Municipality of Norristown
Consolidated Action Plan
2010-2014

FY 2014
Proposed CDBG Action Plan

Municipality of Norristown, PA
2014 Annual Action Plan
Table of Contents

1. FY 2013 Action Plan

SF 424 Forms

GENERAL	**1**
Executive Summary	1
General Questions	6
Managing the Process	13
Citizen Participation	15
Institutional Structure	16
Monitoring	17
Lead-based Paint	18
HOUSING	**19**
Specific Housing Objectives	19
Needs of Public Housing	20
Barriers to Affordable Housing	21
HOME/ADDI (not applicable)	23
Specific Homeless Prevention Elements	25
ESG (State) (not applicable)	30
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	**31**
Community Development	31
Anti-poverty Strategy	33
NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING	**36**
Non-homeless Special Needs	36
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (not applicable)	38
Specific HOPWA Objectives (not applicable)	39
OTHER NARRATIVE	39

RESOURCES

2. Additional Information – Appendices

A. HUD Tables
- Table 1C Summary of Specific Multi-Year Objectives for Homeless & Special Needs
- Table 2C Summary of Specific Multi-Year Objectives
- Table 3A Summary of Specific Annual Objectives
- Table 3B Annual Housing Completion Goals
- Table 3C Action Plan listing of projects

B. Description of Activities to be Undertaken (HUD Project Sheets)
Geographic Distribution of Activities (map)
Montgomery County Continuum of Care 2011 PIT

C. Citizen Participation Plan
Evidence of Citizen Participation
- 2014 CDBG Schedule
- Notice and Proof of Publication for First Public Hearing
- Meeting Minutes
- Draft Action Plan and Proof of Publication
- Ordinance adopting 2014 CDBG Budget

3. Certifications

SF 424

The SF 424 is part of the CPMP Annual Action Plan. SF 424 form fields are included in this document. Grantee information is linked from the 1CPMP.xls document of the CPMP tool.

SF 424

Complete the fillable fields (blue cells) in the table below. The other items are pre-filled with values from the Grantee Information Worksheet.

Date Submitted 01/14/2014	Applicant Identifier	**Type of Submission**	
Date Received by state	State Identifier	**Application**	**Pre-application**
Date Received by HUD	Federal Identifier 236002914	X☐ Construction	☐ Construction
		☐ Non Construction	☐ Non Construction
Applicant Information			
Municipality of Norristown		UOG Code: 424914	
235 East Airy Street		Organizational DUNS: 083253500	
		Organizational Unit:	
Norristown	Pennsylvania	Department of Planning and Municipal	
19401-5003	USA	Development	
Employer Identification Number (EIN): 23-6002914			
		Project start date: 03/01/2014	
Applicant Type:		**Specify Other Type if necessary:**	
Local Government: Municipality			
Program Funding		**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**	
Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers; Descriptive Title of Applicant Project(s); Areas Affected by Project(s) (cities, Counties, localities etc.); Estimated Funding			
Community Development Block Grant		14.218 Entitlement Grant	
CDBG Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by CDBG Project(s): Municipality of Norristown	
CDBG Grant Amount $795,465	Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		Additional State Funds Leveraged $500,000	
Locally Leveraged Funds		Grantee Funds Leveraged	
Anticipated Program Income: $0		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for CDBG-based Project(s) $1,258,731			
Home Investment Partnerships Program		14.239 HOME	
HOME Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by HOME Project(s)	
HOME Grant Amount	$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
$Locally Leveraged Funds		$Grantee Funds Leveraged	

$Anticipated Program Income	Other (Describe)
Total Funds Leveraged for HOME-based Project(s):	

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS	14.241 HOPWA	
HOPWA Project Titles	Description of Area Affected by HOPWA Project(s):	
HOPWA Grant Amount:	Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
Additional Federal Funds Leveraged	Additional State Funds Leveraged	
Locally Leveraged Funds	Grantee Funds Leveraged	
Anticipated Program Income	Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for HOPWA-based Project(s)		

Emergency Shelter Grants Program	14.231 ESG	
ESG Project Titles	Description of Areas Affected by ESG Project(s)	
ESG Grant Amount:	Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
Additional Federal Funds Leveraged	Additional State Funds Leveraged	
Locally Leveraged Funds	Grantee Funds Leveraged	
$Anticipated Program Income	Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for ESG-based Project(s)		

Congressional Districts of: 6th		Is application subject to review by state Executive Order 12372 Process?	
Applicant Districts 6th	Project Districts 6th		
Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt? If "Yes" please include an additional document explaining the situation.		☐ Yes	This application was made available to the state EO 12372 process for review on DATE
		☒ No	Program is not covered by EO 12372
☐ Yes	☒ No	☐ N/A	Program has not been selected by the state for review

Person to be contacted regarding this application		
Jayne Musonye		
Department of Planning and Municipal Development		
jmusonye@norristown.org	TEL: (610) 270-0450	Fax: (610) 270-2892
Signature of Authorized Representative: Council President Gary Simpson		Date Signed:

Fifth Program Year

Action Plan

The CPMP fifth 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

Program Year 5 Action Plan Executive Summary:

A. Purpose of Annual Plan

The Municipality of Norristown has prepared the Year 5 Action Plan as required under 24 CFR 91.220. The Action Plan for PY2014 identifies the activities to be funded with the Municipality's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) ($795,465.00) that it will receive during the program year.

B. Citizen Participation

The Municipality of Norristown engaged in a comprehensive consultation process with local public agencies and non-profit organizations in an effort to develop a community-driven Comprehensive Plan (CP). On August 1, 2013, the Municipality planning department staff conducted a public needs hearing to identify current issues and trends impacting the agencies and organizations as well as their organizational priorities in today's recession.

To encourage public input, Norristown conducted a Public Hearing on September 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Norristown Municipal Hall. The hearing was scheduled in accordance with the Municipality's approved Citizen Participation Plan. A public notice for the hearing was published in the Norristown *Times Herald*. Notices were also posted on the Municipality's website.

Another Public Hearing was advertised on October 11, 2013 with a summary of proposed projects for funding, and a hearing to be held on Monday October 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m, for public input to the proposed 2014 Action Plan.
A summary of the proposed Action Plan was also posted on the Municipality's website, *www.norristown.org*. The Action Plan was made available at the following locations from December 9, 2013 through January 10, 2014:

- Norristown Municipal Hall
  235 East Airy Street
  Norristown, PA 19401

- Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library

1001 Powell Street
Norristown, PA 19401

As part of these public hearings, the Municipality also held hearings as part of the Municipal Council meeting, with the draft proposed Action Plan Budget presented to Council for review on Tuesday November 6, 2013, and voted upon on Tuesday December 3, 2013.
The Municipality received no comments on the draft Five-Year Consolidated Plan and One Year 2012 Action Plan after the September 9th Public Needs Hearing or following the date of the October 28th Public Hearing.

C. Priorities

The Municipality of Norristown expects to focus its CDBG entitlement funds towards improving the quality of life in Municipality's neighborhoods for extremely low, very low, and low income households, and to preserve and increase the stock of affordable owner and renter housing units. CDBG activities have been separated into broad categories addressing priority needs identified in the Municipality's FY2010-2014 Consolidated Plan, and 2014 One Year Action Plan.

Priority One: Improve the economic base of the community so that Norristown will become economically self-sufficient to an extent that will allow the local government to provide an adequate level of services to all its residents.

Priority Two: Upgrade the housing stock for residents of all income levels in order that every resident will occupy safe, healthy, and decent living quarters.

Priority Three: Enhance neighborhood values by keeping them physically sound and visually attractive, and by providing recreational facilities and other amenities that will have a positive effect on the quality of life. And also eliminate conditions detrimental to the public's health safety and welfare.

A more thorough analysis of needs for individual components is provided below:

Priority Housing Needs

- *Increasing homeownership*. This is Norristown's most significant current need, as homeownership rates have declined in recent years. From 1990 to 2000, Census figures indicate that the percentage of owner-occupied housing units declined from 55.1% to 48.1%. Recent estimates show the percentage of owner-occupied housing in Norristown rising to 50.1% by 2008, although these calculations may not consider the full impact of the housing crisis, and the associated high rates of foreclosure. Projections indicate that homeownership rates will fall back under 50% (49.7%) by 2013.

- *Rehabilitating housing owned by low-income households*. An estimated 50% of the substandard units suitable for rehabilitation are occupied by extremely low income, very low income or low income households. Norristown is fully developed, with little or no land available for new affordable residential construction. In order to preserve Norristown's affordable housing stock, the

construction. In order to preserve Norristown's affordable housing stock, the Municipality will continue to rehabilitate and avoid demolition of standard and substandard units suitable for rehabilitation. Norristown will also increase its affordable housing stock by rehabilitating vacant units suitable for rehabilitation and selling to low to moderate income families.

- *Rehabilitation of rental housing*. Norristown is committed to stepping up code enforcement efforts on rental properties. At the same time, the Municipality will continue to support deconcentration of protected classes by encouraging other agencies, such as Montgomery County Housing Services, to continue efforts to fund the rehabilitation of existing rental properties outside of Norristown.

Homeless Needs and Strategies

The priorities for ending homelessness are based on the recognition that homelessness results from more than simply a lack of affordable housing, although providing housing is the ultimate objective. The Municipality participates in the Montgomery County Continuum of Care – which includes Montgomery County, Lower Merion, Norristown, and Abington – and its efforts to implement a Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. This plan reflects the best practice models from other cities that have successfully implemented housing first strategies for reducing chronic homelessness. The plan envisions a system in which public and private agencies work together as a consortium to procure and manage housing, provide central intake services, and deliver support services to clients through a coordinated case management system.

Priority Homeless Needs

The Montgomery County Continuum of Care has identified the following strategies for addressing homeless needs throughout its service area and in Norristown:

- *Increase the percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional to permanent housing to at least 63.5%* - concurrent with progress towards this goal, the Municipality supports the deconcentration of homeless resources from Norristown
- *Increase percentage of homeless persons staying in permanent housing over 6 months to at least 71.5%*
- *Increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 19%* - this goal currently is not a high need for the Municipality
- *Decrease the number of homeless households with children*
- *Create new permanent housing beds for chronically homeless persons* – following its efforts toward deconcentration, the Municipality supports development of these facilities outside of Norristown.

Outcome Performance Measures

HUD has developed an outcomes performance measurement system to collect information on outcomes of activities and to aggregate that information at the local and national level. Below is a list of the Municipality of Norristown's proposed 2014 projects as matched with their HUD approved performance measures.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FY 2014

RECEIPIENT	PROJECT	OUTCOME MEASURE	OBJECTIVE	OUTPUT
HOUSING				
Owner Occupied	Housing Rehab(CDBG)	Sustainability/Accessibility	Create suitable living environment	4 housing units
Owners/Renters	Code Enforcement	Sustainability/Accessibility	Create suitable living environment	5000 People
MUNICIPAL PROJECTS				
Neighborhood	Main & Marshall Lighting & Security Upgrades	Sustainability	Create a suitable living environment	1667 People
Neighborhood	Simmons Park	Availability/Accessibility	Create a suitable living environment	2637 People
Norristown Fire Department	Fire Engine Truck	Availability/Accessibility	Create a suitable living environment	1200 households
PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION				
Small Business Assistance	Small Business Assistance Center	Availability	Creating Economic Opportunities	1 Job
Norristown Planning Department	Administration	N/A		N/A
Housing Consultant	Rehab Tech Support	N/A		N/A
Section 108 Loan	Interest Payment	N/A	N/A	N/A

Community Development Needs and Strategies

The Municipality's economic base has been eroded and much of the Municipality's infrastructure was constructed prior to 1950, most of which is antiquated and continues to deteriorate. Norristown is in constant competition with its surrounding more affluent, newer suburban neighbors. The Municipality's demographic landscape has also changed substantially, including a rapid growth in Hispanic residents. The

Municipality will continue its efforts to develop the community by augmenting small business activity and working to avert major population decline.

E. Evaluation of Past Performance

The Municipality of Norristown's past performance in the administration and implementation of the CDBG and HOME programs has fulfilled the spirit and intent of the federal legislation creating these programs. The Municipality has provided affordability for decent housing, availability and accessibility to a suitable living environment, sustainability of a suitable living environment, and accessibility to economic opportunities. The following is a summary of the Municipality's past performance as reported to HUD in the PY2012 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), the most recent report filed.

During PY 2012, Norristown received $758,731 in CDBG funds and during the same program year, spent a total of $873,272.98 in CDBG funds. The Municipality has consistently met the timeliness goals set by HUD of not having more than 1.5 times the amount of it allocation in its line of credit. This goal is also expected to be met in 2012, and by the writing of this Action Plan, the Municipality has a ratio of 1.3. Funds were spent on a variety of activities including the following:

DESCRIPTION		OUTCOME	OBJECTIVE	FUNDING AMOUNT
Owner Occupied Housing Rehab		Sustainability	Decent Housing	$149,998.47
Housing Rehab Technical Support		Sustainability	Decent Housing	$23,643
DESCRIPTION		OUTCOME	OBJECTIVE	FUNDING AMOUNT
Sidewalk Replacement Project		Accessibility/Availability	Create suitable living environment	$3,759.25
Poley Park		Accessibility/Availability	Create suitable living environment	$89,180.18
Riverfront Park		Accessibility/Availability	Create suitable living environment	$20,863.37
Simmons Park		Accessibility/Availability	Create suitable living environment	$208,825.57
Dekalb St. Avenue of the Arts		Sustainability	Create suitable living environment	$6,983.25
Code Enforcement		Sustainability	Create suitable living environment	$196,503.79
Fair Housing		Availability/Accessibility	Decent Housing	$17,853.43
Montgomery County Cultural		Sustainability	Economic opportunity	$4,480

Center				
Opportunities Industrialization Center		Sustainability	Create economic Opportunities	$33,143.80
Small Business Dev. & Outreach Center		Sustainability	Create economic opportunities	$35,093.65
Administration		N/A	N/A	$183,519.24

In 2009, the Municipality also received a HOME program grant of $500,000 through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. These funds were for the purpose of owner occupied housing rehabilitation. Funds were expended during PY 2012. In addition, there was a HOME CHDO allocation in 2008 in the amount of $550,000 for acquisition, rehabilitation and resale to first time homebuyers in Norristown.

- Through the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program, the Municipality expended $ 142,355 in 2012 in which 4 properties benefited from the funding.
- CHDO HOME funds were exhausted in 2013 with four (4) properties being renovated.

The Municipality of Norristown was also the recipient of $37,691 in 2012 and $35,557 in 2013, and $37,691 in 2012 through Justice Assistance Grants awarded by the Department of Justice. These funds were utilized for purchasing police equipment to support existing anti-crime initiatives. This equipment was utilized in Bee-Sting Operations throughout Norristown, which focused on reducing all types of crime in the Municipality.

In 2012, all CDBG funds expended for activities met one of the national objectives as defined under the CDBG regulations. CDBG-funded activity expenditures totaled $873,272.98, with 80% benefiting low- and moderate-income persons.

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.*

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.*

3. *Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.*

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.

Program Year 5 Action Plan General Questions response:

1. Description of the Geographic Area

Priority CDBG funding areas in Norristown include areas where there is a majority of low and moderate income (LMI) persons. The following narrative describes the characteristics of these areas.

According to U.S. Census data, the population of Norristown has grown since 2000, with the Municipality growing nearly 10% in the past decade. According to the 2010 Census, the population in Norristown in 2010 was 34,324 individuals. According to population estimates for 2008 and projections for 2013, Norristown and Montgomery County are in the midst of a demographic shift that is characteristic of overall trends in Pennsylvania and the United States. The proportion of minorities in both jurisdictions has increased since 2000. The Municipality will see a gradual decline in the White population as it begins to be replaced by a higher minority presence. The proportion of minorities in 1990 represented 29.3% of the population in Norristown. According to the 2010 Census, minorities consist of 64% of Norristown's population. Similar trends are evident at the county and state levels, although not to the same extent.

Between 2000 and 2010, the racial minority share of Norristown's population rose from 45.7% to 64%. Most of the increase was in the Black and Hispanic population. After 2000, changes in the population aren't as pronounced; however, the Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander groups continued growing by consistent amounts. Between 2000 and 2008, the percentage of minorities in Norristown increased 2.9%. Between 2008 and 2013, projections indicate that the Municipality's racial and ethnic trends will continue, particularly the declining White population and increasing Hispanic population. Details appear in the table below. Persons of Hispanic origin may give their race as White, Black or other minority. Between 2000 and 2010, the Hispanics population increased 295% from 3,282 representing 10.5% of the total population, to 9,714, representing 28.3% of the total population.

PA - Norristown borough

Population		
Total Population	34,324	
Housing (in housing units unless noted)		Status
Total	13,420	
Occupied	11,963	
Owner-occupied	4,969	
Population in owner-occupied (number of individuals)	13,350	

Renter-occupied		6,994
Population in (number of individuals)	renter-occupied	20,027
Households with individuals under 18		4,446
Vacant		1,457
Vacant: for rent		811
Vacant: for sale		148
Population by Sex/Age		
Male		17,106
Female		17,218
Under 18		8,991
18 & over		25,333
20 - 24		2,934
25 - 34		6,396
35 - 49		6,793
50 - 64		5,132
65 & over		3,131
Population by Ethnicity		
Hispanic or Latino		9,714
Non Hispanic or Latino		24,610
Population by Race		
White		14,048
African American		12,310
Asian		718
American Indian and Alaska Native		150
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander		34
Other		5,487
Identified by two or more		1,577

PA - Montgomery County

Population		
Total Population		**799,874**
Housing (in housing units unless noted)		**Status**
Total		**325,735**
Occupied		**307,750**
Owner-occupied		**225,001**
Population in (number of individuals)	**owner-occupied**	**606,576**
Renter-occupied		**82,749**
Population in	**renter-occupied**	**172,292**

(number of individuals)	
Households with individuals under 18	**100,047**
Vacant	**17,985**
Vacant: for rent	**8,532**
Vacant: for sale	**3,012**
Population by Sex/Age	
Male	**387,964**
Female	**411,910**
Under 18	**183,499**
18 & over	**616,375**
20 - 24	**43,590**
25 - 34	**96,641**
35 - 49	**173,366**
50 - 64	**163,781**
65 & over	**120,727**
Population by Ethnicity	
Hispanic or Latino	**34,233**
Non Hispanic or Latino	**765,641**
Population by Race	
White	**649,021**
African American	**69,351**
Asian	**51,565**
American Indian and Alaska Native	**1,174**
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	**296**
Other	**12,947**
Identified by two or more	**15,520**

Concentrations of Minority and Hispanic Persons

HUD defines areas of racial or ethnic concentration as geographical areas where the percentage of minorities or ethnic persons is at least 10 percentage points higher than in the Municipality overall.

In Norristown, minority persons comprised 64% of the population. Therefore, an area of racial concentration includes census tracts where the percentage of minority residents is 55.7% or higher. There were 3 census tracts in Norristown that met the criteria for areas of racial concentration. These areas include:

- Census tract 2036.01 – 62.7%
- Census tract 2039.01 – 60.0%
- Census tract 2039.02 – 40.7%

In addition, persons of Hispanic origin represented 28% of the population in Norristown. Therefore, an area of ethnic concentration includes the census tracts where the percentage of Hispanics is 30% or higher. Only one of the Municipality's census tracts met this definition. This area was:

- Census tract 2039.01 – 42%

Low & Moderate Income Areas

The following table presents information regarding low and moderate income (LMI) individuals in Norristown. LMI persons, as determined by HUD, have incomes at or below 80% of the median family income (MFI). In its 2007 estimates, HUD determined that there were 17,453 LMI persons in the Municipality, equivalent to 57.6% of the population. Although data was not available for Norristown, HUD reported that the FY2007 MFI in Montgomery County was $71,600.

HUD defines an LMI census tract as one in which 51% or more of the population have incomes of 80% or less of MFI. According to these criteria, five of the Municipality's nine census tracts qualify as LMI areas. Details on the LMI status of each tract appear in the following table.

Low & Moderate Income Persons by Census Tract, 2007

Census Tract	Low & Moderate Income Persons	
	Persons	Percent
All Tracts	17,453	57.6%
2035.00	2,763	47.3%
2036.01	1,819	**66.1%**
2036.02	1,802	49.1%
2037.00	451	49.9%
2038.01	1,743	26.1%
2038.03	2,873	**57.9%**
2038.04	1,805	**62.2%**
2039.01	2,241	**73.6%**
2039.02	1,956	**69.5%**

Note: Shading indicates low-income census tracts.
Source: U.S. Housing and Urban Development

Concentrations of LMI Persons, Minority Persons and Hispanics

Of the five tracts identified as LMI areas, three were noted also to be areas of racial and/or ethnic concentrations. These areas are noted in the following table.

LMI Areas of Racial and/or Ethnic Concentration

Census Tract	Neighborhood	% LMI	% Black	% Hispanic
2036.01		66.1%	62.7%	11.7%
2039.01		73.6%	60.0%	23.0%

2039.02		69.5%	40.7%	14.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, HUD

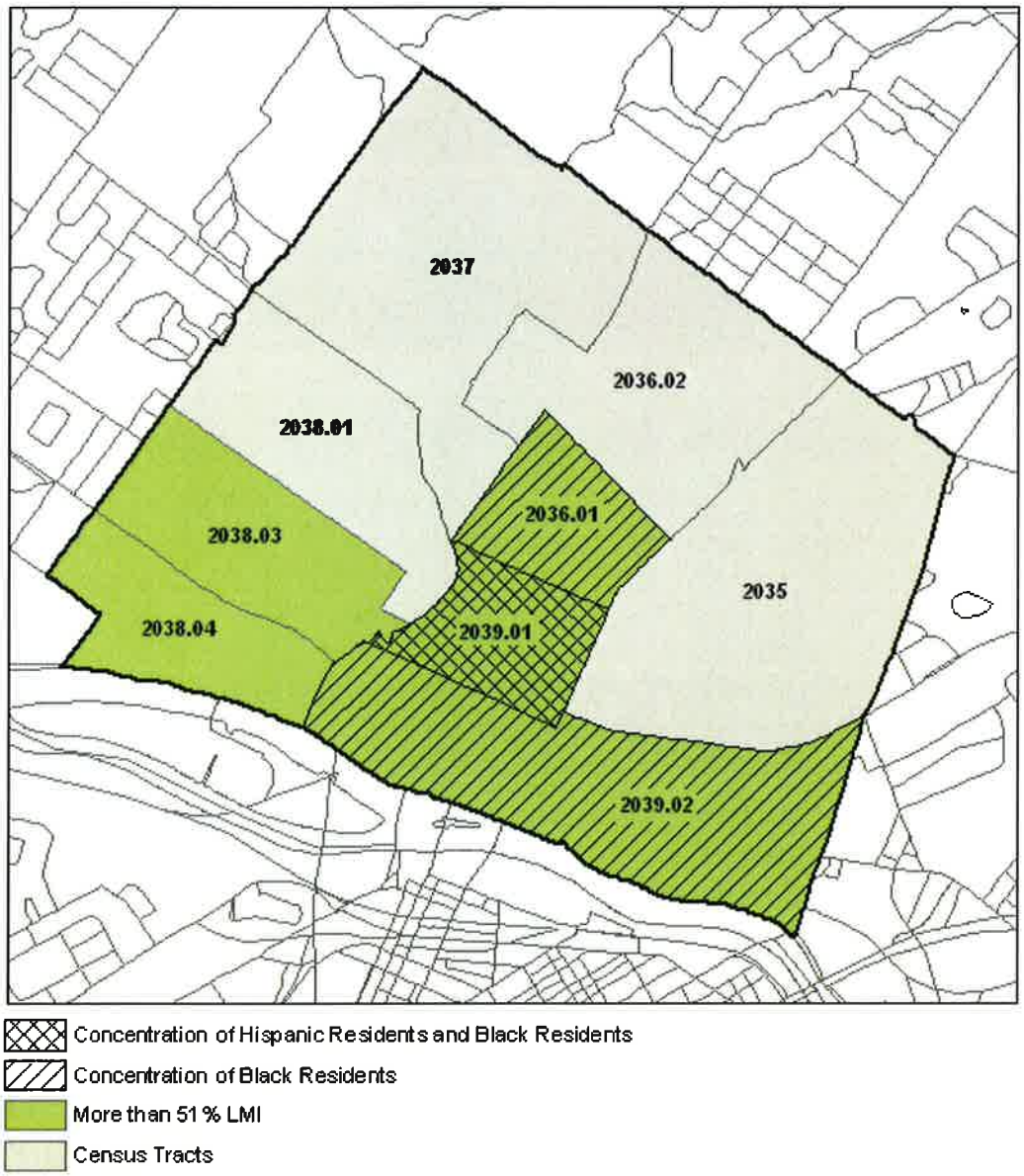
Federal CDBG funds are intended to provide low and moderate income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, housing rehabilitation and preservation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration.

The system for establishing the priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program
- Meeting the needs of LMI residents
- Focusing on low and moderate income areas or neighborhoods
- Coordination and leveraging of resources
- Response to expressed needs
- Sustainability and/or long-term impact, and
- The ability to demonstrate measurable progress and success.

Much of the Municipality's funds are invested in one of the LMI areas in Norristown. These census tracts are 2036.01, 2038.03, 2038.04, 2039.01, and 2039.02. These LMI tracts, as well as census tracts of racial or ethnic concentration, are shown on the map.

Racial, Ethnic and LMI Concentration by Census Tract, 2000



3. Obstacles to Meeting Underserved Needs

The primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the limited resources available to address identified priorities. The Municipality of Norristown partners with other public agencies and non-profit organizations, when feasible, to leverage resources and maximize outcomes in housing and community development.

4. Funds Expected to be Available

Currently, the Municipality of Norristown receives CDBG funds from HUD. These funding sources will be available to help support new and existing community development projects and Housing preservation through the owner-occupied housing

rehabilitation program. The Municipality's annual allocation from the entitlement grant is as follows:

CDBG $795,465

The Municipality does not anticipate any CDBG program income during the program year. However, the Municipality expects to receive $500,000 in state-allocated HOME funds during the program year from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to leverage our housing rehabilitation program.

Managing the Process

1. *Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.*

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.*

3. *Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies.*

Program Year 5 Action Plan Managing the Process response:

1. Lead Agency

The lead agency for the Consolidated Plan is the Municipality of Norristown's Department of Planning and Municipal Development, which also administers the CDBG and HOME programs. In addition, the Montgomery County Housing Authority (MCHA) will play a larger role in providing and managing housing programs not covered by this plan. The Montgomery County Redevelopment Authority will be an important stakeholder in community development projects and improvements. Coordination with various non-profit organizations, such as Community Action Development Commission (CADCOM), Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC), and the Montgomery County Housing Coalition the lead entity for the Montgomery County Continuum of Care process, will also be important.

2. Significant Aspects of the Process

In July 2009, the Municipality engaged the services of Mullin & Lonergan Associates, Inc. to serve as consultant to the Developing of the Five Year Consolidated Action Plan for 2010 to 2014.

The Municipality made the decision to encourage a high level of agency consultation in an effort to demonstrate its commitment to identifying priority needs and engaging the participation of public agencies and non-profit organizations in a positive and collaborative manner. A list of stakeholders and affordable housing providers was developed and included public agencies and private non-profit organizations whose missions included the provision of affordable housing and human services to LMI households and persons. These stakeholders were invited to

participate in completing specific provider-type surveys held for the purpose of developing the CP.

The CP was developed using reliable data from sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, HUD's State of the Cities Data System (CHAS data tables), the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the local real estate multi-list service database, municipal departments and several planning documents produced by or on behalf of Norristown. These include the original Norristown Economic Revitalization Strategy first adopted in 2000 and updated in 2009, the 2005-2009 Consolidated Plan, recent CAPER reports and the recently updated 2009 Comprehensive Plan, among other plans.

Additionally, public and private agencies which were identified as stakeholders in the process were asked to complete written questionnaires to provide data on special needs populations such as the elderly, youth, persons with HIV/AIDS, public housing residents, persons with disabilities, and the homeless. Copies of the written questionnaires sent to the various entities were included in the Five Year Consolidated Plan submission.

Based on the public hearings and stakeholder questionnaires, a set of priorities was established by the Municipality for the next five years. The Municipality just completed the second year of the five year plan and this submittal represents the 3rd Year of the Five Year Consolidated Plan Process.

While following the Citizens Participation Plan, an informal session was held on August 1, 2013 followed by the required Public Needs Hearing which was held on September 9, 2013 and October 28, 2013 including subsequent Council meetings in Council Chambers, Norristown Municipal Hall, 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, PA. No comments have been received with regard to the proposed activities. Minutes of the hearing are kept on file in the Department of Planning and Municipal Development and the Municipal Administration office.

A draft of the Consolidated Plan for 2010-2014 and the Annual Plan for FY2014 was placed on public display for 30 days beginning December 9, 2013 and ending January 10, 2014.

3. Actions to Enhance Coordination

The Municipality of Norristown engaged in public processes all year long through town Meetings in the different Council districts, working with local housing providers and non-profit organizations in an effort to develop a community-driven Plan. These organizations include, but are not limited to:

- ***Public Agencies***
  - Montgomery County Redevelopment Authority
  - Montgomery County Housing Authority
  - Montgomery County Economic and workforce Development
  - Montgomery County Housing Coalition
  - Montgomery County Continuum of Care
  - Montgomery County Housing and Community Development

- ***Non-profit Organizations***
  - Genesis Housing

- Habitat for Humanity
- Coordinated Homeless Outreach Center
- Fair housing Rights
- Opportunities Industrialization Center
- Montgomery County Cultural Center
- CADCOM
- Hedwig House
- Salvation Army
- ACLAMO

Collaboration and coordination with these entities will continue throughout the year in order to capitalize on potential future funding that may be received by the Municipality in 2014. Coordinated actions include programmatic linkages between agencies as well as budget allocation process coordination. In this way, the Municipality will be positioned to take advantage of potential partnership opportunities that would result in increased investment to benefit low and moderate income households and persons.

Citizen Participation

1. *Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.*

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

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.*

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

**Please note that Citizen Comments and Responses may be included as additional files within the CPMP Tool.*

Program Year 5 Action Plan Citizen Participation response:

1. Summary of Citizen Participation Process

The Municipality of Norristown has followed the same procedures in advertising the amount of assistance expected to be received and the range of activities to be undertaken during the fiscal year in question, including the estimated benefits for low and moderate income populations.

The Municipality will make copies of the Proposed Action Plan available for public review and comment for 30 days. The 2014 Proposed Action Plan will also be posted on the Municipality's website, www.norristown.org. The Proposed Action Plan will be available at the following locations, in accordance with Norristown's Citizen Participation Plan:

- Norristown Municipal Hall:
  235 East Airy Street
  Norristown, PA 19401

- Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library
  1001 Powell Street
  Norristown, PA 19401

The Municipal citizen review process for the final annual action plan allows for two public hearings each year, in addition to two regularly scheduled Municipal Council meetings, which are open to the public and televised on a local public television network. Once the proposed CDBG budgets have been finalized and presented to the Municipal Council for a final vote, an ordinance is passed that also represents a cementing of the local citizen participation process. Any public comments – verbal, written or e-mailed to the Municipality – are incorporated into the plan's final edition.

The required Public Needs Hearing was held on September 9, 2013 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at Council Chambers, Norristown Municipal Hall, 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, PA. The hearing was scheduled in accordance with the Municipality's Citizen Participation Plan. A public notice for the hearing was published in *The Times Herald*, a copy of which is included in Additional Information – Appendix A. Notices also were posted in the Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library, as well as on the Municipality's website, www.norristown.org.

2. Summary of Citizen Comments

The Municipality received no public comments applicable to the Action Plan at the September 9, 2013 Public Needs Hearing. Another public hearing was to be held on Monday, October 28, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. with proposed projects and activities for funding, in accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan. No public comments were received at the time.

3. Summary of Efforts Made to Broaden Public Participation

The Municipality has an open-ended policy of allowing for citizen input all year round. This input process also includes meetings with local community groups, particularly those which represent minority and non-English speaking persons, such as Accion Communal Latino Americana De Montgomery (ACLAMO). The Municipality also works with Montgomery County Housing Authority, the Montgomery County Housing Coalition as well as private housing advocacy groups, to encourage the participation of all the low to moderate income residents. The Department of Planning and Municipal Development has an application package that is available to applicants for Community Development Block Grant funding.

4. Explanation of Comments Not Accepted

No public comments have been received to date on the Action Plan.

Institutional Structure

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

Program Year 5 Action Plan Institutional Structure response:

1. Institutional Structure

Norristown's Department of Planning and Municipal Development will continue to oversee the Municipality's housing rehabilitation, reconstruction, and down payment assistance programs. The Municipality will work towards improved coordination with the Montgomery County Housing Authority on housing issues, particularly as they pertain to deconcentration of facilities and services into the surrounding areas of the County. The department will also continue to provide overall administration of the CDBG and state-funded HOME programs. Additionally, Municipal officials have partnered with other officials in the County that have similar concerns for their Townships, in an effort to come up with a unified approach to the shared housing issues and concerns especially as it relates to deconcentration.

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.*

Program Year 5 Action Plan Monitoring response:

1. Monitoring of Activities

The Municipality of Norristown conducts monitoring reviews to determine whether its programs are being carried out in accordance with its Consolidated Plan in the following manner. The reviews are completed by the Department of Planning and Municipal Development, as this department is responsible for the administration of grant funds. The housing activities are carried out by an in-house consultant, making it easy to monitor progress and long-term compliance with program requirements.

Monitoring of Housing Programs

- The Department will continue to require and conduct a review of monthly reports submitted by the Housing Program consultant. The department will review and approve bills before payment on an ongoing basis.
- The Department will review and approve bills before payment on an ongoing basis.
- The Department will meet and discuss figures and goals of the program with the consultant on an ongoing basis.
- The Department will conduct an annual assessment of the program's progress.

Monitoring of Community Development Programs

- The Department will review and approve bills before payment on an ongoing basis.
- The Department will meet and discuss figures and goals of the programs with other Department Heads and Administration.
- The Department will conduct an annual assessment of the programs' progress.

The Department will also conduct annual reviews of the following programs

administered by other agencies: Montgomery County MH/MR and Aging and Adult Services, Montgomery County Community Action Development Commission (CADCOM), and Montgomery County Housing Authority Section 8 Certificate, Housing Choice Voucher, and Public Housing programs. Norristown will also continue to monitor the work of the Montgomery County Housing Authority.

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 5 Action Plan Lead-based Paint response:

1. Actions to Evaluate and Reduce Lead-Based Paint Hazards

Lead abatement activities in Norristown are managed by the Montgomery Department of Health Services, which performs blood lead-level tests on children and other at-risk persons. Lead poisoning is a common childhood condition, but it is also totally preventable by reducing and eliminating the lead source within a child's environment. Lead testing is available at the Norristown Health Center for Montgomery County children up until their 7th birthday. Case management services are provided to all Montgomery County residents who have a child that has been identified as having an elevated blood lead level. Case management services involve education and home visits by an environmental health specialist and a public health nurse. They work together to assist parents and homeowners in reducing and/or eliminating the source of lead exposure to the child. In 2012, there were 26 reported cases of children with elevated lead levels (lead levels of 10 mcg/dL or greater), in Norristown.

Norristown will continue to monitor the Department's lead abatement activities. Additionally, the Municipality will also continue to comply with the lead abatement requirements of its housing programs, including the first-time homebuyer program and the acquisition/rehabilitation resale program. In compliance with CDBG regulations, the Municipality performs a risk assessment on all housing rehabilitation projects to identify any lead paint hazards. Measures are in place address these hazards during rehabilitation. A Lead-Certified Inspector performs a clearance test prior to the closeout of the project for the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Additionally, Municipality staff members are trained in visual assessment certifications and perform visual tests for the First Time Homebuyers Program. In 2012, 100% of the properties that received CDBG funding had lead hazards.

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. *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 5 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

1. Specific Priorities and Objectives

The Municipality of Norristown expects to focus its CDBG entitlement funds towards improving the quality of life in Municipality neighborhoods for extremely low, very low, and low income households, and to preserve and increase the stock of affordable owner occupied units while ensuring concentrated code enforcement for the and renter housing units. With this in mind, the following objectives have been established:

- **Rehabilitation of Housing Owned by Low Income Households:** An estimated 50% of the substandard units suitable for rehabilitation are occupied by extremely low income, very low income or low income households. Norristown is fully developed, with little or no land available for new affordable residential construction. In order to preserve Norristown's affordable housing stock, Norristown will also increase its affordable housing stock by rehabilitating vacant units suitable for rehabilitation and selling to low to moderate income families.

  Objective: Continue the municipal-wide Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provides interest-free loans. The loans average $30,000 and are forgiven after 10 years. Assist four homes.

  Objective: Increase the Municipality's affordable housing stock by rehabilitating vacant units suitable for rehabilitation and selling to low to moderate income families. Assist with the rehabilitation of four owner-occupied homes through the CDBG Acquisition / Rehabilitation / Resale Program.

  Objective: Aid in the prevention of slum and blight areas by increasing code enforcement and inspecting 5,000 unoccupied and occupied housing units for compliance with building codes within the Municipality's CDBG area.

- **Rehabilitation of Rental Housing:** Norristown is committed to stepping up code enforcement efforts on rental properties. At the same time, the Municipality will continue to encourage other agencies, such as Montgomery County Housing Services, to continue their efforts to fund the rehabilitation of existing rental properties, particularly in the surrounding areas of the County.

- **Increased Homeownership Opportunities:** Expand homeownership opportunities to very low and low income individuals and households. Norristown's most significant current need, as homeownership rates have declined in recent years. Projections indicate that homeownership rates will fall back under 50% (49.7%) by 2014.

- **Fair Housing Educational Activities:** Support efforts of the Fair Housing Council in its awareness campaigns

Objective: Target realtors and homeowners with warnings about prohibitions against block busting, workshops on fair housing, and advocacy for victims of housing discrimination. Serve 200 persons.

2. Resources Expected to be Available

Norristown anticipates receiving $795,465 in CDBG funds in PY2014. The Municipality has also applied for additional HOME funds from the PA-DCED. These funding sources will be available to help support public improvements, the delivery of social services, affordable housing projects, housing rehabilitation programs, and homeless outreach and prevention activities.

(See HUD Activity Sheets in Additional Information – Appendix A.)

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.*

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.*

Program Year 5 Action Plan Public Housing Strategy response:

1. Public Housing Activities

Housing Choice Voucher Program (formerly Section 8)

Montgomery County Housing Authority (MCHA) currently owns only one public housing unit located within Norristown. This unit was recently rehabilitated by the MCHA and is for sale to a low income family. A total of 36 units of public housing within Norristown have been rehabilitated and sold to low income homeowners as part of a municipal/housing authority partnership over the last several years.

The primary source of assistance to make rental housing affordable in Norristown is the federal Housing Choice Voucher Program (formerly Section 8), which is administered by MCHA. This program permits those receiving a voucher to rent a

housing unit and pay a maximum of 30% of their income on the rent. The Housing Choice Voucher Program pays the remaining portion.
Beyond ensuring that residents have access to affordable housing through the Housing Choice Voucher program, Norristown is dedicated to increasing homeownership among low and moderate income households. In furtherance of this goal, the Municipality annually allocates $150,000 of the CDBG funds to the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program. The Municipality has also allocated $300,000 in HOME funds through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, which will also fund this program.

2. The Montgomery County Housing Authority is not designated as a troubled agency by HUD.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

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

Program Year 5 Action Plan Barriers to Affordable Housing response:

1. Proposed Actions to Remove Barriers to Affordable Housing

There are relatively few barriers to affordable housing in Norristown. The Municipality has a large stock of affordable housing which has increased due to the recent economic downturn. Norristown has experienced a large influx of Housing Choice Voucher (formerly Section 8) residents, indicating that rents are affordable. These factors demonstrate that housing market conditions have not impeded the availability of affordable rental stock.

The primary impediment to the development of new affordable housing properties in Norristown is the built-out status of the Municipality, which translates to a lack of available land on which to build new units, especially multi-family structures. An increase in foreclosures and population decline have increased the number of vacant structures, and many older homes owned by low or moderate income families have fallen into substandard condition. These impacts are largely due to factors outside of the control of local government, though the Municipality has addressed them during the consolidated planning process and through increased concentrated code enforcement. The Municipality plans on addressing this impediment through its Acquisition/Rehabilitation/Resale Program.

Previous reports by and on the behalf of the Municipality have noted trends of panic selling and blockbusting in Norristown, which have limited housing choice by increasing the degree of neighborhood residential racial/ethnic segregation. While this has the potential effect of lowering the market price of property, thereby increasing its affordability, it severely limits the extent to which the Municipality can offer a fair housing environment. The Municipality's fair housing strategy is further detailed in its 2012 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing.

Other impediments to fair housing exist within the Municipality. Some Norristown owners carry high-cost loans as a result of predatory lending practices in the community. Unnecessarily expensive loans increase the burden of housing cost on owners, making it more likely that homes will fall into disrepair or foreclosure. ADA

accessibility is an issue due to the age of Norristown's housing stock, particularly among older homes and multi-unit developments. Additionally, Norristown's growing Hispanic population faces several problems, including exorbitant rents for substandard housing, improper lease termination, and increasing rents for expenses such as water and sewer. Fear of deportation keeps many of these families and individuals from reporting violations to the Municipality.

To preserve the availability of affordable housing, the Municipality has focused on rehabilitating the housing stock available to low and moderate income households. The Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program has been the most substantial of these efforts. The program has been the focus of several PA-DCED HOME grants (in the amount of $500,000 or more) and a substantial amount of CDBG funds. The Municipality has also undertaken the Vacant Residential Acquisition Program, buying vacant properties and rehabilitating them itself or donating them to non-profits. Funds are directed towards this effort since rehabilitation on the private market would result in prohibitively expensive housing. In the past 26 years, the program has successfully rehabilitated between 400 and 450 properties, spending more than $10,000,000 on acquisition, rehabilitation, resale, and construction. Depending on funding availability, between four and twenty-seven properties are rehabilitated per year.

In addition, Norristown has promoted homeownership through its First-Time Homebuyer Program, which is funded through CDBG and HOME funds allocated by the PA-DCED. The Municipality has partnered with several regional non-profits, including Genesis Housing Corporation, Habitat for Humanity, and Community Action Development Commission (CADCOM) to rehabilitate vacant and deteriorated housing, and provide services and funds for families and individuals seeking homeownership. In the past two decades, this program has enabled over 100 people to successfully become homeowners in Norristown, by receiving up to $5,000 per person towards closing costs and down payment assistance.

The Municipality is an active and supportive partner to area non-profit housing developers and other organizations involved in the development of affordable housing. In addition to Norristown's willingness to work with area developers and non-profits, the Municipality has several multi-year programs and initiatives in place to address existing barriers to affordable housing that can be funded through the use of CDBG funds. The following is a list of these programs:

- **The Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program** – This program provides interest-free loans averaging $30,000, forgivable after 10 years, to existing homeowners making no more than 80% of area median income to rehabilitate their homes. This program helps to restore the existing affordable housing stock and improve the quality of life conditions in Municipality neighborhoods.
- **Code Enforcement Efforts –** This program provides funds for the Municipality to inspect properties in target areas to bring them to building code and prevent the decline of deteriorated areas.
- **Participation in Fair Housing activities –** The Municipality is involved in an awareness campaign targeting realtors and homeowners with warnings about prohibitions against block busting, workshops on fair housing rights, and advocacy for victims of housing discrimination.

HOME/ American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI)

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

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.*

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.*

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 5 Action Plan HOME/ADDI response:

1. Other Forms of Investment

In PY2014, the Municipality does not anticipate receiving additional federal funds.

However, the Municipality was allocated additional grant funds from the following agencies:

- **$97,230** (to the Montgomery County COC Housing Coalition) from HUD in Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds (out of a total of $2,140,521 allocated to the Montgomery County COC); and anticipates
- **$500,000** in state-allocated HOME funds through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development

Together, these grant funds have enabled the Municipality to invest nearly $600,000 in addition to their CDBG grant awards in FY2011. These funds will, by their nature, assist LMI individuals in the Municipality of Norristown.

2. Recapture/Resale Provisions

For owner occupied rehabilitation activities, the Municipality applies a non-amortizing 10 year mortgage that is recaptured 100% if the owner sales the property before the 10 year time period. Funds recaptured are reprogrammed for use for rehabilitation of other low moderate income owner occupied properties in need of rehab. Additionally assistance to first time homebuyers involves a five year lien on the property which is recaptured fully if the owner sales the property prior to the lien expiration period.

3. Use of HOME Funds to Refinance Existing Debt (Multi-family Housing)

NOT APPLICABLE.

4. Use of ADDI Funds

NOT APPLICABLE. The Municipality of Norristown does not anticipate receiving an allocation of ADDI funds for PY2014.

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.*

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.*

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 2014. Again, please identify barriers to achieving this.*

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.*

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.*

Program Year 5 Action Plan Special Needs response:

1. Source of Funds

In light of the limited amount of CDBG funds available to the Municipality of Norristown, homeless needs and homeless prevention are addressed through other revenue sources. Norristown will support efforts of human service agencies, social service providers, and other organizations that provide services and assistance to individuals and families who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless, in as far permanent housing is concerned, and in any efforts concerning deconcentration of these services from Norristown, to through-out the County. The Municipality of Norristown does not receive Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds to assist with homeless needs.

However, there are several non-profit homeless service providers in Norristown that receive funds through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, McKinny-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds and other sources. These funds are used to operate other emergency shelters, transitional housing facilities, and permanent supportive housing facilities throughout the Municipality of Norristown and Montgomery County. These funds are also used to provide supportive services such as case management services, counseling, job training, and life skills classes.

The list below summarizes the services offered and available funding in Norristown, for some of these services:

- Salvation Army – The Salvation Army of Greater Philadelphia is an organization that offers spiritual ministry, as well as various social services. Their 2012-13 Annual Report indicated that their total revenue was $37,056,080, with 47% coming from government funding, 17% from adult rehabilitation sales, and 13% from contributions and foundation grants.
- Laurel House – This organization is dedicated to the vision of ending domestic violence in each life, home, and community. Their mission is to provide safe haven for abused women and their children, to raise public awareness about domestic violence, and to advocate for social change against domestic violence. Their FY2008 total revenue stream was $1,890,316, with 39.3% coming from government funding and another 24.9% coming from donations.

2. Homeless Needs

Specifically, the Strategic Plan focuses on outreach, data, housing, health care, finance, and supportive services. Some of the Municipality's objectives are summarized below, and are consistent with goals and objectives outlined in the 2009 Continuum of Care Plan.

- **Increase the percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional to permanent housing to at least 63.5%** - the Municipality's rehabilitation programs and services, as well as the Acquisition/Rehabilitation/Resale Program, should produce more affordable housing units for LMI households and individuals. The Municipality also continues to allocate funds towards First Time Homebuyers that go towards down payment or closing cost assistance. The Municipality also encourages deconcentration of homeless facilities and services so that these individuals have greater choices in housing type and location other than being concentrated in Norristown.
- **Increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 19%** - although this is not a specific focus of the Municipality, the opportunities developed by the Municipality's economic initiatives, such as the Studio Centre and Tax Increment Financing projects, should increase the number of accessible jobs available to individuals in Norristown.
- **Decreasing the number of homeless households with children** – by allocating money to organizations such as the Opportunities Industrialization Center, the Municipality's CDBG funds will support literacy, education, and job training services for households. These programs should assist families in procuring employment and affording rental housing units.

The main obstacle to completing the priorities listed above is a lack of funding from private and non-federal government sources. The recent economic downturn has reduced contributions to homeless service providers from the public. In addition, the economic downturn, and the accompanying decrease in taxes collected, has reduced the amount of municipal funds available for such activities.

3. Chronic Homelessness

HUD defines the term "chronically homeless" as unaccompanied individuals with disabilities who have been continually homeless for 12 months or more or who have had four episodes of homelessness in a three-year period. In Montgomery County, 160 people were identified as chronically homeless in 2004 and 74 were identified as such in 2008. Of those 74, 62 were receiving shelter within the Montgomery County system and 12 were currently unsheltered.

During 2005, the Coordinated Homeless Outreach Center opened in Norristown, Montgomery County. Forty-one percent of those seen at the Center were considered chronically homeless according to the HUD definition. Sixty-three percent reported having a mental illness, 42% reported alcohol abuse, and 52% reported the use of other substances. In addition, 10% presented with severe medical or physical disabilities.

The January 2008 Point in Time Survey categorized the people interviewed into subpopulations as follows:

2011 Continuum of Care Point in Time Homeless Subpopulations

	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	% Pop.
Chronically Homeless	62	12	74	27%
Severely Mentally Ill	63	15	78	28%
Chronic Substance Abuse	50	7	57	21%
Veterans	10	1	11	4%
Persons with HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	0%
Victims of Domestic Violence	46	0	46	20%
Unaccompanied Youth Under 18 years of age	0	0	0	0%
Total	231	35	266	100.00%

As the chart illustrates, the chronically homeless accounted for over one quarter of those interviewed.

4. Homelessness Prevention and Outreach

Norristown will support efforts of human service agencies, social service providers, and other organizations that provide services and assistance to individuals and families who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless in as far as permanent housing is concerned and any efforts geared towards deconcentration of resources.

Norristown is a participant in the development of the Montgomery County's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. It will support all actions to implement this strategy, specifically actions related to establishing permanent housing for the homeless and deconcentration of services from Norristown. This CoC Ten Year Plan lists the following 2008 Local Action Steps to attain HUD's National Objective of ending chronic homelessness and moving families and individuals into permanent housing:

Increase the percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional to permanent housing to at least 63.5%

Action Step 1: Work with the Montgomery County Housing Authority to establish preference in public housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program for homeless households leaving transitional housing

Action Step 2: Establish County policies to prioritize use of County dollars for permanent housing affordable to families and individuals moving from transitional housing

Action Step 3: Identify reasons for non-participation by private landlords in rental assistance programs and explore and implement new landlord initiatives that will increase housing available to homeless families and individuals

Increase percentage of homeless persons staying in Public Housing over 6 months to at least 71.5%:

Action Step 1: Develop a Housing Tool Kit for use by case managers and other service providers to assist homeless to obtain and maintain housing;

Action Step 2: Develop and conduct training on tenant/landlord rights and responsibilities

Action Step 3: Develop a Peer Housing Support Program

Increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 19%:

Action Step 1: Work with the County Department of Economic Development and Workforce Investment Board to target homeless persons and to address specific impediments to their participation in employment programs

Action Step 2: Advocate with public welfare staff to maximize mainstream benefits for the homeless, including increasing awareness of how to assist food stamp recipients to utilize federal match for employment and training

Action Step 3: Continue to increase access to education through the Power Program, a program for people with serious mental illness and co-occurring disorders

Decreasing the number of homeless households with children:

Action Step 1: Develop pilot project with centralized intake for families and take other steps to move Montgomery County agencies addressing homeless families to the Rapid Re-housing Model

Action Step 2: Since close to 70% of homeless families are in transitional housing, work with the Montgomery County Public Housing Authority to establish preference in public housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program for homeless households leaving transitional housing

Action Step 3: Examine and strengthen policies to better utilize and coordinate state Housing Assistance Program (HAP) resources with McKinney and other programs serving homeless families

Create new Public Housing beds for chronically homeless persons:

Action Step 1: Target 20 slots in new county mental health housing plan funded with Health Choices Reinvestment dollars for the chronically homeless

Action Step 2: Adopt a policy to give priority to the chronically homeless in the County-funded Tenant Based Rental Assistance Voucher program
Action Step 3: Designate Horizon House's 2007 3-bedroom Shelter Plus Care program for chronically homeless individuals

5. Discharge Coordination Policy

Foster Care Discharge Policy

As described in the 2008 Continuum of Care Discharge Planning Protocols Narrative for the Lower Merion/Norristown/Abington region of Montgomery County, work is continuing for discharge protocol for youth exiting the foster care system. In the meantime, the Office of Children and Youth (OCY) works with youth to ensure that appropriate housing is in place prior to their exit from the system. Independent living services are provided to those aged 16 to 21 who reside in out-of-home placement facilities. Aftercare services are also provided to promote self-sufficiency through support in employment, education, life skills, preventive services, and housing. Seventeen-year-old youths are now eligible for the county's Emergency Tenant Based Rental Program. OCY also supports the Valley Youth House TBRA program for young adults aging out of foster care developed through collaboration with the county agencies and the housing authority. In addition, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is working to develop a protocol for foster discharge. If passed, it would provide for the disposition of dependent children. This includes the development of a written plan that identifies appropriate services and supports for the child's transition from the child welfare system and requires a description of the child's suitable housing plan.

Health Care Discharge

As described in the 2008 Continuum of Care Discharge Planning Protocols Narrative for the Lower Merion/Norristown/Abington region of Montgomery County, hospitals in Pennsylvania must have written discharge policies for appropriate referral and transfer plans that comply with requirements of the Federal Conditions for Participation in Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Pennsylvania Code (028 Section 105.21 to 105.25). Ensuring compliance with these regulations is the responsibility of the PA Department of Health, Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care.

Mental Health Discharge

As described in the 2008 Continuum of Care Discharge Planning Protocols Narrative for the Lower Merion/Norristown/Abington region of Montgomery County, the Commonwealth of PA has a formal policy that no discharge from a state hospital can occur unless all housing, treatment, case management, and rehabilitation services are in place at the County level. In Montgomery County, there is a letter of Agreement between Norristown State Hospital (NSH) and the County Office of Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Drug and Alcohol/Behavioral Health related to the continuity of care for individuals who leave the hospital. OMH has developed a Continuity of Care Manual that serves as a guide to the roles of NSH team members responsible for discharge planning. OMH has a dedicated staff person on the grounds of the state hospital. Hospital staff sends the County staff an Active Discharge Candidate Notice informing him of all pending discharges so that he can assist in the assessment and planning, especially for those who may be difficult to

place or require extra supports. In addition, to ensure that the person being discharged has adequate housing, the staff coordinator makes sure that he/she is linked to the County mental health system before discharge so that there is no hiatus in medication or mental health services.

Correctional Institution Discharge

As described in the 2008 Continuum of Care Discharge Planning Protocols Narrative for the Lower Merion/Norristown/Abington region of Montgomery County, the Commonwealth of PA has two ways of ensuring that individuals released from State Correctional Institutions do not become homeless. First, the PA Department of Corrections issued a policy statement on Inmate Re-entry and Transition on January 5, 2006. It requires that the Continuity of Care planners in each institution make every effort to assure a viable home plan and follow-up services for all who will be released at the maximum term of their sentence. This policy includes providing each inmate with written information on housing, ID, and other personal documents. Of particular relevance are sections I-VIII, A 1-2(d), H1-5 and 3A 1-5. Second, the PA Board of Probation and Parole has a formal policy that no individual may be released on parole without an approved Home Plan. Reference to this policy is found in Chapter 623 of the PA Code, Conditions Governing Parole. Section 63.4(2) specifically relates to housing.

On the County level, the Montgomery County Correctional Facility (MCCF) will not discharge an individual on parole without a verified address. The County Office of Mental Health has developed protocols for linkage, ongoing treatment services, and the identification of a housing plan for persons who have been identified as having a serious mental illness who are leaving state prisons, those being discharged from MCCF, and residents of the county being discharged from other County prisons in the region.

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.

Program Year 5 Action Plan ESG response:

NOT APPLICABLE

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 (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.*

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 5 Action Plan Community Development response:

1. Priority Non-Housing Community Development Needs

The Municipality has identified the need for public infrastructure improvements, public facility improvements, and public service activities throughout Norristown. Most of these projects involve roadway and streetscape improvement projects.

2. Specific Short-Term and Long-Term Objectives

The Municipality of Norristown has determined the following non-housing priorities for the next five years:

Infrastructure

Public infrastructure in many CDBG-eligible areas of Norristown is inadequate for current demands. Where and when appropriate, the Municipality will augment its capital expenditures with resources from the Consolidated Plan when those resources support new construction projects or rehabilitation projects of existing units. In addition, these activities must benefit LMI persons. Priority projects in the infrastructure category include the reconstruction of streets and sidewalks that are heavily traveled and in need of repair. These projects will contribute to the safety and quality of life of neighborhoods throughout the Municipality of Norristown and will benefit LMI persons.

- **Long-Term Goals:** Provide financial assistance in the construction and replacement of infrastructure elements necessary to preserve existing affordable residential areas. Activities funded through the CDBG program should also improve the economic viability of existing and potential businesses in Norristown.

➢ **Short-Term Goals:**

- Sidewalk Improvements along the 100 block of West Marshall Street that involve new sidewalks and urban friendly trees. It is expected to benefit 1696 persons, approximately 78% of whom are LMI.

Public Facilities Improvements (including Parks and Recreation)

In August 2005, the Municipality of Norristown drafted an Open Space Plan in conjunction with the Montgomery County Green Fields/Green Towns Program. The plan identified a number of municipal-wide locations for park improvements, as well as the implementation of Municipality-wide green infrastructure. A majority of these projects are located within CDBG eligible areas. As such, the Municipality of Norristown plans to provide resources to these projects when available to help improve the Municipality's various parks and playgrounds. Improvements will include safety upgrades and equipment upgrades to ensure that all facilities meet industry standards for safety and ADA compliance.

➢ **Long-Term Goals:** Provide financial assistance in making rehabilitation, repairs, and other improvements to public facilities, such as parks and playgrounds, to enhance the quality of public facilities and increase access to public facilities for LMI persons. These projects advance the Municipality's goal of improving quality of life for LMI households.

➢ **Short-Term Goals:** Public facilities improvements are undertaken for the purpose of improving living conditions:

- Continuation of the Poley Park Improvement Project involving physical construction of amenities based on recommendations developed through a public master planning process. It is expected to benefit 1,520 persons, approximately 72% of whom are LMI.
- Continuation of the Simmons Park Improvement Project inclusive of site furnishings, landscaping, and hardscapes. Funds are leveraged with funding from DCED and County Open Space funds. It is expected to benefit 2,637 persons, approximately 70% of whom are LMI.

Economic Development

Norristown's 2000 Economic Revitalization Strategy was updated in June 2009 for the Municipality of Norristown. The study area for the master plan encompasses the entire Municipality, although many of the recommendations relate to the downtown area. The goals of the revitalization plan are to develop means of maximizing the tax base, improve the quality of life for residents of Norristown, and promote retail, office, and entertainment uses in the downtown. Future Annual Plans may include appropriations for economic development projects when those requested resources could be shown to benefit low and moderate income residents of Norristown. When funds are available, the Municipality will support job training and mentoring services provided through the Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) in an attempt to improve the economic opportunities available to low income persons.

➢ **Long-Term Goals:** Improve the economic opportunities available to low income persons and enhance skills of the labor force to make Norristown a more attractive business climate for existing and potential businesses.

➢ **Short-Term Goals:**

- Main Street Economic Development Initiative for the downtown business district to help in job creation and retention. It is expected to create two moderate income jobs.
- Small Business Assistance Center to help small businesses to locate in and stay in Norristown, to prepare business plans, start-up assistance, source library and development of resource material. Businesses served have to meet the micro-business criteria of five or fewer employees, one or more of whom owns the business. It is expected to create or retain two low moderate income jobs.

Public Services

To assist in providing services to area residents and in building better neighborhoods, the Municipality of Norristown may support activities related to improving the quality of life and the competitiveness of the labor force. In addition, the Municipality will provide funding, through a combination of federal and non-federal sources, for code enforcement and demolition activities aimed to improve and sustain the suitable living environment across Norristown's various neighborhoods. The Municipality will support miscellaneous youth educational programs when funding is available, including programs provided by Opportunities Industrialization Center, which benefits children from low income families.

➢ **Long-Term Goals:** Collaborate with local nonprofit organizations and other social service agencies to provide for the human service needs of LMI residents (including homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless). Improve the competitiveness of the Municipality's labor force by supporting literacy and job training services to LMI individuals.

➢ **Short-Term Goals:** Assist with the various youth educational and mentoring programs such as the OIC literacy and GED programs, and also be a part of the Continuum of Care process in Montgomery County as far as permanent housing is concerned and de-concentration of resources.

- Ongoing support of Fair Housing Rights Center in their awareness campaign targeting realtors, landlords and homeowners with warnings against block busting, foreclosure rescue scams, workshops on fair housing rights, and advocacy for victims of housing discrimination. Expected number of people to benefit is 600.
- Continuum of Care process in the county with participation limited to provision of Permanent Housing and encouraging of de-concentration of resources to ensure that services are not just concentrated in the Municipality of Norristown.

Antipoverty Strategy

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

Program Year 5 Action Plan Antipoverty Strategy response:

1. Actions to Reduce the Number of Poverty Level Families

The key to Norristown's anti-poverty strategy lies in the resurgence of its economy through business development and job training. The Municipality's government has already committed funds to improve critical public spaces downtown and throughout Norristown. Norristown has also actively sought and encouraged private renovations and new business start-ups. A revitalized Norristown will mean capturing business and reviving the economy, thereby increasing employment opportunities for households living in poverty. The Municipality will also actively pursue channels for job training and other workforce development.

However, providing better income opportunities is only half the battle. Norristown will also continue to ensure the availability of affordable housing by continuing its owner-occupied housing, first-time homebuyer, and acquisition/rehabilitation/resale programs. By increasing the skills of the workforce and reducing the cost of housing, the Municipality will reduce the number of individuals and families living in poverty.

The multiple aspects of the Municipality's anti-poverty strategy programs run by the Municipality or its subrecipients, when working in concert, have the ability to reduce the number of households with incomes below the poverty level. Specific components of the Municipality's anti-poverty strategy as are follows:

Housing

A lack of affordable housing places housing cost burdens on low to moderate income persons, limiting their ability to pay for other goods and services, such as quality education or needed prescriptions. The Municipality's housing efforts are aimed at improving and maintaining a high standard of housing quality while also creating or maintaining affordability.

Over the five-year period of the Consolidated Plan, and one year Action Plan period, the Municipality will also work with agencies that provide expanded housing options to current and potential Norristown residents. These agencies include Montgomery County Housing Authority, Genesis Housing, Habitat for Humanity, and Hedwig House, all of which assist many lower-income renters, including those with disabilities.

Social Services

Several social service programs are offered by subrecipients of CDBG funds in Norristown to provide assistance to persons with incomes below the poverty level. The Municipality provides assistance to the Opportunities Industrialization Center and the Carver Community Center, as well as being the financial conduit for funds for the Norristown Weed and Seed program.

Economic Development

- On March 18, 2008, the Municipality, in conjunction with the Norristown Area School District and Montgomery County, authorized its first Tax-Increment Financing project at the Bell Telephone Building at 401-4-3 DeKalb Street. The

project entails the utilization of 12,140 square feet for office space and a potential restaurant. The project is expected to significantly enhance the real estate value of the surrounding properties and boost revitalization efforts.

- The State has committed to $10 million in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funds for rehabilitation of Studio Centre at Logan Square. This project originally proposed to build five studios amounting to 74,000 square feet of studio space. Other uses are proposed for the site, including a restaurant, a 50,000 square foot supermarket, and 20,000 square feet of retail space. With the economic downturn, this project has morphed leading to the elimination of the studios and instead expanding and creating the headquarters of USM, an outsourcing company, and the creation of more than 500 jobs that will benefit Low to moderate income residents of the community. As part of this allocation, Studio Centre has also applied for both County and Norristown Section 108 loan funds. To date, they have been awarded $10million from the County Section 108 loan funds. The $5 million section 108 loan application from Norristown's HUD allocation for this project is still pending. This project will boost revitalization efforts and create much-needed jobs in the area.

- The State also committed $500,000 in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funds for the rehabilitation of a former 18 unit apartment building on Dekalb Street, into 12 Condominium style Townhouses. In addition to those funds, there was also a commitment of $450,000 from the County Affordable Housing Trust Fund, $500,000 from Norristown's allocation of HOME DCED funds and $30,000 in First Time Home Buyer Assistance grants. This would ensure a fully funded project that would not only revitalize and stabilize this neighborhood but also create jobs and new housing units for low to moderate income residents.

- The Municipality's community development and public infrastructure are designed to improve the attractiveness of downtown Norristown to existing and potential businesses. Roadway infrastructure projects will improve connectivity to the surrounding highway system, as well as circulation within Norristown for both pedestrians and automobiles. Park improvements will improve the quality of life for residents and workers, while making the area more attractive aesthetically.

2. Estimated Reduction in the Number of Poverty-Level Families

Poverty is a function of income. Factors that affect income are education, job training, health, housing quality, cost of living, and employment. As a single unit of government, the Municipality of Norristown has only limited influence on the overall factors that cause poverty. However, the Municipality has chosen to maximize its resources to provide quality services to low income residents to help them improve their incomes.

The percentage of Norristown households living in poverty increased between 1990 and 2000, according to Census data. In 1990 there were 2,838 individuals living below the poverty line in Norristown, which was 9.5% of the population for which poverty status had been determined. By 2000, that group had increased to 5,238 persons, which represented 17.2% of the population. Notably, the increase in persons living in poverty occurred with a decrease in overall population.

Through the methods described above, the Municipality can positively influence the likelihood of poverty-stricken residents of moving up and out of poverty. Norristown can reduce the number of residents living in poverty by minimizing threats to individual and family financial stability and by extending services that will provide adequately for those in need. Ultimately, federal and state policies on welfare, health care, and the minimum wage are also crucial factors in the fight to address and reduce poverty. The Municipality will continue to support organizations that provide supportive services, to encourage local economic development, and to preserve and improve affordable housing options as part of its strategy to prevent and alleviate poverty.

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 5 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

1. Priorities and Objectives

The priorities and objectives identified below are not presented in order of preference. They are grouped by type of activity and are based on information obtained from housing and social service providers.

Priorities for the Elderly/Frail Elderly Populations

- Support activities that provide affordable housing for elderly and frail elderly residents at or below 50% of area median income.
- Support activities that provide the elderly and frail elderly with benefits counseling, care coordination, transportation, and other services.
- Explore the possibility of creating new affordable housing options for the elderly population. There is a need for additional housing units that provide supportive services.

The Municipality will support the efforts of organizations that seek to provide affordable housing for the elderly and frail elderly, as well as those organizations that provide services to the elderly and frail elderly. Due to the limited funding amounts the Municipality receives, it cannot allocate CDBG funds to elderly and frail elderly related projects. However, the Municipality will support such efforts by issuing certificates of consistency for any elderly affordable housing or service-related projects submitted to the Municipality for approval by other entities in Norristown.

Priorities for Persons with Mental Illness

- Offer support and assistance to local agencies in Norristown that provide supportive services and outreach programs to individuals with mental illness.

Norristown will aid the efforts of area organizations that provide supportive services and transitional and supportive permanent housing options to persons with mental illness. The Municipality will issue certificates of consistency for any projects undertaken by other entities that include the provision of housing and other supportive services for persons suffering from mental illness, especially as they pertain to de-concentration.

Priorities for Persons with Disabilities

- Support tenant-based rental assistance subsidies, should they become available, to serve more individuals and families who have disabilities, and are in danger of becoming homeless especially if they are not concentrated in Norristown.
- Increase the supply of affordable, accessible housing for homeownership.
- Support activities that provide persons with disabilities with the resources necessary to make improvements to their homes.

The Municipality will support efforts to increase the supply of affordable, accessible Permanent housing within Norristown.

Priorities for Persons with Alcohol and Drug Addiction

- Offer support to local agencies that provide outreach programs to individuals with drug and alcohol problems which are located outside of Norristown.
- Maintain the supply of transitional and permanent supportive housing for individuals with drug and alcohol addiction, while encouraging deconcentration of these facilities.

The Municipality is willing to grant certificates of consistency for projects submitted for approval by area organizations. Such projects should support individuals with drug and alcohol addiction through the creation of transitional and supportive housing and the provision of supportive services outside of Norristown.

Priorities for Persons with HIV/AIDS

- Support efforts that provide affordable housing to people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Support organizations that provide supportive services to people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Municipality will support area organizations that provide supportive services and affordable housing options for people living with HIV/AIDS. The Municipality will issue certificates of consistency for any projects meeting the aforementioned criteria that are submitted for review.

All non-homeless special needs categories have been labeled either Medium or Low priority activities. Even though these activities are not viewed as a High priority, they are still important and are not meant to be understood as being unnecessary in the Municipality of Norristown. Rather, it is perceived that those needs are already overly concentrated in Norristown versus Countywide, and may also have other, more appropriate funding sources. The Municipality of Norristown has identified a limited number of priorities to provide a focus for activities that will be funded in the next year. If a high priority proposal is not received during the local CDBG application process, a medium priority project may be funded.

2. Resources Expected to be Available

The Municipality anticipates receiving $795,465 in CDBG funds in PY2014. These funding sources will be available to help support public improvements, the delivery of services, affordable housing projects, housing rehabilitation programs, and homeless outreach and prevention activities.

It is increasingly difficult for the Municipality of Norristown to fund non-homeless special needs projects due to the limited amount of funding the Municipality receives annually to support housing and community development initiatives, as well as the increasing amount of basic community needs resulting from current economic conditions. However, other resources are available on the federal, state, and local levels that area organizations can solicit to help provide affordable housing opportunities and supportive services to Norristown's non-homeless special needs populations.

There are several resources available to support non-homeless special needs housing initiatives, including HUD Section 202 housing funds (elderly projects), HUD Section 811 housing funds (housing for people with disabilities), Housing Choice Voucher (formerly Section 8) tenant- and project-based rental assistance, Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), Federal Home Loan Bank funds, funds from private foundations and other private entities, public housing funds, HOPWA funds, and other state and federal resources.

The Municipality will continue to support the efforts of local and regional organizations that provide housing and supportive services to non-homeless special needs individuals in Norristown, to the best extent possible while encouraging de-concentration of these resources to other parts of the County.

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 5 Action Plan HOPWA response:

NOT APPLICABLE.

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 5 Specific HOPWA Objectives response:

NOT APPLICABLE.

Other Narrative

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

NOT APPLICABLE.

Table 1C
Summary of Specific Multi-Year Objectives
Homeless & Special Needs
Municipality of Norristown

***For the Consolidated Plan Period 2010-2014, the Municipality does not anticipate to fund any homeless and/or special needs projects, and therefore has no associated data to include in Table1C below. The Municipality continues to be involved in the Continuum of Care, as noted in "*Section C. Consolidated Plan Summary—Continuum of Care & Other Special Needs Activities*" of each year's action plan. ***

Specific Objective		Source of Funds	Year	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number	Percent Completed
Availability/Accessibility of Decent Housing (DH-1)							
DH 1.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Affordability of Decent Housing (DH-2)							
DH 2.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Sustainability of Decent Housing (DH-3)							
DH 3.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Availability/Accessibility of Suitable Living Environment (SL-1)							
SL 1.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Affordability of Suitable Living Environment (SL-2)							
SL 2.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%

Sustainability of Suitable Living Environment (SL-3)							
SL 3.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Availability/Accessibility of Economic Opportunity (EO-1)							
Specific Objective		**Source of Funds**	**Year**	**Performance Indicators**	**Expected Number**	**Actual Number**	**Percent Completed**
E O1 .1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Affordability of Economic Opportunity (EO-2)							
E O2 .1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Sustainability of Economic Opportunity (EO-3)							
E O3 .1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Neighborhood Revitalization (NR-1)							
N R1 .1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Other (O-1)							
O 1.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%
Other (O-2)							
O 2.1	N/A		2010				%
			2011				%
			2012				%
			2013				%
			2014				%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL				%

*****Specific objectives listed below are garnered from the Short-Term Strategies/Objectives and Long-Term Strategy/Objectives from the Municipality of Norristown's 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan and One Year 2014 Action Plan. Specific activities listed in Table 2C fall under these objectives. *****

SHORT TERM STRATEGY/OBJECTIVES

PRIORITY 1. Rehabilitate and upgrade housing stock and improve the quality of life in residential areas.

PRIORITY 2. Promote economic and community development.

PRIORITY 3. Eliminate conditions detrimental to the public's health, safety and welfare.

PRIORITY 4. Upgrade and replace antiquated community infrastructure.

PRIORITY 5. Expand recreational opportunities by developing and rehabilitating park and playground facilities.

PRIORITY 6. Promote the preservation of historic structures and neighborhoods.

LONG TERM STRATEGY/OBJECTIVES

PRIORITY 1. Improve the economic base of the community so that Norristown will become economically self-sufficient to an extent that will allow the local government to provide an adequate level of services to all its residents.

PRIORITY 2. Upgrade the housing stock for residents of all income levels in order that every resident will occupy safe, healthy, and decent living quarters.

PRIORITY 3. Enhance neighborhood values by keeping them physically sound and visually attractive, and by providing recreational facilities and other amenities that will have a positive effect on the quality of life. And also eliminate conditions detrimental to the public's health safety and welfare.

PRIORITY 4. Preserve and enhance the unique historic, architectural, and cultural features that characterize Norristown.

Table 2C
Summary of Specific Multi-Year Objectives
FY 2014
Housing & Community Development
Municipality of Norristown

Availability/Accessibility of Decent Housing (DH-1)							
Specific Objective		**Source of Funds**	**Year**	**Performance Indicators**	**Expected Number**	**Actual Number**	**Percent Completed**
DH-1.1	***Fair Housing***—Housing rights for owners, advocacy for victims of housing discrimination and issues related to unanticipated needs.	CDBG	2013	People	200	200	200 %
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**1000**	**420**	**210%**
Affordability of Decent Housing (DH-2)							
Specific Objective		**Source of Funds**	**Year**	**Performance Indicators**	**Expected Number**	**Actual Number**	**Percent Completed**
DH-2.1	***First Time Home Buyers Program***— Grants in the amount of $5000 to income eligible first-time home buyers.	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	Housing Units	2 2 2 0 NA	2 0 3 0 ___	100 % 0 % 150 % ___% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**6**	**2**	**100%**
Sustainability of Decent Housing (DH-3)							
Specific Objective		**Source of Funds**	**Year**	**Performance Indicators**	**Expected Number**	**Actual Number**	**Percent Completed**
DH-3.1	***Code Enforcement***— Inspect properties in targeted eligible concentrated areas to bring them to BOCA to prevent further deterioration.	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	Housing Units	5000 5000 5000 5000 5000	5000 5000 5000 5000 ___	100 % 100 % 100% 100% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**25,000**	**20,000**	**100%**
DH-3.2	***Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab. Program*** –Grants of approximately $25,000 to income eligible households to bring owner-occupied homes up to code and lead abatement.	CDBG HOME	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	Housing Units	4 4 4 4 4	7 6 5 4 ___	175 % 150 % 125 % 100% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**20**	**22**	**125%**

Sustainability of Suitable Living Environment (SL-3)							
Specific Objective		Source of Funds	Year	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number	Percent Completed
SL-3.1	***Neighborhood Beautification Phase I*** – Streetscape beautification along the 1000 block of Powell Street that will include new sidewalks, curbs, street trees and lighting	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	2110 NA NA NA NA	2110 ___ ___ ___ ___	100% ___% ___% ___% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**2110**	**2110**	**100%**
SL-3.2	***Road reconstruction at the five point intersection of Swede, Elm and Powell Street***—Physical reconstruction of the failing five point neighborhood intersection in the Municipality.	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	4414 4414 NA NA NA	0 ___ NA NA NA	0% ___% ___% ___% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**4414**	**0**	**0%**
SL-3.3	***Arts Hill*** —Historic Façade program for the business and arts district	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	Businesses	NA 10 10 NA NA	NA 0 0 NA NA	NA 0% 0% NA NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**20**	___	**___%**
SL-3.4	***DeKalb St. Avenue of the Arts Project***—Continued streetscape improvements to gateway to create an Avenue of the Arts along Dekalb Street from Lafayette Street to Marshall Street.	CDBG COUNTY	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	3000 NA NA NA NA	3000 ___ ___ ___ ___	100 % ___% ___% ___% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**3000**	**3000**	**100%**
SL-3.5	***Side walk improvements at West Main Street and Astor Street***— Improvements to sidewalks to tie in with the access improvements at the Fairmount Fire Company	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	NA 1571 1571 NA NA	NA 1571 1571 NA NA	NA 100 % 100 % NA NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**1571**	**1571**	**100 %**
SL-3.6	***W Marshall St Sidewalk Improvements*** —New streetscapes involving sidewalks, curbs, new lighting and urban friendly trees along the 100 -200 block of W Marshall st	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	NA ___ 1696 NA NA	NA ___ 1696 NA NA	NA ___% 100% NA NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**1696**	**1696**	**100 %**
SL-3.7	***Simmons Park Improvements***— Improvements include walking trail, multipurpose field, new basketball courts, landscaping and lighting.	CDBG DCNR COUNTY	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	2637 2637 2637 2637 2637	2637 2637 2637 2637 ___	100% 100% 100% 100% NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**2637**	**2637**	**100%**

Sustainability of Suitable Living Environment (SL-3)							
Specific Objective		Source of Funds	Year	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number	Percent Completed
SL-3.8	***Opportunities Industrialization Center***— improvements to the community center to involve electrical upgrades and accessibility enhancement.	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	6799 NA NA NA 6799	6799 ___ ___ ___ ___	100% ___% ___% ___% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**6799**	**6799**	**100%**
SL-3.9	***Norris Hose Fire Company***—Improvements include interior restoration, sprinkler system and lighting	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	NA NA 5211 NA NA	___ ___ 5211 ___ ___	___% ___% 100% ___% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**5211**	**5211**	**100%**
SL-3.10	***Severe Service Fire Engine-Norristown Fire Department*** – Purchase of a new fire engine truck.	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	Households	NA 1200 1200 1200 1200	NA 1200 1200 1200 ___	NA 100 % 100 % 100% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**1200**	**1200**	**100%**
SL-3.11	***Albert P. Parker (Cherry St) Park*** — Improvements to park including basketball courts, site furnishings, Landscaping and fencing	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	3531 NA NA NA NA	0 ___ ___ ___ ___	0% ___% ___% ___% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**3531**	**0**	**___%**
SL-3.12	***Poley Park Improvements***—Phase II Physical improvements of Poley Park based on recommendations developed through a Master Plan public process.	CDBG PA DCNR County	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	People	1520 1520 1520 NA NA	1520 1520 1520 NA NA	100% 100% 100% NA NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**1520**	**1520**	**100%**
SL-3.13	***Administration***— Administration of CDBG program.	CDBG Municipal General Fund	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	NA	NA	NA	NA NA NA NA NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
SL-3.14	***Housing Rehabilitation Technical Support***	CDBG HOME	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	NA	NA	NA	NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**NA**	**NA**	**NA**

SL-3.15	***Main & Marshall Street Lighting & Security Upgrades***	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	NA NA 1657 1657 NA	NA NA ___ ___ NA	NA NA ___% ___% NA	NA NA ___% ___% NA
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
Sustainability of Economic Opportunity (EO-3)							
Specific Objective		**Source of Funds**	**Year**	**Performance Indicators**	**Expected Number**	**Actual Number**	**Percent Completed**
EO-3.1	***Small Business Assistance Center***—Technical assistance to eligible micro-businesses of five or fewer employees through source library and resource materials.	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	Businesses	1 1 1 1 1	3 3 3 3 ___	300% 300% 300 % 300% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**5**	**9**	**300%**
EO-3.2	***Main Street Economic Development initiative***—	CDBG	2010 2011 2012 2013 2014	Jobs	NA 2 2 2 ___	NA 0 0 3 ___	NA 0 % ___% 130% ___%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		**2**	**3**	**130 %**

2014 Norristown CDBG Project Map

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	Geo Code	Inventory Type	Bed Type	Target Pop. A
ES	Baptist Children's Services	Shelter	429091	C	Facility-based beds	YF
ES	Inter-Faith Alliance	Inter-Faith Hospitality Network	429091	C	Facility-based beds	HC
ES	Inter-Faith of the Mainline	Inter-Faith Hospitality Network	429091	C	Other beds	HC
ES	Keystone Opportunity Center	Inter-Faith Hospitality Network	429091	C	Other beds	SFHC
ES	Laurel House	Shelter	429091	C	Facility-based beds	SMF+HC
ES	Main Street Ministries	Pottstown Shelter	429091	C	Facility-based beds	SMF
ES	Missionaries of Charity	Sister's of Charity Shelter	429091	C	Other beds	SF
ES	Resources for Human Develop.	Montco Single Adult Shelter	429091	C	Facility-based beds	SMF
ES	Salvation Army	Norristown Shelter	429091	C	Facility-based beds	SFHC
ES	Salvation Army	Pottstown Shelter	429091	C	Facility-based beds	HC
ES	Trinity Lutheran	Lansdale Code Blue Shelter	429091	C	Other beds	SM

Target Pop. B	McKinney- Vento	Beds HH w/ Children	Units HH w/ Children	Beds HH w/o Children	Year-Round Beds
	No	12	1		12
	No	12	3		12
	No	14	3		14
	Yes	13	3	1	14
DV	No	19	7	2	21
	No			0	0
	No			9	9
	Yes			50	50
	Yes	28	7	0	28
	Yes	44	11		44
	No			0	0
		Sum : 142	Sum : 35	Sum : 62	Sum : 204

HMIS Beds HH w/ Children	HMIS Beds HH w/o Children	% of HMIS Beds HH with Children
0		
12		100%
14		100%
13	1	100%
	0	
	0	
	50	
28	0	100%
44		100%
	0	
Sum : 111	Sum : 51	

% of HMIS Beds HH without Children	Total Seasonal Beds	Seasonal Beds Available in HMIS	Availability Start Date
	0	0	
	0	0	
	0	0	
100%	0	0	
	0	0	
	30	0	11/1/2010
	0	0	
100%	0	0	
	0	0	
	0	0	
	15	0	12/15/2010
	Sum : 45	Sum : 0	

Availability End Date	Overflow Beds	HMIS Overflow Beds	PIT Count	Total Beds	Utilization Rate
	0		2	12	17%
	0		9	12	75%
	0		10	14	71%
	0		14	14	100%
	0		14	21	67%
4/30/2011	0		27	30	90%
	0		9	9	100%
	15	15	69	65	106%
	0		24	28	86%
	0		22	44	50%
3/31/2011	0	0	2	15	13%
	Sum : 15	Sum : 15	Sum : 202		

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	Geo Code	Inventory Type	Target Pop. A	Target Pop. B
TH	Community Housing Services	Ambler	429091	C	SFHC	
TH	Community Housing Services	Ezra House	429091	C	SM	
TH	Community Housing Services	Scatter-Site	429091	C	SFHC	DV
TH	Community Housing Services	Steps	429091	C	SFHC	DV
TH	Inter-Faith Housing Alliance	Hope Gardens	429091	C	HC	
TH	Keystone Opp. Center	Transitional	429091	C	HC	
TH	Laurel House	Transitional	429091	C	SMF+HC	DV
TH	Mental Health Assoc. PA	Halfway There	429091	C	SMF	
TH	Salvation Army Norristown	Bridge	429091	C	SFHC	
TH	Salvation Army Norristown	Faith	429091	C	HC	
TH	Salvation Army Pottstown	Transitional	429091	C	SMF+HC	

McKinney- Vento	Beds HH w/ Children	Units HH w/ Children	Beds HH w/o Children	Year-Round Beds
Yes	24	6	0	24
Yes			7	7
Yes	24	8	0	24
Yes	21	7	1	22
No	23	8		23
Yes	32	9		32
No	17	6	6	23
Yes			16	16
No	14	4	0	14
Yes	38	11		38
Yes	29	8	4	33
	Sum : 222	Sum : 67	Sum : 34	Sum : 256

HMIS Beds HH w/ Children	HMIS Beds HH w/o Children	% of HMIS Beds HH with Children
24	0	100%
	7	
23		100%
32		100%
	16	
14	0	100%
38		100%
29	4	100%
Sum : 160	Sum : 27	

% of HMIS Beds HH without Children	PIT Count	Total Beds	Utilization Rate
	14	24	58%
100%	6	7	86%
	10	24	42%
	10	22	45%
	21	23	91%
	29	32	91%
	20	23	87%
100%	13	16	81%
	14	14	100%
	30	38	79%
100%	31	33	94%
	Sum : 198		

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	Geo Code	Inventory Type	Target Pop. A	Target Pop. B
HPRP	Community Housing Services	HPRP	429091	N		
HPRP	Keystone Opportunity Center	HPRP	429091	N		
HPRP	Laurel House	HPRP	429091	N		DV
HPRP	Montgomery County BH/DD	HPRP	429091	N		
HPRP	Salvation Army Norristown	HPRP	429091	N		
HPRP	Valley Youth House	HPRP	429091	N		

McKinney- Vento	Beds HH w/ Children	Units HH w/ Children	Beds HH w/o Children	Year-Round Beds
No	5	1	0	5
No	12	4	0	12
No	11	4	0	11
No	0	0	1	1
No	33	10	0	33
No	2	1	4	6
	Sum : 63	Sum : 20	Sum : 5	Sum : 68

HMIS Beds HH w/ Children	HMIS Beds HH w/o Children	% of HMIS Beds HH with Children
5	0	100%
12	0	100%
0	1	
33	0	100%
2	4	100%
Sum : 52	Sum : 5	

% of HMIS Beds HH without Children	PIT Count	Total Beds	Utilization Rate
	5	5	100%
	12	12	100%
	11	11	100%
100%	1	1	100%
	33	33	100%
100%	6	6	100%
	Sum : 68		

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	Geo Code	Inventory Type	Target Pop. A
PSH	Family Services	Persons w/Disabilities	429091	C	SMF+HC
PSH	Family Services	TBRA	429091	C	SMF+HC
PSH	Hedwig House	Shelter Liaison	429091	C	SMF+HC
PSH	Hedwig House	TBRA	429091	C	SMF+HC
PSH	Montgomery County BH/DD	Horizon Hse - S+C	429091	C	SMF
PSH	Montgomery County BH/DD	Housing Reinvestment (HRI)	429091	C	SMF
PSH	Montgomery County BH/DD	Permanent Solutions - 1 (Columbus Properties)	429091	C	SMF
PSH	Montgomery County BH/DD	Permanent Solutions - 2 (Columbus Properties)	429091	N	SMF
PSH	Montgomery County BH/DD	Project Vesta - S+C	429091	C	SM
PSH	Salvation Army Norristown	Disabled Individuls	429091	C	SM

Target Pop. B	McKinney- Vento	Beds HH w/ Children	Units HH w/ Children	Beds HH w/o Children	CH Beds
HIV	Yes	23	6	20	0
HIV	No	10	5	10	0
	Yes	15	4	12	3
	No	10	3	31	7
	Yes			3	3
	No			5	5
	Yes			18	18
	Yes			11	11
	Yes			9	9
	Yes			6	2
		58	18	125	58

Year-Round Beds	HMIS Beds HH w/ Children	HMIS Beds HH w/o Children	% of HMIS Beds HH with Children
43	23	20	100%
20	10	10	100%
27	15	12	100%
41	10	31	100%
3		3	
5		5	
18		18	
11		11	
9		9	
6		6	
183	58	125	

% of HMIS Beds HH without Children	PIT Count	Total Beds	Utilization Rate
100%	43	43	100%
100%	7	20	35%
100%	27	27	100%
100%	41	41	100%
100%	3	3	100%
100%	5	5	100%
100%	14	18	78%
100%	11	11	100%
100%	6	9	67%
100%	6	6	100%
	163		

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR FY'2010-2014 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN AND FY'2014 ACTION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

1. Solicit project ideas (year round)

2. Develop Administrative Recommendations (August – September).

3. Advertise on Friday, August 23, 2013 for a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, September 9, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., to obtain views from the Public.

4. Public Hearing on Monday, September 9, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., to obtain views.

5. Proposal deadline (Friday, October 4, 2013).

6. Present to Planning and Economic Development Committee members on Monday, October 7, 2013.

7. Advertise on Friday, October 11, 2013 for a Second Public Hearing to be held on Monday, October 28, 2013.

8. Second Public Hearing on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

9. Present to Planning and Economic Development Committee on Monday, November 5, 2013.

10. Present Proposed Budget to Council for Council Review (Wednesday, November 6, 2013).

11. Council Vote to advertise ordinance Tuesday, November 19, 2013.

12. Council Vote approving the budget Tuesday, December 3, 2013.

13. Submit to HUD (Tuesday, January 14, 2014).

AGENDA

FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND 2014 ONE YEAR ACTION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
PUBLIC HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2013
6:00 P.M.

1. Overview of 2010-2014 Five Year Consolidated Plan and 2014 One Year Action Plan

2. Highlight of past programs/activities

3. CDBG Schedule

4. Obtain Public view, Questions and Answers

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As Amended by Act No. 520 of July 5, 1947

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General Manager or Ad Director of THE TIMES HERALD, of the County and State aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says THE TIMES HERALD, a newspaper of general circulation, published at Markley, Ann and Airy Streets, Borough of Norristown, county and state aforesaid, was established January 1, 1923, since which date THE TIMES HERALD has been regularly issued in said county, and that the printed notice of publication attached hereto, is exactly the same as was printed and published in the regular edition and issues of THE TIMES HERALD on the following dates:

Viz _____

the 23rd day of August A.D. 20 13

Affiant further deposes that she/he is an officer duly authorized by THE TIMES HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC, a corporation, General Manager or Ad Director of THE TIMES HERALD, a newspaper of general circulation to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice of advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place and character of publication are true.

Amy Newton

General Manager or Ad Director –The Times Herald

Sworn and subscribed before me this

26th day of August, 20 13

Louise A. Dugan

Notary Public

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
NOTARIAL SEAL
LOUISE A DUGAN
Notary Public
NORRISTOWN BORO., MONTGOMERY COUNTY
My Commission Expires May 30, 2017

PUBLIC HEARING

MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN
2010-2014 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND ACTION PLAN FOR 2014

The Municipality of Norristown is seeking proposals for the Consolidated Plan Action Plan for 2014. The projects selected will be funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and must meet U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations. A public hearing shall be held on Monday, September 9, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., in Municipal Council Chambers, Norristown Municipal Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to obtain views of citizens, public agencies and other interested parties.

Persons with a disability who wish to attend the public hearing and require an auxiliary aid, service or other accommodation to participate in the hearing please call (610) 270-0420.

For more information contact:

Municipality of Norristown
Department of Planning & Municipal Development
235 East Airy Street
Norristown, PA 19401
Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(610)- 270-0450

MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN

In re: 2010-2014 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND ACTION PLAN FOR 2014

A Public Hearing was taken by and before Loretta B. Devery, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public, at the Norristown Municipal Hall, 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, Pennsylvania, on Monday, September 9, 2013, commencing at 6:10 P.M.

PRESENT:
HENRY SEKUWUNGU, Assistant Director of Planning
MICHAEL ALLEN, Senior Grants Coordinator
DOUGLAS SEILER
ELENA SANTANGELO
HERB NORRIS
MARY ELLEN DiGREGORIO
JOEL ELGIN

COPY

ALL POINTS REPORTING
723 Erlen Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
(610) 272-6731

MR. SEKAWUNGU: We'll get started. I'll just introduce myself. I'm Henry Sekawungu. I'm the Assistant Director of Municipal Planning. You're welcome to this meeting. It's really a public meeting. As part of the Community Development Block Grant fund process, we are required to go through a public input procedure whereby we hear from the public as to what they would like to see funded based on the limited funding that's available. And we basically vet that, look at the regs, determine if what is being proposed is eligible, and then take it from there.

Mike, if you want to go ahead and introduce yourself.

MR. ALLEN: Hello. I'm Mike Allen. I work with the Planning Department as well as the Senior Grants Coordinator.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: So essentially what we're going to go over today is an

overview of the 2010-2014, five-year consolidated plan. The way the process works, every five years, HUD, which is Housing and Urban Development, requires us to develop a five-year consolidated plan. We did the last one in 2010 which lasts through 2014. And as part of that five-year consolidated plan, we had -- we came up with short term and long term objectives that basically the criteria for funding over those -- over that period of time.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Do you have extra copies of that?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: I'm sorry.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Thank you.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Now, as part of that -- as part of the objectives and criteria, if you look at the third page, it shows a map of the census tract boundaries. As part of those census tract boundaries, there's also block group boundaries and these highlighted in yellow areas are basically where funds can be

utilized to meet the three national objectives.

The three national objectives are that the project has to be a low to moderate income project. It has to meet -- it has to be a low income area. And additionally has to address anything to do with slum and blight. So those are the criteria as part of the funding process.

The last page does highlight the process or the public process that we're going through in terms of the public hearings and schedule. All year round we basically try to solicit ideas, project ideas for funding. We then go through the administrative recommendation process which is part of this as well. We advertised this public hearing on -- to be held today so that we could obtain views from the public. And this process then will continue on through the end of year.

Now, as part of the submission process, HUD, which is Housing and Urban Development, requires us to submit

applications 45 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. The fiscal year for CDBG, which is Community Development Block Grant funds start in March, beginning of March. So it basically runs from March through February. So during that time frame, you know, we are required to spend the funds that have been awarded to the Municipality, assuming that there are any funds awarded to the Municipality. We've been fortunate over the years to get about a million or so dollars, but over the last three, four years, those funding -- that funding has dropped to about 700 thousand dollars.

MR. SEILER: Is that per year, Henry?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes. So that funding has dropped to about 700 thousand dollars. And with all the different changes that are going on in Congress, the chance is that that's going to drop even further going forward. Of course

basically what that means is that for every dollar we get, we literally have to stretch it a little farther.

What we've done over the years is utilize what we call leveraging. In other words, we've applied for funding through the State and also through the County to leverage what we have received through Housing and Urban Development. And that has allowed us to do a lot of different projects.

A lot of the infrastructure in Norristown has actually be grant funded. The sidewalks, which we utilized funding for improvements of our sidewalks throughout the downtown and in the neighborhoods. We've used funds towards community centers. We've put funds into the Carver Center. That's one of the ones we put money into. We put money into the OIC.

MS. DiGREGORIO: That's the Carver Center?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yeah. I mean

the CDBG program is what funded the interior of the Carver Center that was maybe 10 years ago. That's when we did the basketball court on the inside.

MS. DiGREGORIO: The one that's falling apart?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Exactly. I mean we can't use CDBG funds for maintenance. It can only be used for creating the project, but the maintenance is up to the entity. Same thing with a lot of infrastructure, we can't use CDBG funds for maintenance. Again it falls back on the Municipality. Public Works even has to step up and do the maintenance. But we did the pool house as well. And as part of the Carver Center, we did the fencing, but again a lot of that is falling into disrepair.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Yeah, because you gave them the money to replace the floor which should have been the bathrooms that should have been fixed so that the bathrooms don't overflow into the floor

that causes the floor to deteriorate. So it was like a backwards situation.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Again, what they were pushing for is what was funded. So that's one of those things --

MR. SEILER: Is the way it works an organization that meets these criteria makes an application to you, Mike, I guess or just to the Planning Department?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: To the Municipality.

MR. SEILER: For a specific project, and then that gets tested against the criteria and you go through this process whether it gets submitted to HUD or not is based on --

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Right. Again, it has to meet the criteria in the sense that it is serving the community or a community need based on, you know, is it in a low/moderate income area, is it serving a low/moderate income clientele, you know, those kinds of things would sort of be the criteria on that.

MS. DiGREGORIO: What's the deadline to have these requests in for this fund?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Mike, if you can comment on that.

MR. ALLEN: It is on the schedule. The deadline for all proposals is October 4th.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Oh, okay. Submitted to HUD by January 14th.

MR. ALLEN: Yeah, that's for the actual application. To receive proposals is October 4th.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: October 4th, that's correct.

MR. ALLEN: Because we do accept proposals all year round. It's a rolling process. It never actually ends, but to actually get onto the cycle, it's October 4th.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And again, that's to allow us to go through the public process, but this has to be vetted by staff to ensure that the project -- the

activity meets the criteria set forth by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. So once we establish that, then we go through additional public hearings and have it vetted by Council and eventually have it available for public review and comment prior to being accepted by HUD.

MS. DiGREGORIO: I have a question regarding with the CDBG money which I notice that we have used it in the past for, like you said, sidewalks --

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Infrastructure.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Yeah, infrastructure. Would streets be considered infrastructure?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: No, streets would not necessarily, because you've got to remember streets are not necessarily -- and again, it depends on where it's located. The funds are primarily to be used in low/moderate income areas. Now, when it comes to Main Street and DeKalb Street, those are areas that have been

considered as blight areas -- blighted areas. So there's certain criteria that's looked at and considered in terms of what's blighted, if there's vacant properties, broken windows, all kinds of criteria that make up what is considered blighted. So if the project is located in a blighted area --

MS. DiGREGORIO: Right, that's what I'm wondering about, because the 500 block of Kohn Street is a blighted area and the alley --

MR. SEKAWUNGU: 500 Kohn?

MR. SEILER: I don't know if it's one of the yellow areas or not.

MS. DiGREGORIO: That's what I was trying to figure out, because like I said, just trying to get around Kohn, the potholes that are like four inches deep.

MR. ALLEN: That would not be eligible.

MS. DiGREGORIO: And that's what I was wondering, because that has been an issue that's being going on for years.

All they do is come out and throw a little tar into it and then it's like slapping a Band-Aid on it.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: That would not be considered. I mean we've been slapped on the hand for anything, any kind of road repairs.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Would the parks be involved?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: If it's a sink hole or something like that.

MS. DiGREGORIO: How about the parks?

MR. ALLEN: The parks, depending on where they are within the Municipality. If you remember Simmons Park is one park that has received CDBG funding. Cherry Street Park over the years. A number of different parks have. But if you look at the map, it would have to actually fit within those eligible areas. And potholes, things like that -- you have to keep in mind, the main thing is with the CDBG program is to benefit low and

moderate income residents. So if it's not something that actually would benefit them, it's not going to be eligible.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Well, it would benefit them to fix the streets so they don't damage their cars anymore.

MR. SEILER: There's a whole criteria checklist.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Like I said, it's been a situation up in that area for years. And like I said, I was driving around it today and I tried to go in the back to go meet a contractor and I thought I was going to wipe out my axle.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: That's not something that would be eligible. I mean we would -- and the thing is when it comes to HUD funding, if the project is considered -- is determined to have been implemented and HUD determines that that project should never have been implemented, we are required to pay back those funds. And generally speaking, we have to use general funds, general fund

money to pay back those funds. So we have to be very careful in terms of, you know, what is determined.

I mean we've also done a lot of housing rehab which is basically owner occupied housing rehab. We do have currently a waiting list of about maybe three, four years.

MR. ALLEN: Five years.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Five years. I mean it's one of those things that --

MR. SEILER: Is that the HOME Program?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes, that's the HOME program. What we've done is leveraged HOME funds from CDBG as part of the owner occupied housing program. But that's been a good program. It's allowed for stability in the community as opposed to properties falling into disrepair, especially if they're owner occupied. So we've had a pretty good success rate with housing, owner occupied housing rehab program.

We've also had funds set aside for first time home buyers, you know, so as to encourage homeownership once again in the Borough of Norristown. Again, with the first time home buyer, there's an income criteria that has to be met in addition to the fact that the property cannot be determined to have lead based paint in it. So there's -- every product or every project has to be rated based on the regs and how that would fit in --

MR. SEILER: Oh, I'm sure.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: -- in terms of funding.

MS. DiGREGORIO: So with the infrastructure situation, okay, I'm just trying to get some clarification here. If they're a resident homeowner and they can't fix their property up, they could apply for some of this grant money?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: What we've done -- we do have a homeowner occupied -- if the property is owner occupied, we've had funding over the years that has helped

homeowners bring their properties up to code. And I mean a lot of it could be -- I mean if the heater is broken or if the kitchen is falling apart, you know, plumbing, I mean a lot of roof -- we've done some roof work as well, but a lot of that has gone into those -- into those homes. Again, we put a lien on the property for a ten-year period.

MS. DiGREGORIO: So that's the HUD program. I'm aware of that one. I'm just saying you were saying about one of the criteria that it would go to would be public infrastructure.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: No, no, that's not for homeowner. I'm talking about low/moderate income areas, that's where the infrastructure funds have gone into. Put money towards infrastructure.

MR. ALLEN: Even then it's still limited to sidewalks and public right of way.

MR. NORRIS: What about housing, did you put any money into housing?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: That's what I was just talking about, owner occupied housing.

MR. NORRIS: No, I'm talking about a new house.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: New housing, no. We can't use CDBG funding for new housing.

MR. NORRIS: What about site work?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Site work, yes, we may be able to. But again, we're talking about very limited funding going forward. I mean we have a major need, especially when it comes to our owner occupied housing rehab, there's a major need there. We just talked about the five-year waiting list. These people are waiting. A lot of them are on fixed income. They're senior citizens. As they wait, their properties continue to deteriorate. So, you know, we want to --

MR. NORRIS: What type of income requirements do you have for first time home buyers?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: It's the same median income, 80 percent median income.

MR. NORRIS: Of poverty, 80 percent?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes.

MR. NORRIS: Thank you.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: So I don't know whether that gives an overview of what and how the program has worked over the years, but if you guys have any input in terms of what you would like to see funded, we can make a note of it and, you know, vet it and determine if it will be funded or not.

MR. SEILER: I had a couple questions. Is the current five-year plan available like online?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes, it is available. It's been available for the last year.

MR. SEILER: So if I went to your Planning, I could find a tab for it under Planning?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes.

MR. SEILER: Does that list some

of your past projects, you know, like to sort of see which ones have happened in the past?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yeah, we actually -- each year's action plan has also been available.

MR. SEILER: And then it shows what projects were funded for previous years. So that's the best place to look.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Just so you know too, every year as part of what's funded through the CDBG program, every year at the end of the fiscal year, HUD gives us -- is it 90 days or 120 days?

MR. ALLEN: For what?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: For the CAPE.

MR. ALLEN: Actually it is 45 to the end of the program.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: I know it's usually May that we submit it, between March and May -- end of May, we're required to do what's called a Consolidated -- I'm sorry -- CAPE --

MR. ALLEN: Consolidated Annual

Performance Evaluation Report. It goes over everything that was accomplished in the prior year. And all this information is online each year.

MR. SEILER: Okay. What I was wondering is -- I did think this was a public comment period, so I was just going to make just a comment about the types of things I think it would be nice to have funded by this. And then I was thinking at some point in your process here, I guess we'll be able to learn when they're presented to Council which ones are being considered so the public again could say I think that particular project is a great idea, I'm behind that one. I mean at some point we'll see what the projects are?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes. And this is a process we have every year. I mean we go through the same process every year. Then as part of the second public hearing which is Monday, October 28th, we will have --

MR. SEILER: So it's there, but

you'll have individual ones that were as of the deadline that are being considered?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Correct.

MR. SEILER: And then do you put a ranking like based on points, like this one really meets it and it's consistent with goals or does HUD decide based on that?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: We're required to have that ranking.

MR. SEILER: Okay, good.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: A ranking as part of that process.

MR. SEILER: And then are these things typically an organization like Carver Center or somewhere would say, hey, we think we meet these criteria and we're in the geographic area, we need a hundred thousand dollars to do XYZ? Are they typically paid for by an organization or are some of them the Municipality themselves says I want it for sidewalks on Kohn Street or what are they?

MR. ALLEN: Since the last four

years, we haven't really received any comments from the public. What we've done is take comments from the public regarding different areas of town that need infrastructure improvements, whether it's sidewalks or what have you. Naturally we brought those to the table. But it hasn't been --

MR. SEILER: But the actual projects though, are they like non-profits that say, hey, we need some money for our boiler? I mean is that --

MR. ALLEN: Not within the past four years, no. But it would be eligible.

MR. SEILER: Did OIC ever get some CDBG money for any of their stuff, like their fence and parking lot or was that different?

MR. ALLEN: It was in 2010.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yeah, they got money, the current --

MR. SEILER: So that's an example then of what one of your programs would be.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And again, you know, with CDBG funds, the County also has a CDBG program, and a lot of these entities have also applied to the County as well for funding.

MR. SEILER: That's where I get confused.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And again, with OIC, if it does apply for funding at the County, it's because it's meeting a County-wide need. That activity, that specific application would not be eligible under our grant depending on what is being applied for.

MR. SEILER: So if some organization that I knew was interested in applying before October 4th, would we be able to sit with you guys and say, hey, does this meet the criteria? Can we get some guidance on how to apply?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yeah, I mean we do have an application. I believe the application is also online, the CDBG application.

MR. SEILER: And that kind of walks you through it?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes. So they would be able to submit their application based on the application guidelines. And it would be reviewed. And again, applications are accepted throughout the year. So that information is already available for people to submit those applications anytime.

MR. SEILER: And then the money that's coming back from the Lafayette 2 -- West Lafayette Street CDBG money from years ago, that's not in this cycle. This is a current new cycle. Any money from -- because I think that was CDBG money, the old money that you were proposing to go to the Penrose Project, there was like 466 thousand dollars I thought was CDBG coming back, but that's not in this cycle. That's a separate discussion.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: No. You've got to remember too that the County gets CDBG money too.

MR. SEILER: That would have been the County.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: The County, could have been CDBG County, not Norristown CDBG. But this is for fiscal year 2014. That's specifically what we're going to be applying to the County -- I mean to the State -- the Federal Government for.

MR. SEILER: Okay.

MS. SANTANGELO: One thing that I've been noticing the last couple weeks, as you come into town over the Dannehower Bridge, which is sort of the Borough's front door, most people come in that way from the south, it really looks bad from like Main Street, even a little before Main Street. But of course you put curb and sidewalks there. But from Main Street up to at least Marshall, which I notice is 70 percent, 74 percent, so it definitely fits, but even maybe sidewalks or something along there just to make it look nicer for, you know, visitors coming in,

they see blight as soon as they come in. And especially this summer with all the rain, there's just weeds everywhere and it looks awful. But something like that that might not only improve the neighborhood but entice businesses.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And again, that's one of those issues is it a maintenance issue or is it an actual --

MS. SANTANGELO: Well, there's no sidewalks at all on the -- as you're going up on the left side, there's no sidewalks at all between Markley and --

MS. DiGREGORIO: Marshall.

MS. SANTANGELO: -- and Marshall. And people have to cross Markley sort of in the middle to get over to where there are sidewalks.

MR. SEILER: Do you think the Markley Street work is going to give us any?

MR. ALLEN: I believe they are part of that project.

MS. SANTANGELO: Because that's

what I was wondering, if that would improve it better.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: As part of the Markley Street project, they're going to be actually going -- along Main Street, they will be doing improvements from Markley Street to Barbadoes, and then also going west I believe to either Water or Astor Street. That's the extension of that project. So that's already slated for improvement.

MS. SANTANGELO: If they're going to do something along Markley, then, you know --

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And that's the same thing with DeKalb Street/202.

MS. SANTANGELO: DeKalb doesn't look as bad as you're coming in.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: As part of the Lafayette Street Corridor, they will be doing improvements along those sections that have not been touched by it.

MS. SANTANGELO: But that's one of the most obvious areas of blight to the

visitor. And you want businesses to be able to, you know, visitors to come in and like where they are as soon as they get in the front door as opposed to have to drive through that and then --

MR. SEILER: Well, it would be interesting to look at the guidelines and see if, you know -- because I imagine you've got to be pretty specific.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Right. And the thing about it is if you're doing a project that's kind of a slum and blight related project, I mean they like to see other activities that are going on in those areas. So sometimes it can be dicey, it can be tricky to kind of prove what else is going on in terms of revitalizing that section.

MS. SANTANGELO: The people trying to get to the station over there and the station up here for that matter, you can't walk along that side of the street at all. So you have to, you know, you have to walk up one side of the

street, cross in the middle to get to the other side, you know, and then cross back possibly further up. And it's, you know --

MR. SEILER: Well, if Markley Street covers it, it would be nice if they did.

MS. SANTANGELO: If Markley Street covers it, that would be fine.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Well, what year would that be?

MR. SEILER: It's in the pipeline. It's faster than other processes.

MS. SANTANGELO: I'm not sure they're doing much where it's wider is what I'm thinking.

MR. ALLEN: There's a reconstruction in that part as well. It's just a different phase.

MS. SANTANGELO: Then it doesn't mean as much then.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And they probably wouldn't be eligible under CDBG

anyway. It's one of those -- I mean there are certain activities actually that, working with the program, you kind of know what activities would probably be eligible and what wouldn't just based on the experience we've had.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Getting back to using the money for infrastructure, would we be able to use the money to build additional schools in Norristown because of the overcrowding we have now?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: No.

MS. DiGREGORIO: No?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Again, the funds cannot be used for --

MS. SANTANGELO: You wouldn't have enough to build a school.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Not if we take a building that's already empty and rehab it.

MR. SEILER: Well, I was -- I kind of gathered that tonight was public input on general topics. I was just going to -- if you don't mind, I'll make the

three things that I think that CDBG money should be addressing. One would be promoting historic, you know, the historic preservation of the existing historic buildings in the town. So programs that -- applications that address that issue that meet all your other criteria I think, you know, personally would be an important thing to do.

MS. SANTANGELO: Especially if it's rehabbing them.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Just as a comment, we've had a historic facade program as part of the CDBG.

MR. SEILER: That's what I was going to ask you. That's a good example.

MR. ALLEN: Though actually we haven't had any applications yet. So that's something that -- and you mentioned blighting as well -- we shopped the program around to different property owners, but we can't force them.

MR. SEILER: This is the facade improvement program?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Yes. It was a very successful program back in the early 2000s and prior to 2000. I mean we had a very high success rate, but then with the economy and the changes in terms of, you know, what the priorities are acceptable for property owners, it's become a challenge for them because the program -- the way the program works, it's a dollar for dollar match up to five thousand dollars. And we did increase it too, I believe. I don't know if we increased it to 75 at some point. But again, you know, the challenge is for property owners coming up with the match requirements which we have to have for the program to be successful.

MR. SEILER: So one general comment is that Council and HUD consider projects that encourage the preservation of historic buildings is one comment. The second one I was going to say is that projects that encourage and promote cultural activities in the Arts Hill

District. You know, granted, that's a vague boundary, but trying to build on that existing idea of activities and particularly cultural activities in that district.

And one question that maybe you guys can comment on whether it's an eligible type thing. An example of one that seems to be successful is in Millville, New Jersey. They had what they called a Pioneer Artist Program. And they covered grants for artists to relocate to Millville. And then they had to meet stipulations, it was like a five thousand dollar grants kind of thing. But they'd have to have the storefront, be open a certain number of hours, have a certain number of, you know, exhibits. But is that type of grant for somebody to move eligible or does it need to be bricks and mortar type projects? Like if somebody had a building in Arts Hill that they wanted to put artists in, they could apply for money to do it, or is there anything

in Arts Hill that -- you know, that maybe give us some guidance on how something could meet the guidelines in the Arts Hill area. You've already done the sidewalks which were great.

MR. ALLEN: The only thing I could tell you to do, if you have something that is specific, a program like that that you guys are thinking about, submit an application and we can check it against the regs.

MR. SEILER: Okay. So maybe contact the Arts Council folks if they're interested, then submit it, and then you guys test it. Is there a red flag like that never happens or it could happen?

MR. ALLEN: I'd need a little more specific information.

MR. SEILER: Okay.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Was the Millville project a CDBG funded project?

MR. SEILER: I don't know, but it's something that's really helped bring people to the downtown. If you go to the

town's website, they track their pioneer artists and they'll say they're still here or they've moved on. And they have reunions. It's been kind of a thing for them. So I guess my second point was promote cultural activities in the Arts Hill District.

And then I just have one more and then I'll stop talking here. Just in talking to people around town at like Nudge meetings and just talking, some people have stated that they think recreation for kids. You know, we've got the Carver Center, we've got our parks system, but there's a lot of kids. And so things that promote maybe that, particularly for these neighborhoods. I'm not sure what it would be, but I just think that's an important general activity.

MS. SANTANGELO: The Norristown Project wanted to build a playground. Now, I don't know if it's within the guidelines. I think it is. It's within

that.

MR. SEILER: What we should do is talk to groups and see if they can get -- put together an application.

MS. DiGREGORIO: It's funny that you have that on your list because it's on my list too.

MR. SEILER: So those were my three, historic preservation, Arts Hill, and then recreation for kids.

MS. SANTANGELO: Recreation and maybe you could mention to the Community Arts Center, the ones who are painting the dragon mural, because they do community arts stuff for kids. And they might --

MS. DiGREGORIO: The church, Grace Lutheran, that program there?

MR. SEILER: It's the ACCPA, whatever they are. I'm not sure who they are.

MS. DiGREGORIO: They're out of Grace Lutheran. And I don't know -- I know they were suffering.

MS. SANTANGELO: Oh, no, they're

doing all kinds of stuff.

MS. DiGREGORIO: I know they were painters for the dragon thing. But I had seen somewhere they were looking for donations.

MR. NORRIS: What about demolition of existing properties on sites?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Not with CDBG funds.

MR. NORRIS: Can't demolish?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: No.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Can the money be used for creating programs that would help the blighted residents create jobs, like say job program, like skill programs?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: You're talking about job creation programs?

MS. DiGREGORIO: Yes.

MS. SANTANGELO: Education.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: We do have a job creation. I think it was funded -- was it 2012, 2010?

MR. SEILER: Is this the small

business thing?

MR. ALLEN: No, that's a separate --

MS. DiGREGORIO: I'm talking -- I'm not talking about the Micro loan, no. This is create job skills programs where we could educate these people on how to get a job and be successful in their jobs.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: The Small Business Assistance Center does that.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Where is this at?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: The office is located at 203 DeKalb Street, in the College Hill Center Building on the third floor.

MS. DiGREGORIO: What's that building?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Montgomery County Cultural Center.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Oh, in the Cultural Center?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: They do provide technical assistance. It's actually

funded through CDBG.

MS. DiGREGORIO: And how long have they been there? Because this is the first I've ever heard of it and I've been here all my life.

MR. ALLEN: Six years, about six years.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: But prior to that, it was located -- I mean before that, it was located over -- they used to be up on Sandy Hill for a minute, and then before that I'm not sure where the offices were located. But we've always had a consultant staff at the Small Business Assistance Center. Basically what they do is provide technical assistance to any -- in fact, they probably have a lot of seminars which are always advertised, different seminars on how to start your business, how to ensure, you know, you're maintaining your, you know --

MR. NORRIS: Aren't they at Sandy Hill now?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: No, they're

located at 203 DeKalb Street.

MS. DiGREGORIO: In the Cultural Center?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: But, yeah, that does that specifically. We've had a pretty good success rate too in terms of businesses, or small businesses, or anybody trying to staff their own businesses.

MS. DiGREGORIO: I'm looking for like similar to the Career Links where they can go like say have computer courses, educate them on how to operate a computer. Only from when we just had that job fair at the library, when people showed up and they had to go online and apply for Einstein, I can't begin to tell you the amount of people that showed up that didn't know how to use the computer.

MR. ALLEN: The County provides a lot of those services already. But CDBG can't duplicate services.

MR. SEILER: OIC does some of that too.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: We do have a couple organizations that have reached out to us in terms of providing the resources to do those types of projects. And we've been fairly successful.

MR. SEILER: Are bricks and mortar applications the most likely to meet the criteria of it all? They're not all bricks and mortar obviously.

MR. ALLEN: It's not all bricks and mortar. They just have to meet the criteria.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: I mean brick and mortar tends to be the safest way to go because a lot of times, too, you know, with all the technicalities with the program, you know, you get into services and all that, there's caps as well when it comes to types of --

MR. SEILER: Do they all need a match? Is all CDBG match or just the facade program was set up that way?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Not all of them need a match.

MR. SEILER: Okay.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: I mean obviously for purposes -- I mean for purposes of just ensuring that there's a vested interest, I mean it would be ideal to have a match.

MR. SEILER: That helps with the rating if there's a match, so they know they are leveraging the money. So that's part of your rating system I guess.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Well, we will look at that as a criteria, but it may not carry a whole lot because we understand the community we're working with. Those funds could also be better used for something else within the community. So we'll look at it.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Just reviewing the list here from 2011 that I pulled off line, it said that property acquisition, 4.9 percent of CDBG money went to that. Did we use any of that for property acquisition?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: What year was

that?

MS. DiGREGORIO: This was from 2011.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: 2011, I guess that was Habitat for Humanity.

MR. ALLEN: That was 2010.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: I don't remember when the project was, but yeah, we've assisted Habitat for Humanity as well in terms of some of the properties they work with. But again, you know, that process has been very -- we just got recently monitored, but that process, you know, they had to meet a certain criteria regarding even the end user of the property.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Okay, that's what I was just wondering. And what about economic development, what was some of the usage of the money in terms with that?

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Economic development? The Small Business Assistance Center was one of the activities that was funded to provide

technical assistance to potential businesses and also to help existing businesses, you know, stay in Norristown and access the different resources like financing that may be needed. Small Business Assistance Center --

MR. ALLEN: We also have the Economic Development Initiative, which is to assist small businesses with actually I guess build their business and start it as well. It's a small grant that we're providing, whether it be different equipment they would need or whatever you need to actually get the business up and running.

MR. SEILER: That's your Micro loan thing?

MR. ALLEN: No, it's not Micro loan.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: No, that one is tied to job creation. In other words, you have to sign an agreement basically letting us know that you will be able to create a certain number of jobs based on

the amount of --

MR. ALLEN: With any economic development project under CDBG, a certain amount of jobs have to be created with that money.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Okay. What about public service, what are you using it for public service?

MR. ALLEN: Fair housing.

MR. NORRIS: Thank you.

MR. ALLEN: Okay, thank you. Fair housing services, because under CDBG, we also have to affirmatively further fair housing, which means that we aren't putting any road blocks to anyone to be a house owner. So with that, we fund essentially to provide the service.

MS. DiGREGORIO: That's under housing though, right?

MR. ALLEN: No.

MS. DiGREGORIO: That's under public service?

MR. ALLEN: It's public service. Because anyone can actually access that

regardless of what the access can be. It's a public service.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And there's a cap for that too as part of the CDBG program.

MS. DiGREGORIO: So then explain to me then, because like I said, this gives you a breakdown, it say, "Other, 3.8 percent." So what would be falling under the category of other that would be acceptable to CDBG?

MR. ALLEN: We don't use that. It would have been disaster relief or what have you, but that's not anything we used here.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Okay.

MR. SEILER: So do you have a basket full of applications for this year? Like just say you might get 700 thousand, that's a guess on your part, right? Do you like already have, you know, a lot of applications in or you don't have that many in this year?

MR. ALLEN: Not just yet.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: We know some activities that have to be funded, continue to be funded as part of the Five-Year Consolidated Action Plan. I mean we do have fair housing. I'm sorry, not fair housing. The housing is a critical component as part of our long term and short term strategy. So we will continue funding housing rehab. And of course technical support for that is part of the funding. Fair housing also has to continue to be funded as part of the funding we get. And then of course we'd like to continue to support our economic development initiatives, for example, the Small Business Assistance Center. We'd like to continue to fund those. So there's certain activities that we'd like to continue funding as part of that.

MR. SEILER: Would the Municipality just apply for that -- say that small business thing you just mentioned, you might ask for a hundred thousand dollars towards that or something

like that. Is that how that would work?

MR. ALLEN: That's correct. Okay, with that, we have a contract that also went in front of Council maybe last year or what have you. So we have a contractual agreement with the Small Business Assistance provider. We have a contract, an agreement with housing rehab tech support. So we have a number of different things that we have to fund each year anyway. So when you kind of look at what we have to fund, we don't have a lot left. The pot is very small for what we're even discussing right now. But this is just to get ideas on the books.

MR. SEILER: Just ballpark, is that tens of thousands or a hundred thousand?

MR. ALLEN: Is what tens of thousands?

MR. SEILER: That's left from what you have to fund to a guess of 700 hundred --

MR. ALLEN: Next year it's not

looking too good. If you've been paying attention to what's going on in Congress, they haven't even funded the program. We have assurances that the money will come, but --

MR. SEKAWUNGU: There's no guarantee.

MR. SEILER: So if you get a very small amount, you really have to fund the ongoing programs and that could gobble up all of it?

MR. ALLEN: Yes, exactly. Just like this year.

MR. SEILER: Oh, it did do that this year?

MR. ALLEN: For the most part, yeah.

MS. DiGREGORIO: So any new applications may not be addressed?

MR. ALLEN: That's possible.

MR. SEILER: Okay, that's helpful.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Again, it's beyond our control.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Yeah, I understand. But it's good for us to know this information.

MS. SANTANGELO: But then the new applications would make you aware of things to be addressed in the future.

MR. ALLEN: Exactly.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: One of the things we do as part of the Planning Department is seek other funding sources as well. We've been successful in the past years. But again, we're all aware of changing trends in terms of what we can set aside.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Because we could be gassed tomorrow.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: So that's where we are.

MR. SEILER: I have nothing to add.

MS. SANTANGELO: I agree with you with the historic and the cultural and the arts stuff, which, you know, could only help the economy. I hope they get

some.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Are there any other comments?

MR. SEILER: I don't have any more.

MS. SANTANGELO: No.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Again, a lot of the information regarding the application and some of the plans we've submitted are available online. The Consolidated Action Plan is a good plan to look at. The action plan, which is the yearly plan, is also a good report to look at. The Annual Performance Evaluation Report kind of shows you what has been accomplished in the previous year. And again, that has to meet HUD's approval process. It has to be approved by HUD. And we've been successful over the years in terms of those plans being approved by HUD.

MR. SEILER: Well, you're doing a great job. I don't know how you manage all this stuff.

MS. SANTANGELO: Seriously.

MR. SEILER: I was just going to ask you if you go to school for it or you just learn it by --

MR. ALLEN: Some goes with education and the rest of it comes with --

MR. SEILER: Just doing it. Yeah. Reading the darned forms.

MR. ALLEN: That's right.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: I mean HUD's usually -- for the training, we go to a workshop and they'll give you --

MR. SEILER: It's like the Code Book of Architecture you get in school, you read it.

MR. ALLEN: Like I said, the application, you can either pick them up online or from our office if you have a program or project or idea that you want to submit for.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: And we really appreciate you coming.

MS. DiGREGORIO: Well, we appreciate you giving us this information because it really makes a lot of sense now

where it's almost like any grant at all has to be earmarked under a certain category.

MR. SEILER: I was unhappy to see Selma is not in a highlighted area.

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Actually Selma has met the slum and blight criteria. So that's why it's been funded in the past.

MR. SEILER: Because you did fund it in it past. But not for this year, but --

MR. SEKAWUNGU: Again, it depends. Maybe in the future.

MS. SANTANGELO: But it desperately needs some work on it.

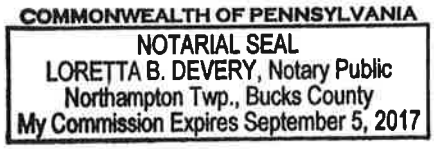
MR. SEKAWUNGU: All right. Thank you. We appreciate it.

(Proceedings closed.)

CERTIFICATION

I, Loretta B. Devery, do hereby certify that the testimony and proceedings in the foregoing matter, taken on September 9, 2013, are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me and that it is a true and correct transcript of the same.

LORETTA B. DEVERY



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FIVE YEAR 2010-2014 CONSOLIDATED
ACTION PLAN AND ONE YEAR
FY 2014 ACTION PLAN
MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN, PA

In accordance with the federal regulations at 24 CFR, Part 91, the Municipality prepared and submitted a Consolidated Submission for Community Planning and Development Programs. This document, known as the Five Year Housing and Community Development Plan, is a requirement for direct assistance under certain HUD funding programs including the Community Development Block Grant Program. On an annual basis, the Municipality shall describe its action plan for achieving the goals set forth in the Plan. Amendments to the Plan shall also be described and citizen's comments solicited.

The Municipality of Norristown will hold a second Public Hearing on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. to solicit citizen comments on the proposed Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan and one year PY 2014 Annual Plan. The hearing will be held in Council Chambers, Norristown Municipal Hall, 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, PA.

Copies of the proposed FY2014 One Year Action Plan will be available for public inspection and review at the following locations beginning December 5, 2013:

Planning Department
Municipality of Norristown
235 East Airy Street
Norristown, PA 19401

Montgomery County - Norristown Public Library
1001 Powell Street
Norristown, PA 19401

The proposed 2014 Action Plan specifies available resources to meet the identified needs. The financial resources the Municipality expects to have available include an entitlement grant of $795,465.00 of Community Development Block Grant funds and program income in the approximate amount of $5,000.00. In addition, the Municipality anticipates submitting an application to PA DCED under the HOME Investment Partnership Program for funding in the amount of $500,000.00. The Municipality's CDBG program year is March 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015.

The Municipality intends to use the FY 2014 CDBG funds it receives as described below:

CDBG Projects **Eligibility and National Objective Citations**	**Location**	**Funding Amount**
Housing Rehabilitation – Scattered Sites Continuation of Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program. Provides interest free loans averaging $30,000 that are forgiven after 10 years. Expected number of households to be assisted – 4. [24 CFR.570.202 (a)(1, Eligibility – LMH 570.208	Municipal-wide	$150,465

(a) (3)]		
Housing Rehab Technical Support Administration of housing rehabilitation programs. [24 CFR.570.202 (a)(1), Eligibility – LMH 570.208 (a)(1) LMA.]	Municipal-wide	$35,000
Code Enforcement Continued reimbursement for four Code officers to inspect properties in concentrated target areas so as to bring them to code and prevent the decline of deteriorated areas. Targeted areas include the following areas: Areas enclosed within the region marked by the Schuylkill River acting as the southern border, Selma Street acting as the Western border, all the way out to the eastern border of the Municipality. Starting at the Schuylkill river on the south, to Selma St. on the west, with West Main St. being the northern boundary, extending east along West Main St., to Barbadoes St. From Barbadoes St. north to Elm St. then continuing east on Elm St., to Arch Street. South on Arch to Moore St. East Moore St. is the northern border until it meets the 3-point intersection connecting Moore St., Airy St., and Sandy St. Continue east on Sandy St., which becomes the new northern border until the Municipal line. Expected number of people served - [(LM = 62%), CFR.570.202(c), Eligibility 570.208(a)(1)LMA.]	Targeted Areas	$160,000
Fair Housing Activities Involves an awareness campaign targeting realtors and homeowners with warnings about prohibitions against block busting, workshops on fair housing rights, and advocacy for victims of housing discrimination. Expected number of people served – 200 [24 CFR.570.206(c), Eligibility – 570.208 (a)(2) LMC]	Municipal Wide	$35,000
Main & Marshall Streets Lighting and Security Upgrades Continuation of the project is to improve lighting to promote safety and energy efficiency along Main & Marshall Streets, and to install a security surveillance network to further aid in promoting safety along Main Street in the downtown business district. Expected number served – 1,657 [CFR.570.208(b)(1) Slum/Blight Area.]	Downtown-Main Street West Marshall Street	$90,000
Simmons Park Improvement Project – Continuation of improvements to the park inclusive of site furnishings, landscape and hardscape. Expected number of people served –2,637.[(LM = 70%) 24 CFR.570.201 (c), Eligibility -570.208(a)(1)LMA]	Intersection of Arch Street and Oak Street	$33,000
Opportunities Industrialization Center Continuation of improvements at the community center to improvements to walkways to increase safety and ensure accessibility. Expected number of people to benefit – 6,799.(LM = 73%) 24 CFR.570.201 (c), Eligibility -570.208(a)(1)LMA	1011 Arch Street	$10,000
Sidewalk Improvement Project	Cherry & Marshall Streets	$10,000

Sidewalk improvements targeted along Cherry and Marshall Streets. Expected number of people served – 1,396 [(LM = 78%) 24 CFR.570.201(c), Eligibility – 570.208(a)(1) LMA]		
Severe Service Fire Engine Continuation of purchase payments a fire-fighting engine for the Norristown Fire Department. Expected number of people served – 1200calls.[24CFR570.201(c)Eligibility– 570.208(a)(1)LMA]	Norristown Fire Department	$53,000
Small Business Assistance Center Continuation of business outreach center to help small businesses to locate in and stay in Norristown, to prepare business plans, start-up assistance, source library and development of resource material. Businesses served have to meet the Micro-business criteria of five (5) or fewer employees one or more of whom owns the business. [(2 jobs) 24CFR.570.208(a)(2)(iii)LMC]	Municipal wide	$40,000
Section 108 Loan Interest Payment Payment of interest on Section 108 Loan CFR.570.705(c)(1)(i)	N/A	$24,000
Administration Planning Department's staff salaries, wages and related costs required for the general management, oversight and coordination of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Other costs for goods and services required for administration of the CDBG program, including services such as rental or purchase of equipment, insurance, utilities, and office supplies. Public information on CDBG program available to all Municipal residents and administrative services performed under third party contracts or agreements including, but not limited to, legal services, accounting services, audit services and appraisal services. (CFR.570.206), 570.208(a)(1)LMA.	N/A	$150,000

Historic Preservation

The Municipality will be undertaking an evaluation of the activities to be funded in an effort to identify historic and archaeological resources that may be affected by the activities. By this Notice, the Municipality invites interested parties who have an interest in activities that may impact historic and archaeological resources to make themselves known. Parties should contact the Planning Department, at Norristown Municipal Hall, 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, PA or call 610-270-0451 or (TTY: PA Telecommunications Relay Center: 7-1-1). The Municipality will involve such parties in the notification and review process of the National Council on Historic Preservation as set forth in Part 800.

Comments

The Municipality of Norristown intends to submit the Housing and Community Development Plan to

the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or before January 14, 2014. Municipal Council will consider approving the Ordinance adopting the PY 2014 Action Plan on December 3, 2013 during the regular meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, Municipal Hall. Interested persons are encouraged to express their views on the Plan at the public hearing or in writing to the Planning Department at the address identified above. All interested individuals and organizations are invited to attend this hearing to offer their views and comments on the housing and community development needs of the Municipality of Norristown. Non-English speaking individuals and those who require the information in an alternate format or who require special accommodations at the public hearing, may contact the Planning Department at 610-270-0451 to request guidance and assistance. All comments received by 3:00 p.m. on January 10, 2014 will be considered.

Jayne Musonye
Director of Planning and Municipal Development

Serving Your Community Since 1799

The Times Herald

www.TimesHerald.com

No.....Term.20....

PROOF OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IN THE TIMES HERALD
Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929 P.L. 1784
As Amended by Act No. 520 of July 5, 1947

COPY OF NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
FIVE YEAR 2010-2014 CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN AND ONE YEAR FY 2014 ACTION PLAN
MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN, PA

In accordance with the federal regulations at 24 CFR, Part 91, the Municipality prepared and submitted a Consolidated Submission for Community Planning and Development Programs. This document, known as the Five Year Housing and Community Development Plan, is a requirement for direct assistance under certain HUD funding programs including the Community Development Block Grant Program. On an annual basis, the Municipality shall describe its action plan for achieving the goals set forth in the Plan. Amendments to the Plan shall also be described and citizen's comments solicited.

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Code Enforcement Continued reimbursement for four Code officers to inspect properties in concentrated target areas		

State of Pennsylvania)
SS.
County of Montgomery)

General Manager or Ad Director of THE TIMES HERALD, of the County and State aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says THE TIMES HERALD, a newspaper of general circulation, published at Markley, Ann and Airy Streets, Borough of Norristown, county and state aforesaid, was established January 1, 1923, since which date THE TIMES HERALD has been regularly issued in said county, and that the printed notice of publication attached hereto, is exactly the same as was printed and published in the regular edition and issues of THE TIMES HERALD on the following dates:

Viz _____

the 13th day of October A.D. 2013

Affiant further deposes that she/he is an officer duly authorized by THE TIMES HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC, a corporation, General Manager or Ad Director of THE TIMES HERALD, a newspaper of general circulation to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice of advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place and character of publication are true.

General Manager or Ad Director –The Times Herald

Sworn and subscribed before me this

southern border, Selma Street acting as the western border, all the way out to the eastern border of the Municipality. Starting at the Schuylkill river on the south, to Selma St. on the west, with West Main St. being the northern boundary, extending east along West Main St., to Barbadoes St. From Barbadoes St. north to Elm St. then continuing east on Elm St., to Arch Street. South on Arch to Moore St. East Moore St. is the northern border until it meets the 3-point intersection connecting Moore St., Airy St., and Sandy St. Continue east on Sandy St., which becomes the new northern border until the Municipal line. Expected number of people served - [(LM = 62%), CFR.570.202(c), Eligibility 570.208(a)(1)LMA.]

Targeted Areas $160,000

Fair Housing Activities
Involves an awareness campaign targeting realtors and homeowners with warnings about prohibitions against block busting, workshops on fair housing rights, and advocacy for victims of housing discrimination. Expected number of people served – 200 [24 CFR.570.206(c), Eligibility – 570.208 (a)(2) LMC]

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Continuation of the project is to improve lighting to promote safety and energy efficiency along Main & Marshall Streets, and to install a security surveillance network to further aid in promoting safety along Main Street in the downtown business district. Expected number served – 1,657 [CFR.570.208(b)(1) Slum/Blight Area.]

Downtown-Main Street - West Marshall Street $90,000

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Intersection of Arch Street and Oak Street $33,000

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Municipal wide $40,000

Section 108 Loan Interest Payment
Payment of interest on Section 108 Loan
CFR.570.705(c)(1)(i)

N/A $24,000

Administration
Planning Department's staff salaries, wages and related costs required for the general management, oversight and coordination of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Other costs for goods and services required for administration of the CDBG program, including services such as rental or purchase of equipment, insurance, utilities, and office supplies. Public information on CDBG program available to all Municipal residents and administrative services performed under third party contracts or agreements including, but not limited to, legal services, accounting services, audit services and appraisal services. (CFR.570.206), 570.208(a)(1)LMA.

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Historic Preservation
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Louise A. Dugan
Notary Public

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
NOTARIAL SEAL
LOUISE A DUGAN
Notary Public
NORRISTOWN BORO., MONTGOMERY COUNTY
My Commission Expires May 30, 2017

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Jayne Musonye
Director of Planning and Municipal Development

MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 13 – 15 of 2013

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACTION PLAN BUDGET AND 2010-2014 CDBG CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by Municipal Council of the Municipality of Norristown, an Ordinance adopting the Fiscal Year 2014 Community Development Block Grant Budget.

SECTION I. BUDGET ADOPTION

The detailed budget prepared by the Municipal Administration and on file with the Municipal Administrator setting forth the projected projects and projected revenues and expenditures for the Municipality of Norristown Community Development Block Grant Program for the 2014 Fiscal Year is hereby summarized, adopted and approved as follows:

1.	HOUSING PROJECTS	$	380,465.00
2.	MUNICIPAL PROJECTS	$	186,000.00
3.	NON-PROFITS	$	10,000.00
4.	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	$	69,000.00
5.	ADMINISTRATION	$	150,000.00
	TOTAL	$	795,465.00

SECTION II. ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT

The Municipal Council of the Municipality of Norristown authorized the Administration to administer the Community Development Block Grant Program in accordance with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations under such terms and conditions to comply with Federal guidelines and are otherwise in the best interests of the Municipality.

SECTION III. REPEALER

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV. SAVINGS CLAUSE

Should any part or parts of this ordinance be found to be void by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall remain in full effect.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY Municipal Council of the Municipality of Norristown, this 3rd day of December, A.D., 2013.

Gary Simpson
President, Municipal Council

ATTEST:
Crandall O. Jones, Municipal Administrator

APPROVED this 3rd day of December, A.D., 2013

CPMP Non-State Grantee Certifications

Many elements of this document may be completed electronically, however a signature must be manually applied and the document must be submitted in paper form to the Field Office.

☐ **This certification does not apply.**
☒ **This certification is applicable.**

NON-STATE GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing -- The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing, which means it will conduct an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction, take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting that analysis and actions in this regard.

Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR 24; and it has in effect and is following a residential antidisplacement and relocation assistance plan required under section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG or HOME programs.

Drug Free Workplace -- It will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

1. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
2. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about –
   a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
   b. The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
   c. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
   d. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
3. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph 1;
4. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph 1 that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will –
   a. Abide by the terms of the statement; and
   b. Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
5. Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
6. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b), with respect to any employee who is so convicted –
   a. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
   b. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
7. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Anti-Lobbying -- To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

8. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
9. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
10. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction -- The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds are consistent with the strategic plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Gary Simpson

Name

Council President

Title

235 East Airy Street

Address

Norristown, PA 19401

City/State/Zip

610-960-2385

Telephone Number

☐ **This certification does not apply.**
☒ **This certification is applicable.**

Specific CDBG Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated housing and community development plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate income. (See CFR 24 570.2 and CFR 24 part 570)

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan (or Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

11. Maximum Feasible Priority - With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it certifies that it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available);

12. Overall Benefit - The aggregate use of CDBG funds including section 108 guaranteed loans during program year(s) 2011, 2012, 2013, (a period specified by the grantee consisting of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years), shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period;

13. Special Assessments - It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

    However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

    The jurisdiction will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108, unless CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of fee or assessment attributable to the capital costs of public improvements financed from other revenue sources. In this case, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds. Also, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

14. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and

15. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction;

Compliance With Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d), the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 3601-3619), and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of part 35, subparts A, B, J, K and R, of title 24;

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Gary Simpson

Name

Council President

Title

235 East Airy Street

Address

Norristown, PA 19401

City/State/Zip

610-960-2385

Telephone Number

☒ **This certification does not apply.**
☐ **This certification is applicable.**

OPTIONAL CERTIFICATION
CDBG

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities, which are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone Number

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☐ **This certification is applicable.**

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If the participating jurisdiction intends to provide tenant-based rental assistance:

> The use of HOME funds for tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of the participating jurisdiction's consolidated plan for expanding the supply, affordability, and availability of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- it is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR § 92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in § 92.214.

Appropriate Financial Assistance -- before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

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HOPWA Certifications

The HOPWA grantee certifies that:

Activities -- Activities funded under the program will meet urgent needs that are not being met by available public and private sources.

Building -- Any building or structure assisted under that program shall be operated for the purpose specified in the plan:

1. For at least 10 years in the case of assistance involving new construction, substantial rehabilitation, or acquisition of a facility,

2. For at least 3 years in the case of assistance involving non-substantial rehabilitation or repair of a building or structure.

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone Number

☒ **This certification does not apply.**
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ESG Certifications

I, , Chief Executive Officer of_____, certify that the local government will ensure the provision of the matching supplemental funds required by the regulation at 24 *CFR* 576.51. I have attached to this certification a description of the sources and amounts of such supplemental funds.

I further certify that the local government will comply with:

1. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.53 concerning the continued use of buildings for which Emergency Shelter Grants are used for rehabilitation or conversion of buildings for use as emergency shelters for the homeless; or when funds are used solely for operating costs or essential services.

2. The building standards requirement of 24 *CFR* 576.55.

3. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.56, concerning assurances on services and other assistance to the homeless.

4. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.57, other appropriate provisions of 24 *CFR* Part 576, and other applicable federal laws concerning nondiscrimination and equal opportunity.

5. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.59(b) concerning the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970.

6. The requirement of 24 *CFR* 576.59 concerning minimizing the displacement of persons as a result of a project assisted with these funds.

7. The requirements of 24 *CFR* Part 24 concerning the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988.

8. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.56(a) and 576.65(b) that grantees develop and implement procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted with ESG funds and that the address or location of any family violence shelter project will not be made public, except with written authorization of the person or persons responsible for the operation of such shelter.

9. The requirement that recipients involve themselves, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, homeless individuals and families in policymaking, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of these facilities as provided by 24 *CFR* 76.56.

10. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.57(e) dealing with the provisions of, and regulations and procedures applicable with respect to the environmental review responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related

authorities as specified in 24 *CFR* Part 58.

11. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.21(a)(4) providing that the funding of homeless prevention activities for families that have received eviction notices or notices of termination of utility services will meet the requirements that: (A) the inability of the family to make the required payments must be the result of a sudden reduction in income; (B) the assistance must be necessary to avoid eviction of the family or termination of the services to the family; (C) there must be a reasonable prospect that the family will be able to resume payments within a reasonable period of time; and (D) the assistance must not supplant funding for preexisting homeless prevention activities from any other source.

12. The new requirement of the McKinney-Vento Act (42 *USC* 11362) to develop and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, 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. I further understand that state and local governments are primarily responsible for the care of these individuals, and that ESG funds are not to be used to assist such persons in place of state and local resources.

13. HUD's standards for participation in a local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the collection and reporting of client-level information.

I further certify that the submission of a completed and approved Consolidated Plan with its certifications, which act as the application for an Emergency Shelter Grant, is authorized under state and/or local law, and that the local government possesses legal authority to carry out grant activities in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Signature/Authorized Official	Date

Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone Number

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☒ **This certification is applicable.**

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

Instructions Concerning Lobbying and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Lobbying Certification
This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

Drug-Free Workplace Certification

1. By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification.
2. The certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, HUD, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
3. Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.
4. Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio stations).
5. If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph three).
6. The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant: Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code) Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here. The certification with regard to the drug-free workplace is required by 24 CFR part 21.

Place Name	Street	City	County	State	Zip
Norristown Municipal Hall	235 East Airy St.	Norristown	Montgomery	PA	19401

7. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules: "Controlled substance" means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled
Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15); "Conviction" means a finding of guilt (including a plea of *nolo contendere*) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes; "Criminal drug statute" means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any

controlled substance; "Employee" means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including:

a. All "direct charge" employees;
b. all "indirect charge" employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and
c. temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Note that by signing these certifications, certain documents must be completed, in use, and on file for verification. These documents include:

1. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing
2. Citizen Participation Plan
3. Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Gary Simpson

Name

Council President

Title

235 East Airy Street

Address

Norristown, PA 19401

City/State/Zip

610-960-2385

Telephone Number