

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND HEARINGS
ON DRAFT 2024-2028 CONSOLIDATED PLAN
AND 2024 ACTION PLAN
AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN

City of Vancouver

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to interested parties regarding an upcoming public hearing and invitation to appear before City Council to offer testimony or submit written statements regarding the initial draft of the City of Vancouver 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan, the 2024 CDBG and HOME Action Plan and the Community Participation Plan.

Public Hearing Date: Monday May 6, 2024, at 6:30 PM

Hearing Location: 415 W 6th Street Vancouver, Washington (Also conducted remotely)

Hearing Actions: On Monday, May 6, 2024, City Council shall consider the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan, the 2024 CDBG and HOME Action Plan funding allocation resolution and the Community Participation Plan.

The purpose of the public hearing is to adopt the above plans and allow community members the opportunity to comment on the allocation of funds for proposed activities. The funding of proposed activities is an estimate and may be modified upon notification of the amount of the annual allocation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Consolidated Plan is a strategic planning document resulting from 12 months of planning and public participation, which set local strategies and priorities for allocating the federal funding over the five-year timeframe. It acts as a combined plan and application to HUD for federal funds available to counties and cities under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) formula programs. The City of Vancouver receives annual entitlement grants for both the CDBG and HOME programs.

Action Plans are annual components of the Consolidated Plan that specifically describe how the City of Vancouver will spend scarce federal resources over a one-year period for activities serving people who have low- and moderate-income, are experiencing homelessness, or have special needs.

Copies of the draft plans are available in the City Hall lobby 8am – 5pm Monday through Friday. The draft action plan is also available for review online at www.cityofvancouver.us/CDBG. To request a copy of the plan, a different format, language, or accommodation, please contact, Samantha Whitley at (360) 487-7952 | TTY: (360) 487-8602 | WA Relay: 711 or by email at Housing@cityofvancouver.us. Written comments about the draft plan and amendment are welcomed and encouraged and will be accepted through 5 p.m., Thursday, May 9, 2023. Submitted comments will be noted and incorporated into the final plan document. Comments may be submitted in writing to Samantha Whitley, PO Box 1995, Vancouver, WA, 98668-1995, by email to housing@cityofvancouver.us, or by calling at (360) 487-7952 | TTY: (360) 487-8602 | WA Relay: 711. To provide comments at the public hearing please register to speak in advance with the Council administrative staff at (360) 487-8600 before noon on May 8, 2023.

All City Council workshops and meetings are broadcast (live closed captioning available) on www.cvtv.org, CVTV cable channels 23 / HD 323, and on the City's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/VancouverUS.

Funding for CDBG and HOME is made available through Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. CDBG funding for the 2024 program year (July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025) is estimated to be \$1,892,000 including entitlement, program income and unallocated prior year resources. CDBG funds are used for public services, economic development, housing, and public facilities that benefit people with low to moderate income. The HOME program entitlement is estimated to be \$1,103,000 including entitlement and prior year resources. HOME funds are used for activities that support affordable housing in Vancouver.

The City of Vancouver promotes fair housing and makes all programs available to low- and moderate- income individuals and families regardless of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual preference, marital or familial status, or disability.

City Hall is served by several C-TRAN routes. Contact C-TRAN at 360-695-0123 for information on times, fares, and routes. Please be advised that there is limited free parking nearby. For more information on parking options, please visit www.cityofvancouver.us/parking.

2024 Action Plan

Public Services: \$200,000 CDBG

Four programs including staffing costs for domestic violence emergency shelter operations, in-home case aids, homelessness diversion, and homeless outreach events.

Economic Development: \$400,000 CDBG (\$15,000 for project implementation)

Four technical assistance programs for current and new business owners to start or expand a microenterprise business within the City of Vancouver.

Rental Assistance and Housing Services: \$102,000 CDBG and \$350,000 HOME (\$10,000 for HOME project implementation)

Two HOME-funded rental assistance programs for individuals and families earning up to 60% of area median income paired with CDBG-funded housing case management services for households receiving this rental assistance.

Housing Projects: \$400,000 HOME (\$15,000 for HOME project implementation) Two programs including first-time homebuyer assistance for 13 households providing loans to assist eligible homeowners.

City Set-Aside: \$590,000 CDBG

Funding of Fourth Plains Commons was previously provided by a Section 108 loan, repayment of this loan is included in this set aside. Additionally, a Capacity Building project is being developed to assist with the growth and success of individual contributors/agencies within the community.

Public Facilities: \$300,000 CDBG (\$5,000 for CDBG project implementation)

One project with Council for the Homeless to acquire and remodel an existing building.

Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) Set-Aside: \$98,000

Each year HUD requires a portion of the allocation to be set aside for use in a CHDO project. No applicants applied for CHDO funding in 2024, so funds will be applied to the 2025 CHDO set-aside or reallocated in future years.

Administration: \$278,000 CDBG and \$79,000 HOME

Funding for staff to plan, coordinate, monitor and report on CDBG and HOME-funded activities.

2022 HOME- ARP

Homeless Supportive Services: \$300,000 HOME- ARP

To be used to best meet the needs of people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness including supportive services. Funding must be spent during a 6-year period. In 2024, \$300,000 in HOME-ARP funding will be provided to two supportive service programs. Services include street outreach and services to assist with housing barriers.