rate that exceeds HUD's expectation of having no more than 1.5 % of current year grant funds available in the City's federal treasury line of credit on the annual test date. The City now requires determination of Section 3 status as part of the contractor application process. The City requires that Section 3 certification status is included on all of commercial and residential contractors and will monitor to ensure related regulations are followed as pertains to minority participation. The Economic and Community Development Department projects are monitored by Building Inspections and the office of Community Development Staff personnel. The office of Community Development conducts onsite inspections of all Economic and Community Development activities during construction, on a weekly basis. Davis Bacon monitoring is also conducted by the staff of Economic and Community Development. Job creation is monitored on an annual basis for Economic Development projects. Public Service projects are monitored by the Economic and Community Development along with City Engineering office. All activities and project are monitoring by the office of Community and Economic Development to assure all CDBG activities are appropriately documented prior to disbursement of funds.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The City of Bessemer will make reasonable efforts to provide for citizens participation during the community development process and throughout the planning, implementation and assessment of all CDBG programs(s) undertaken by the City of Bessemer. The office of Economic and Community Development advertised CDBG activities in local newspapers, post notices in public facilities, on public electric signages ,on the city website. The City also holds public meetings to discuss the CDBG program in general and accomplishments with the CDBG program specifically. Documents like the Consolidated

Plan, Action Plan and CAPER are posted online and are made available at City Hall and the Public Library for public inspection. The city also posts signage in public buildings in English and denotes the availability of Spanish translation services. Translations of any publically advertised documents are available to citizens via the City's web site. Accomodation for access those with disabilities who attend public meeetings is met through compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act for all public facilities used for meeting. Citizens are afforded the opportunity to comment during public meetings and in writing during the Consolidated and Action Plan process. In addition to the aforementioned advertising methods all palnned Action Plan and Consolidated Plan, Action Plan and CAPER are maintained for public access in the Economic and Community Development Office. The City website has been upgraded to include language translation capabilites for multiple lanquages.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

As a result of the dramatic reduction of CDBG Funding since 2007 and demand for housing services, housing has become the primary focus of the City of Bessemer's CDBG program. Emergency Housing Repair Grants will continue to be the primary program because of the extraordinary need for those with disabilities. Matching grants were introduce in the city FY 2019 Action Plan to address the needs of low to moderate income persons without disabliities, in all age groups. Given the income level of most participants housing loans have become less and less of a focus over time. In addition, the City has deceide not to the utilized the Housing Revolving Loan funds at the moment. However, there is still an adequate level of need to continue housing loan programs at a moderate level. The City has move Clearance projects from CDBG funding to funding by the General Fund so there will be no CDBG funding for Clearance activities in the forseeable future. Funding for Historic Downtown District will continue as a long term solution to removing slum and blight in the Historic District while bringing business to that area. The City of Bessemer has been deemed a Opportunity Zone. Under certian conditions, new investment in those areas my be eligible for perferential tax treatment. Public Facilities projects are expected to focus on ADA improvements and Park improvements.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

As a result of the dramatic reduction of CDBG Funding since 2007 and demand for housing services, housing has become the primary focus of the City of Bessemer's CDBG program. Emergency Housing Repair Grants will continue to be the primary program because of the extraordinary need for those with disabilities. Matching grants were introduced in the city FY 2019 Action Plan to address the needs of low to moderate income persons without disabilities, in all age groups. Given the income level of most participants housing loans have become less and less of a focus over time. In addition, the City has decided not to utilize the Housing Revolving Loan funds at the moment. However, there is still an adequate level of need to continue housing loan programs at a moderate level. The City has moved Clearance projects from CDBG funding to funding by the General Fund so there will be no CDBG funding for Clearance activities in the foreseeable future. Funding for Historic Downtown District will continue as a long term solution to removing slum and blight in the Historic District while bringing business to that area. The City of Bessemer has been deemed a Opportunity Zone. Under certain conditions, new investment in those areas may be eligible for preferential tax treatment. Public Facilities projects are expected to focus on ADA improvements and Park improvements.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.



PART I: SUMMARY OF CDBG RESOURCES

01 UNEXPENDED CDBG FUNDS AT END OF PREVIOUS PROGRAM YEAR	673,634.00
02 ENTITLEMENT GRANT	577,199.00
03 SURPLUS URBAN RENEWAL	0.00
04 SECTION 108 GUARANTEED LOAN FUNDS	0.00
05 CURRENT YEAR PROGRAM INCOME	183,386.66
05a CURRENT YEAR SECTION 108 PROGRAM INCOME (FOR SI TYPE)	0.00
06 FUNDS RETURNED TO THE LINE-OF-CREDIT	0.00
06a FUNDS RETURNED TO THE LOCAL CDBG ACCOUNT	0.00
07 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL AVAILABLE	0.00
08 TOTAL AVAILABLE (SUM, LINES 01-07)	1,434,219.66

PART II: SUMMARY OF CDBG EXPENDITURES

09 DISBURSEMENTS OTHER THAN SECTION 108 REPAYMENTS AND PLANNING/ADMINISTRATION	1,041,974.59
10 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL AMOUNT SUBJECT TO LOW/MOD BENEFIT	0.00
11 AMOUNT SUBJECT TO LOW/MOD BENEFIT (LINE 09 + LINE 10)	1,041,974.59
12 DISBURSED IN IDIS FOR PLANNING/ADMINISTRATION	128,316.27
13 DISBURSED IN IDIS FOR SECTION 108 REPAYMENTS	0.00
14 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL EXPENDITURES	0.00
15 TOTAL EXPENDITURES (SUM, LINES 11-14)	1,170,290.86
16 UNEXPENDED BALANCE (LINE 08 - LINE 15)	263,928.80

PART III: LOWMOD BENEFIT THIS REPORTING PERIOD

17 EXPENDED FOR LOW/MOD HOUSING IN SPECIAL AREAS	0.00
18 EXPENDED FOR LOW/MOD MULTI-UNIT HOUSING	0.00
19 DISBURSED FOR OTHER LOW/MOD ACTIVITIES	1,007,285.49
20 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL LOW/MOD CREDIT	0.00
21 TOTAL LOW/MOD CREDIT (SUM, LINES 17-20)	1,007,285.49
22 PERCENT LOW/MOD CREDIT (LINE 21/LINE 11)	96.67%

LOW/MOD BENEFIT FOR MULTI-YEAR CERTIFICATIONS

23 PROGRAM YEARS(PY) COVERED IN CERTIFICATION	PY: PY: PY:
24 CUMULATIVE NET EXPENDITURES SUBJECT TO LOW/MOD BENEFIT CALCULATION	0.00
25 CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURES BENEFITTING LOW/MOD PERSONS	0.00
26 PERCENT BENEFIT TO LOW/MOD PERSONS (LINE 25/LINE 24)	0.00%

PART IV: PUBLIC SERVICE (PS) CAP CALCULATIONS

27 DISBURSED IN IDIS FOR PUBLIC SERVICES	0.00
28 PS UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS AT END OF CURRENT PROGRAM YEAR	0.00
29 PS UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS AT END OF PREVIOUS PROGRAM YEAR	0.00
30 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL PS OBLIGATIONS	0.00
31 TOTAL PS OBLIGATIONS (LINE 27 + LINE 28 - LINE 29 + LINE 30)	577,199.00
32 ENTITLEMENT GRANT	249,778.92
33 PRIOR YEAR PROGRAM INCOME	0.00
34 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL SUBJECT TO PS CAP	826,977.92
35 TOTAL SUBJECT TO PS CAP (SUM, LINES 32-34)	826,977.92
36 PERCENT FUNDS OBLIGATED FOR PS ACTIVITIES (LINE 31/LINE 35)	0.00%

PART V: PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION (PA) CAP

37 DISBURSED IN IDIS FOR PLANNING/ADMINISTRATION	128,316.27
38 PA UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS AT END OF CURRENT PROGRAM YEAR	0.00
39 PA UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS AT END OF PREVIOUS PROGRAM YEAR	0.00
40 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL PA OBLIGATIONS	0.00
41 TOTAL PA OBLIGATIONS (LINE 37 + LINE 38 - LINE 39 +LINE 40)	128,316.27
42 ENTITLEMENT GRANT	577,199.00
43 CURRENT YEAR PROGRAM INCOME	183,386.66
44 ADJUSTMENT TO COMPUTE TOTAL SUBJECT TO PA CAP	0.00
45 TOTAL SUBJECT TO PA CAP (SUM, LINES 42-44)	760,585.66
46 PERCENT FUNDS OBLIGATED FOR PA ACTIVITIES (LINE 41/LINE 45)	16.87%

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Bessemer is preparing and will submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development the Consolidated Annual Performance Report (C.A.P.E.R) for Program year 2019, (June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020.)

The Consolidated Annual Performance Report will be available for review by the Public at the Office of Economic and Community Development in the Bessemer City Hall, 1700 3rd Avenue North, during normal business hours (8:00 am – 4:00pm).

DARSE CUENTA

Se da aviso de que la Ciudad de Bessemer se está preparando y presentará al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los EE. UU. El Informe Anual Consolidado de Desempeño (C.A.P.E.R) para el año del Programa 2019 (1 de junio de 2019 al 31 de mayo de 2020)

El Informe Anual de Desempeño Consolidado estará disponible para revisión por el Público en la Oficina de Desarrollo Económico y Comunitario en el Ayuntamiento de Bessemer, 1700 3rd Avenue North, durante las horas normales de oficina (8:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m.).