

# Citizen Participation Plan Substantial Amendment Updated (May 18, 2020)

The City of Visalia (City) is an entitlement jurisdiction that receives grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The federal entitlement grant funds include:

- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

The HUD Code of Final Regulations for the Consolidated Plan (24 CFR Part 91 Sec. 91.105) requires that the City adopt a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that sets forth the City's policies and procedures for citizen participation in the planning, execution, and evaluation of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, and Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPER).

This Citizens Participation Plan shall be effective until amended or superseded.

This CPP provides guidelines for the City to provide and encourage public participation to residents, community stakeholders, and grant beneficiaries in the process of drafting, implementing, and evaluating the Consolidated Plan and related documents. The citizen participation process includes outreach, public hearings, community forums, and opportunities for comment.

## Definitions

**Amendment, Minor:** A change to a previously adopted Five Year Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan that does not meet the thresholds to qualify as a Substantial Amendment. A minor amendment may include monetary changes or shifts, regardless of size that are both:

1. Necessary for substantially preserving all the programs and activities identified in a Plan.
2. Necessitated by significant changes in the funding levels between HUD's initial estimates of funding amounts and HUD's final allocation notification to the City.

**Amendment, Substantial:** A change to a previously adopted Five Year Plan or Annual Plan that:

- Increases or decreases the amount allocated to a category of funding within the City's entitlement grant programs (as listed below) by 75 percent.
- Significantly changes an activity's proposed beneficiaries or persons served
- Allocates funding for a new activity not previously described in the Action Plan

**Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice:** The AI is being replaced by the Assessment for Fair Housing. Until program participants are required to submit an AFH under the AFFH rule, the program participant must continue to conduct an analysis of impediments (AI) in accordance with existing HUD regulations. Once the AFH is approved, future AFH Plans will occur every five years with the Consolidated Plan.

**Annual Action Plan (Annual Plan):** The Annual Plan summarizes the activities that will be undertaken in the upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) to meet the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The Annual Plan also identifies the federal and non-federal resources that will be used meet the goals of the approved Consolidated Plan.

**Citizen Participation Plan (CPP):** The CCP provides guidelines by which the City will promote engagement in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the distribution of federal funds, as outlined in the Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan, and CAPERs.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):** HUD's CDBG program provides communities with resources to address a wide range of housing and community development needs that benefit very low and low income persons and areas.

**Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER):** The CAPER assesses the City's annual achievements relative to the goals in the Consolidated Plan and proposed activities in the Annual Plan. HUD requires the City to prepare a CAPER at the end of each fiscal year.

**Department Of Housing And Urban Development (HUD):** HUD is the government agency that creates and manages programs pertaining to federal home ownership, affordable housing, fair housing, homelessness, and community and housing development.

**Displacement:** Displacement refers to the involuntary relocation of individuals from their residences due to housing development and rehabilitation activities paid for by federal funds.

**Eligible Activity:** Activities that are allowable uses of the two federal funds (CDBG and HOME) covered by the CPP as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 24 for HUD.

**Entitlement Community:** A city with a population of at least 50,000, a central city of a metropolitan area, or a qualified urban county with a population of at least 200,000 that receives grant funding from HUD.

**Five Year Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan):** HUD requires entitlement jurisdictions to prepare a Consolidated Plan every five years. The Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan that identifies housing, economic, and community development needs and prioritizes funding to address those needs over a five year period.

**Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME):** HOME is a federal block grant program that is designed to exclusively create affordable housing for low and moderate income households.

**Low and Moderate Income (LMI):** As defined annually by HUD LMI is 0-80% of Area Median Income (AMI) for a jurisdiction. This includes those individuals presumed by HUD to be principally LMI (abused children, battered spouses, elderly persons, severely disabled adults, homeless persons, illiterate adults, persons living with AIDS and migrant farm workers). HUD utilizes three income levels to define LMI households:

- Extremely low income: Households earning 0-30 percent of the AMI (subject to specified adjustments for areas with unusually high or low incomes)

- Low income: Households earning 30-50 percent of the AMI (subject to specified adjustments for areas with unusually high or low incomes)
- Moderate income: Households earning 50-80 percent of the AMI (subject to adjustments for areas with unusually high or low incomes or housing costs)

**Public Hearing:** Public hearings are designed to provide the public the opportunity to make public testimony and comment. Public hearings related to the Consolidated Plan are to be advertised in local newspapers and made accessible to non-English speakers and individuals with disabilities.

### **Roles, Responsibilities, and Contact Information**

The City is a federal entitlement jurisdiction and is a recipient of CDBG and HOME funding from the federal government.

**Visalia City Council:** The Visalia City Council is the elected legislative body governing the City. It is responsible for approving the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, amendments to the Plans, and CAPERs prior to their submission to HUD. City Council meetings are generally held the first and third Monday of each month beginning at 4:00 pm for a Work Session and 7:00 pm for the regular session. The meetings are held at the City – City Hall, Council Chambers at 707 W. Acequia, Visalia, CA 93291. All City Council meetings are held in facilities that are accessible to persons with disabilities.

The City of Visalia, beginning in 2016, moved to district elections. Commonly referred to as "NDC2", the adopted map sets City Council Districts until after the 2020 Census. Districts 1 and 2, were up for election in November 2016 and are currently occupied by Council Members Phil Cox (1) and Bob Link (2), respectively. District 3 (Council Member Warren Gubler), District 4 (Council Member Greg Collins) and District 5 (Council Member Steve Nelsen) will be up for election in 2018. The map was designed to meet the State and Federal Voting Rights Guideline, and District 4 currently has the highest number of Hispanic citizens in terms of total population (70% Hispanic), Hispanic citizen voting age population (57%) and Hispanic registered voters (54%).

**Citizen's Advisory Committee:** The Citizen's Advisory Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm in the City Hall, Council Chambers at 220 North Santa Fe Street, Visalia, CA 93291. The committee acts as a liaison between the general public and the City Council concerning community issues.

**Disability Advisory Committee:** The Disability Advisory Committee meets on the second Monday of each month at 5:00 pm at 220 North Santa Fe Street, Visalia, CA 93291 to advise the City on the needs of disabled people. The committee promotes physical, social, communication and attitudinal access for every resident of the City. Additionally, handicapped accommodation is included in all public meeting notices.

**North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee:** The North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Manuel F. Hernandez Community Center (MHCC), 247 W. Ferguson, Visalia, CA 93291. The committee serves as a liaison between the City and the North Visalia community. It is a forum for citizen complaints and problems and provides recommendations to the City Council.

The General Contact Information for the City of Visalia's HUD Entitlement Programs is:

Office of the City Manager  
City of Visalia  
220 North Santa Fe Street  
Visalia, CA 93291  
559-713-4332

## **Citizen Participation Policies**

### *Availability of Draft and Approved Documents*

The draft CPP, Consolidated Plan, Action Plan, and any draft substantial amendments will be made available for public review and comment for a minimum of 30 days prior to their submission to HUD. The draft CAPER will be available for public review and comment for a minimum of 15 days prior to its final submission to HUD. Previously approved plans and amendments will be available to residents, public agencies, and other interested stakeholders.

The CPP is designed to facilitate and encourage residents to participate in the Consolidated Plan process. In particular, the CPP seeks to encourage the involvement of LMI persons. The draft and final versions of the CPP, Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan, CAPER, and all related amendments will be available online at the City's Finance Department-Housing website:

<http://www.visalia.city>.

Hard copies of all documents will be available at the City of Visalia, 707 West Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291.

The City will use the following process to adopt and make any subsequent changes to the documents listed below:

- The City will place public notice in the Visalia Times-Delta, or other local newspaper, El Sol, and the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's newsletter, on the City's Web site ([www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city)) and at City Hall West (707 W. Acequia Ave.), City Hall East (315 E. Acequia Ave.), City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street), the Visalia Branch Library (200 W. Oak Ave.) and two community centers—Anthony Community Center (345 N. Jacob St.) and Visalia Senior Center (310 N. Locust St.)—in advance of a 30-day public review and comment period.
- Residents have 30 days to review the Citizen Participation Plan from the date of the notice.
- During the 30-day public review and comment period, the document will be available for review at City Hall West (707 W. Acequia Ave.), City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street), Copies of the document will be available to the public.
- Residents may file comments in writing at City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street) during the 30-day period from the date of the notice.
- The City Council will adopt the CPP at a public hearing.

Any change in the public participation process as outlined in this document will require an amendment to the CPP.

**Five Year Consolidated Plan and First Year Annual Action Plan:** The steps outlined below provide opportunities for public involvement in the preparation of the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the First Year Annual Action Plan:

To identify the needs of low and moderate income persons in different areas of the City, priorities will be established based on housing and community development needs. To solicit community input, which is essential to determining these needs and priorities, the City will:

- Consult with local public agencies that assist low and moderate income persons and areas, including City staff, state and federal agencies, neighboring local governments and regional agencies.
- Consult with private agencies, including local nonprofit service providers and advocates such as the local public housing agency, health agencies, homeless service providers, nonprofit housing developers and social service agencies (including those focusing on services to children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, persons with substance abuse problems, etc.).
- Place public notices in the Visalia Times-Delta, or other local newspaper and the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce newsletter, on the City's Web site ([www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city)) and at City Hall East (315 E. Acequia Ave.), City Hall West (707 W. Acequia Ave), City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street), the Visalia Branch Library (200 W. Oak Ave.) and two community centers—Anthony Community Center (345 N. Jacob St.) and Visalia Senior Center (310 N. Locust St.)—30 days in advance of a meeting. The notice will include the amount of funds available, the range of activities that could be undertaken and the amount that would benefit LMI persons.
- Hold a minimum of two public hearings within the community to solicit input on needs and priorities for the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan.
- Hold a minimum of one public hearing before the City Council to solicit input on needs and priorities for the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan.
- Provide residents with 30 days to review the draft Consolidated Plan and/or the draft Annual Action Plan from the date of the notice.
- Provide residents with a 30-day period from the date of notice to file comments at City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street).
- Present the Five Year Consolidated Plan and First Year Annual Action Plan to City Council for adoption.
- Consider all comments and views expressed by the public, whether given as verbal testimony at the public hearing or submitted in writing during the review and comment period. The final documents will have a section that includes all comments, along with any explanations as to why any comments were not accepted.

**Substantial Amendments to the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the First Year Annual Action Plan:** Amendments to the Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan are necessary whenever one of the following is proposed:

- To make a substantial change in the allocation priorities or a substantial change in the method of distribution of funds. A substantial change increases or decreases the amount allocated to a category of funding within the City's entitlement grant programs by 75 percent.

- To carry out an activity using funds from any program not covered by the Five Year Consolidated Plan (including program income) not previously described in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.
- To substantially change the purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries of an activity.

The following procedures apply to Substantial amendments:

- The City will place public notices in the Visalia Times-Delta, or other local newspaper, El Sol; provide notice to the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to include within their newsletter, on the City's Web site ([www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city)) and at City Hall West (707 W. Acequia Ave.) City Hall East (315 E. Acequia Ave.), City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street), the Visalia Branch Library (200 W. Oak Ave.) and two community centers—Anthony Community Center (345 N. Jacob St.) and Visalia Senior Center (310 N. Locust St.)—in advance of a 30-day public review and comment period.
- Residents have 30 days to review the proposed Substantial amendment from the date of the notice.
- During the 30-day public review and comment period, the document will be available for review at the City's Finance Department-Housing office. Copies of the document will be available to the public.
- Residents may file comments at City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street) during the 30-day period from the date of the notice.
- Hold a minimum one public hearing within the community to solicit input on the Substantial Amendment.
- Hold a minimum of one public hearing before the City Council to solicit input on the Substantial Amendment.
- In preparing a final Substantial amendment, careful consideration will be given to all comments and views expressed by the public, whether given as verbal testimony at the public hearing or submitted in writing during the review and comment period. The final amendment will have a section that includes all comments, plus explanations as to why any comments were not accepted.

**Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER):** the City must submit an Annual Action Plan and a Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) to HUD.

**Action Plan:** The Annual Action Plan summarizes the activities that will be undertaken in the upcoming FY to meet the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The following steps outline the opportunities for public involvement in the Annual Action Plan:

- The City will place public notices in the Visalia Times-Delta, or other local newspaper, El Sol and the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's newsletter, on the City's Web site ([www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city)) and at City Hall West (707 W. Acequia Ave.), City Hall East (315 E. Acequia Ave.), City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street.), the Visalia Branch Library (200 W. Oak Ave.) and two community centers—Anthony Community Center (345 N. Jacob St.) and Visalia Senior Center (310 N. Locust St.)—in advance of a 30-day public review and comment period.
- Residents have 30 days to review the Annual Action Plan from the date of the notice.

- During the 30-day public review and comment period, the document will be available for review at the City's Finance Department-Housing office. Copies of the document will be available to the public.
- Residents may file comments at City Hall North (220 N Santa Fe Street) during the 30-day period from the date of the notice.
- Hold a minimum one public hearing within the community to solicit input on needs and priorities for the Annual Action Plan.
- Hold a minimum of one public hearing before the City Council to solicit input on needs and priorities for the Annual Action Plan.
- In preparing the Action Plan, careful consideration will be given to all comments and views expressed by the public, whether given as verbal testimony at the public hearing or submitted in writing during the review and comment period. The final report will have a section that includes all comments, plus explanations as to why any comments were not accepted.

**CAPER:** The CAPER must describe how funds were actually used and the extent to which these funds were used for activities that benefited low and moderate income people. The following steps outline the opportunities for public involvement in the CAPER:

- The City will place public notices in the Visalia Times-Delta, or other local newspaper, El Sol and the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's newsletter, on the City's Web site ([www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city)) and at City Hall West (707 W. Acequia Ave.), City Hall East (315 E. Acequia Ave.), City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street.), the Visalia Branch Library (200 W. Oak Ave.) and two community centers—Anthony Community Center (345 N. Jacob St.) and Visalia Senior Center (310 N. Locust St.)—in advance of a 15-day public review and comment period.
- Residents have 15 days to review the CAPER from the date of the notice.
- During the 15-day public review and comment period, the document will be available for review at the City's Finance Department-Housing office. Copies of the document will be available to the public.
- Residents may file comments at City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street) during the 15-day period from the date of the notice.
- In preparing the CAPER, careful consideration will be given to all comments and views expressed by the public, whether given as verbal testimony at the public hearing or submitted in writing during the 15-day review and comment period. The final report will have a section that includes all comments, plus explanations as to why any comments were not accepted.

**Public Hearings:** The City will hold public hearings for the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, CAPER, amendments made to the CPP, or Substantial amendments.

Consolidated Plan hearings will include City staffed community meetings and one City Council Public Hearing for the adoption of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

The City Council Public Hearing will be held at City Hall Council Chambers. Listening devices, interpretation services, and other assistance to disabled persons or those with limited English proficiency will be provided upon request, ranging up to five business days prior notification to the City Clerk. Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate

meeting participation, including requests for auxiliary aids, services or interpreters, require different lead times, ranging up to five business days. Please keep this in mind and provide as much advance notice as possible in order to ensure availability. Assistive Listening Devices (ALD's) are available upon request.

**Notice of Hearings and Review Periods:** To allow the public to provide comments prior to the submission of approved documents to HUD, the City will hold a public review period of at least 30 days for each Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, CPP, and Substantial amendment.

The City will establish a public review period of at least 15 days for each CAPER to allow for public comments prior to the submission of approved documents to HUD.

Completed drafts of the Five Year Consolidated Plan and First Year Annual Action Plan, CPP, and any Substantial amendments will be available for public review and comment for 30 days.

Completed drafts of the Subsequent Annual Action Plans will be available for public review and comment for 30 days.

Completed drafts of the CAPER will be available for public review and comment for 15 days.

Copies of these draft plans will be available to the public at City Hall West (707 W. Acequia Ave.), City Hall North (220 North Santa Fe Street).

To ensure that all residents, including minorities, persons with limited English proficiency, persons with disabilities, residents of public housing, and LMI residents are able to participate in the public review process, the City will provide residents, public agencies and other stakeholders the following:

- Notice of opportunity to comment via e-mail, U.S. mail, upon request, and/or in person at public hearings on the Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan, CAPER, Substantial amendments, and CPP.
- Notice of applicable public review period and public hearings using an email distribution list maintained by the City for those parties expressing interest in receiving information and updates related to the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, CAPER, Substantial amendments and CPP. To be added to this email distribution list, please submit a request to: [Rhonda.haynes@visalia.city](mailto:Rhonda.haynes@visalia.city)
- Notices will be distributed through various methods, including e-mail, websites, and newspaper postings.
- Public notices will announce the availability of relevant draft documents for public review and include an introduction of the document, its contents, and purpose. The notices will describe how to obtain a copy of the document for review and clearly list all scheduled hearings with dates, times, and locations. The notices will include information on how to access staff report and related documents online and list locations where hard copies will be available.
- Notices of the availability of draft documents and the review periods will be distributed, published, and posted on the City of Visalia's Finance Department-Housing website at [www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city). Notices will be distributed and published at least 15 days for CAPER's and 30 days for Con Plan, Action Plans, Amendments, and CPP before the final public hearing and



will include information regarding how to request accommodation and services available for persons with disabilities who wish to attend the public hearings.

- Newspaper postings of the notices for the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, CAPER, Substantial amendments, and amendments to the CPP will be provided in the Visalia Times-Delta, or other local newspaper, El Sol, the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's newsletter. Consolidated Plan and Action Plan notices will be sent to an e-mail distribution list maintained by the City's Finance Department-Housing. Members of the public may be added to this distribution list by contacting [Rhonda.haynes@visalia.city](mailto:Rhonda.haynes@visalia.city). Although the City will prioritize the use of email to distribute the public notices to residents, it will continue to send hard copies to the public via U.S. Postal Service to residents with no email access, upon request.

The City often combines notices complying with several individual requirements into one document for dissemination and publication. The City is receptive to suggestions for ways to improve its process for notifying the public of upcoming public hearings and the availability of draft documents for public review.

The City will consider comments and views expressed by residents, public agencies, and other stakeholders via email, writing, or orally at public meetings. In each Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, CAPER, Substantial amendment or CPP submitted to the HUD, the City will provide an attachment that includes all written communications received and a summary of each oral comment during the applicable 30-day or 15-day public review period; the City's subsequent action; and the reasons for non-action, if none was taken. This information will also be available to the public as part of the final document.

### **CARES Act Waivers and Flexibility**

*Effective March 27, 2020, The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) (Public Law 116-136) provides HOME and CDBG participating jurisdictions with flexibilities that make it easier to use CDBG-CV grants and fiscal years 2019 and 2020 CDBG Grants for the Coronavirus response. The CARES Act authorizes HUD to grant waivers and alternative requirements; and in order to prevent, prepare for, and respond, to the Coronavirus using CDBG-CV grants, the City will have the option to meet public hearing requirements with virtual public hearings if: 1) national/local health authorities recommend social distancing and limiting public gatherings for public health reasons; and 2) virtual hearings provide reasonable notification and access for citizens in accordance with the City's certifications, timely responses from local officials to all citizen questions and issues, and public access to all questions and responses.*

For any CDBG-CV, 2019-20 CDBG and 2020-21 HOME funds that are used in order to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus, expedited procedures will be implemented which include notice and reasonable opportunity to comment of no less than five (5) days. The five (5) day period can run concurrently for comments on the action plan amendment and, amended citizen participation plans.

For any CDBG-CV, 2019-20 CDBG and 2020-21 HOME funds that are used in order to prevent, prepare for and respond to Coronavirus, the draft and final documents will only be available online at the City's website.

At the discretion of the City Manager, City Staff will recommend program activities, funding and program modifications for submittal to the City Council without consultation of the Citizen's Advisory Committee. In this case, the City Manager would have deemed the expeditious completion of these tasks as essential to public safety, health or economy, to prevent, prepare for or respond to the Coronavirus.

Council approved the CPP Amendment and other amendments on May 18, 2020. See Appendix “

**Anti-Displacement Policy:** As part of the CPP, the City must maintain a displacement policy. Displacement refers to the involuntary relocation of individuals from their residence due to housing development and rehabilitation paid for with federal funds. The City will continue to use existing federal and state relocation guidelines, as applicable, to minimize displacement and to alleviate the problems caused by displacement. Both the federal government and the State of California have specific requirements dictating the amount of benefits and assistance that must be provided to lower income persons and households relocated from their homes as a result of displacement. Depending on the funding source, displaced persons may be offered one or more of the following:

- A rent subsidy for another unit
- A cash payment to be used for rent or a down payment on the purchase of a dwelling unit
- Moving and related expenses

The City's rehabilitation programs may also incur relocation issues when they provide minor additions to existing dwellings in order to address overcrowding. Any temporary relocation costs are included in the rehabilitation loan package offered to clients.

**Availability of and Access to Records:** Information on the City's Consolidated Plans, CPPs, Annual Action Plans, CAPERs, and program regulations will be posted on the City's Finance Department-Housing website at [www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city) and will be made available for public review during normal working hours at the City of Visalia, 707 W. Acequia Avenue, Visalia, CA 93291, and upon written request addressed to the City's General Contact via the Finance Department-Housing. If the City is unable to provide immediate access to the documents requested, the City will make every effort to provide the documents and reports within 15 business days from the receipt of the request. These documents are also posted on the City's Finance Department-Housing website: [www.visalia.city](http://www.visalia.city).

**Comments/Complaints:** Comments or complaints from residents, public agencies, and other stakeholders regarding the Consolidated Plan or related amendments and performance reports may be submitted in writing or orally to the General Contact at the City's Finance Department-Housing at City of Visalia, 707 W. Acequia Avenue, Visalia, CA 93291. Written comments or complaints will be referred to appropriate City staff for consideration and response. The City will provide substantive, written responses to all comments or complaints within 15 business days.

A summary of public comments or complaints and a summary of any comments or complaints not accepted and the reasons thereto shall be attached to the respective final Consolidated Plan, any amendments to the plan, the Annual Action Plan or the CAPER.

**Technical Assistance:** The City will, to the extent practicable, respond to requests for technical assistance by groups representing persons of low and moderate income developing funding proposals for any program covered by the Consolidated Plan in accordance with grant procedures.

This may include, but is not limited to, providing information regarding how to fill out applications, other potential funding sources, and referrals to appropriate agencies within and outside the City. "Technical assistance," as used here, does not include the provision of funds to groups requesting such assistance. Assistance will also be provided by the City's Finance Department-Housing to interested individuals and resident groups who need further explanation on the background and intent of the Housing and Community Development Act, interpretation of specific HUD regulations, and project eligibility criteria for federal grants.

# Appendix A: Citizen Participation Summary

## PR-15 Citizen Participation

**Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation. Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting.**

### Community Needs Survey

To identify the highest priority needs of the City, a Community Needs Survey was designed and distributed to residents, workers, service providers, and businesses in the City. The public was informed that the City was in the process of preparing the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and community stakeholders were encouraged to complete the Community Needs Survey to help the City prioritize areas for investment using federal entitlement funds over the next five years.

The survey asked respondents to rate the level of need for improvements in the following areas:

- Overall needs
- Public facilities
- Infrastructure and neighborhood improvements
- Public services
- Economic development
- Housing

English and Spanish versions of the survey were available in electronic and hard copy formats from August to October 2014.

It is estimated that 19,754 entities, organizations, or persons were informed of the preparation of the Consolidated Plan. Information on public and public forums was disseminated through the following methods:

- The survey link was emailed to over 350 entities, organizations, agencies, or individuals with a request to share the survey with their network.  
(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VisaliaConPlan>)
- The survey link was sent to 800 members of the City's Chamber of Commerce.
- The survey link was sent to the City's Community Center and Housing Resource Fair listservs.
- The survey link was posted to the City's webpage.
- Information on the survey was shared on various social media pages. The survey link was posted to the City's Facebook page (potential reach of 852) and Twitter page (potential reach of 819). The survey link was posted to the Visalia Convention Center's Facebook page (potential reach of 3,300).\*
- The survey was distributed through local media sources, including the Visalia Times-Delta (potential reach of 13,996) and the City's "Inside City Hall" newsletter.
- Hard copy surveys were distributed to residents of the City at various locations, including public housing sites, school districts, health care providers, libraries, and community centers.

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\* Estimate reflects the number of "Likes" of organization's Facebook and Twitter page.

## Community Forums

The City facilitated three community forums to provide attendees with an overview of the Consolidated Plan and federal programs and to gather public input on community improvements that could be addressed by utilizing federal entitlement funds.

A total of 22 individuals participated in the community forums and provided feedback on what they viewed as the most pressing housing, economic, and community development needs in the City. In addition to covering areas of focus for the Consolidated Plan, the community forums were also structured to provide an overview of and gather feedback on fair housing for the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI).

These community forums were held at the following locations:

Annie Mitchell Elementary School  
2121 East Laura Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93292  
August 7, 2014, 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Anthony Community Center  
345 North Jacob Street  
Visalia, CA 93291  
August 12, 2014, 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

La Joya Middle School  
4711 West Lavidia Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93277  
August 12, 2014, 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm

## Citizen Participation Outreach

**Table 1 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
Public meetings	Non-targeted/broad community	A total of 22 individuals attended one of the three community forums held in August 2014.	attached	n/a	
Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	A potential of over 852 people reached on Facebook. Additionally, the July 22 <sup>nd</sup> “Inside City Hall” issue, there were 2,065 subscribers reached. Facebook and Twitter were used as two key social media channels to publicly distribute information on the community forums and community needs survey. Blurbs on the community forums and community needs surveys were distributed through various listservs, including City Hall’s “Inside City Hall” newsletter list and the City’s Community Center and Housing Resource Fair listservs.	attached	n/a	
Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community  Non-English Speaking – Specify other language: Spanish	Notices on the community forums and community needs surveys were posted in the Visalia Delta-Times newspaper. Approximately 209 persons were reached through the Alliance’s notices regarding the community needs survey and community forums.	None received	n/a	
Other	Non-targeted/broad community  Non-English speaking – Specify language: Spanish	A total of 214 Community Needs surveys were submitted to the City from August to October 2014. This includes surveys provided at the Tulare County Housing Fair held on July 12, 2014	Comments included as part of the community needs survey results	n/a	

Public Meeting	Persons with disabilities Other: Disability Advocacy Committee	Approximately 8 community members and committee board attended, in addition to City Staff. Staff presented the Draft ConPlan, AI, AP and Amendment on March 9, 2015.	Committee members were concerned with the name of a housing rehabilitation program. staff revised the abbreviated name. Members asked about accessibility for housing programs and liked that the mobile home program was returning. See attached.	n/a	
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community  Other: Citizens Advisory Committee	Approximately 15 members present plus City Staff. Staff presented the Draft ConPlan, AI, AP and Amendment on March 4, 2015	Primarily, Members glad to see housing programs returning. See attached	n/a	
Public Meeting	Other: North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee	Approximately 15 community participants and members attended.	Primarily requested funding for oval park. See attached.	n/a	
Public Hearing	Non-English Speaking- Spanish  Non-targeted/broad community  Other: City Council Work Session	City Council Work Session held on March 16, 2015 and a public hearing held on April 06, 2015 for public comment.	See attached.	n/a	

## Community Needs Survey Results

A total of 214 Community Needs Survey responses were gathered between July 2014 and October 2014. This section provides an overview of the results of the City's Community Needs Survey responses.

### Needs Ratings in Overall Areas

The survey asked respondents to rate the level of need for improvement types that fall into five distinct categories. These five categories are public facilities, infrastructure and neighborhood improvements, public services, economic development: job creation in low-income neighborhoods, and housing. The average need rating of each item within these categories provides an indicator of broad community needs priorities. Among these categories, economic development received the highest ratings. When asked to identify the strongest overall need areas, creating more jobs available to low income residents was identified as the greatest overall need area.

Overall Need Area	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
Create more jobs available to low income residents	3.96	71%
Improve non-profit-community services	3.78	60%
Create more affordable housing	3.45	49%
Improve City facilities providing public services	3.44	48%

### Aggregated Need Ratings by Improvement Category

Top priority needs can be identified more specifically by looking deeper into the need ratings given to each improvement item. The chart below shows the ten highest rated need areas in any category.

- Survey respondents identified services for abused, abandoned, and neglected as the highest priority need in the City.
- Five housing related needs are among the top ten priority needs on this list, including code enforcement activities in low income neighborhoods, permanent housing for homeless, homeless facilities, energy efficiency and sustainability improvements, housing for special needs (such as seniors and persons with disabilities).
- Public facility needs identified include facilities for homeless individuals and facilities for abused, abandoned, and/or neglected children.
- Public service needs identified include homeless, mental health, and crime awareness/prevention services.

Need Category	Average Rating Across Needs in Category	Strong or Very Strong Need
Economic Development	3.72	39%
Infrastructure and Neighborhood Improvements	3.37	32%
Housing	3.76	45%
Public Services	3.69	40%



Public Facilities	3.44	52%
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### Ten Highest Priority Needs in All Categories

Priority Rank	Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need	Need Category
1	Abused, abandoned, and neglected children services	3.96	46%	Public services
2	Code enforcement activities in low income neighborhoods	3.9	59%	Housing
3	Permanent housing for homeless	3.87	55%	Housing
4	Homeless services	3.86	55%	Public services
5	Mental health services	3.83	46%	Public services
6	Energy efficiency and sustainability improvements	3.82	54%	Housing
7	Homeless facilities	3.8	62%	Public facilities
8	Crime awareness/prevention services	3.77	54%	Public services
9	Housing for special needs (such as seniors and persons with disabilities)	3.76	44%	Housing
10	Facilities for abused, abandoned and/or neglected children	3.75	59%	Public facilities

### Housing Needs

Respondents rated the need for ten different housing-related improvement areas in their neighborhoods and each improvement was highly rated. The five highest priorities in this area were:

1. Code enforcement activities in low income neighborhoods
2. Permanent housing for homeless
3. Energy efficiency and sustainability improvements
4. Housing for special needs (such as seniors and persons with disabilities)
5. Housing accessibility improvements

The table below shows the average need rating given to each of the housing needs and the share of respondents who rated each category as “strong” or “very strong” need.

Priority Rank	Housing: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
1	Code enforcement activities in low income neighborhoods	3.9	59%
2	Permanent housing for homeless	3.87	55%
3	Energy efficiency and sustainability improvements	3.82	54%
4	Housing for special needs (such	3.76	44%

Priority Rank	Housing: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
	as seniors and persons with disabilities)		
5	Housing accessibility improvements	3.68	35%
6	Rental housing rehabilitation	3.63	46%
7	Rental assistance (tenant-based rental assistance)	3.62	42%
8	Increase affordable rental housing inventory	3.60	42%
9	Homeownership assistance	3.56	45%
10	Owner-occupied housing rehabilitation	3.41	35%

### Public Services Needs

Respondents rated the level of need for 21 various public service improvements within their neighborhoods. The five highest priorities in this area were:

1. Abused, abandoned and neglected children services
2. Homeless services
3. Mental health services
4. Crime awareness/prevention services
5. Food banks

Priority Rank	Public Services: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
1	Abused, abandoned and neglected children services	3.96	46%
2	Homeless services	3.86	55%
3	Mental health services	3.83	45%
4	Crime awareness/prevention services	3.77	54%
5	Food banks	3.75	52%
6	Substance abuse services	3.75	40%
7	Youth services	3.74	53%
8	Disability services	3.70	34%
9	Battered and abused spouse services	3.72	43%
10	Employment training services	3.72	55%
11	Fair housing activities	3.66	40%
12	Services for persons with HIV/AIDS	3.66	22%
13	Child care services	3.66	39%
14	Legal services	3.62	34%
15	Health services	3.61	41%
16	Senior services	3.59	38%
17	Neighborhood cleanups (such as trash, debris, graffiti)	3.57	49%
18	Tenant/landlord counseling services	3.55	35%
19	Housing counseling	3.49	33%

Priority Rank	Public Services: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
20	Transportation services	3.40	40%
21	Lead/based paint/lead hazard screens	3.33	18%

### Public Facilities

Respondents rated their neighborhoods' level of need for 13 public facility types. The five highest priorities in this area were:

1. Homeless facilities (transitional housing and emergency shelters)
2. Facilities for abused, abandoned and/or neglected children
3. Youth centers
4. Mental health care facilities
5. Child care centers

Priority Rank	Public Facilities: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
1	Homeless facilities (transitional housing and emergency shelters)	3.80	62%
2	Facilities for abused, abandoned and/or neglected children	3.75	59%
3	Youth centers	3.75	64%
4	Mental health care facilities	3.68	63%
5	Child care centers	3.46	53%
6	Centers for the disabled	3.42	46%
7	Educational facilities	3.41	45%
8	Recreation facilities	3.41	48%
9	Health care facilities	3.32	41%
10	Parks facilities	3.24	39%
11	Senior centers	3.23	38%
12	Facilities for persons with HIV/AIDS	3.01	34%
13	Parking facilities	2.85	30%

### Infrastructure and Neighborhood Improvements

Respondents rated the level of need for 15 infrastructure and neighborhood improvements. The top five priorities in this area were:

1. Cleanup of contaminated sites
2. Lighting Improvements
3. Street improvement
4. Acquisition and clearance of vacant lots
5. Water/sewer improvements

Priority Rank	Infrastructure and Neighborhood Improvements: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
1	Cleanup of contaminated sites	3.62	35%
2	Lighting Improvements	3.53	39%
3	Street improvement	3.41	42%
4	Acquisition and clearance of vacant	3.39	37%

Priority Rank	Infrastructure and Neighborhood Improvements: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
	lots		
5	Water/sewer improvements	3.37	29%
6	Sidewalk improvements	3.35	33%
7	Storm water and drainage improvements	3.33	24%
8	Trails	3.32	41%
9	Traffic calming	3.32	35%
10	New or renovated playgrounds	3.31	37%
11	ADA accessibility	3.29	20%
12	Tree Planting	3.18	31%
13	Public art	3.06	28%
14	Landscaping improvements	3.05	23%
15	Neighborhood Signage	3.01	22%

### *Economic Development: Business and Jobs*

Respondents rated the level of need in four economic development areas within their neighborhoods. The top two priorities in this area were:

1. Financial assistance for low income residents for business expansion and job creation
2. Store front improvements in low income neighborhoods

Priority Rank	Economic Development: Specific Need	Average Rating	Strong or Very Strong Need
1	Financial assistance for low income residents for business expansion and job creation	3.7	53%
2	Store front improvements in low income neighborhoods	3.52	46%
3	Micro-enterprise assistance for bus	3.5	37%
4	Public improvements to commercial	3.33	30%

### **Community Forum Results**

The City held three community forums to gather public input regarding community needs that could potentially be addressed by utilizing federal entitlement program funding.

During the breakout groups, forum participants were asked to identify what they viewed as the highest priority community needs. Answers given were both what currently existed (i.e. cracked sidewalks) and what was needed (i.e. gang prevention services). All answers were transcribed on flip charts and grouped and categorized. The number of times each item was identified, as a community need was recorded and counted to identify the most frequently stated needs (i.e. “mental health services” was mentioned 15 times throughout all three community forums. Below is a brief summary of the feedback received at the community forums during the dialogue breakout groups.

The most critical needs identified, in order of importance, were:

1. Projects or programs that increase availability of affordable housing for low income residents (17)
2. Projects or programs that create new jobs that are available to low income residents (14)
3. Improvements and/or development of non-profit community services for low income residents (such as senior, youth, health, homeless, fair housing) (8)
4. Improvements and/or development of City facilities providing public services (such as parks, recreation or senior centers, parking facilities, street improvements, architectural barriers) (7)

The following items were selected as the four most critical needs:

1. Homeless services (16)
2. Housing rehabilitation (12)
3. Employment training services (11)
4. Crime awareness/prevention services (8)

Other needs that were identified included:

- Neighborhood cleanups (7)
- Mental health services (6)
- Tenant/landlord service (5)
- Youth services (5)
- Food banks (5)
- Senior services (4)

Less frequently identified needs include:

- Substance abuse services (3)
- Battered and abused spouse services (2)
- Abused and neglected children services (2)
- Disability services (2)

### **Consolidated Plan Public Comment Period**

The Consolidated Plan was circulated for a 30 day public review and comment period beginning on February 23, 2015, and comments were accepted through March 24, 2015. The Plan was available electronically at [www.ci.visalia.ca.us](http://www.ci.visalia.ca.us) for the 30 day period. Hardcopies were also available at City Hall East, and City Hall North as well as upon request. Notice of Availability of the Consolidated Plan was distributed to over 12 entities, organizations, agencies and citizens or groups that attended the forums, requested such notification and provided their contact information. The notice was also sent through listserves with "The Alliance" who reached approximately, 209 subscribers, City of Visalia Facebook, reaching 786 people, City of Visalia Inside City Hall, which reached, The Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce newsletter, which reached approximately 1,300 subscribers. In addition, public comment is encouraged at the hearings listed below, and could be submitted in writing to [www.ci.visalia.ca.us](http://www.ci.visalia.ca.us) or directed to Michael Olmos, City Manager at the City Hall North, Transit Center, 425 East Oak, Suite 301, Visalia, CA. A summary of all comments received and staff's response to those comments can be found in Appendix E: Response to Comments

## Public Hearings

Locations and dates:

- **City Council Work Session Meeting:** March 16, 2015
- **City Council Public Hearing Meeting:** April 06, 2015

## Appendix “E”: Response to Comments-March 2015

Comment	Response to Comment
<b>Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting- Comments on Draft Consolidated Plan, &amp; AI (Meeting held on March 04, 2015)</b>	
Member commented that they were glad to see the three housing programs returning.	noted and presented to City Council on Work session on March 16, 2015
Member commented that they felt that the economic development programs didn't provide sufficient funding; also asked how this can help with the need for jobs	Housing Staff responded that the full ConPlan report provides more detail about who provides businesses, and economic development. The proposed programs assist in addressing economic opportunities although a small amount. Additionally, the proposed programs are pilot programs.
	The Economic Development Manager also responded that it involves collaboration with multiple agencies and the IDA programs are matching fund programs.
<b>Disability Advocacy Committee Meeting: Comments on Draft Consolidated Plan, &amp; AI (Meeting held on March 09, 2015)</b>	
a few members were concerned with the name of "Housing Accessibility and Rehabilitation Program (HARP), as it may confuse the public, realtors, etc., since it is abbreviated the same as HUD's HARP Program. Members suggested changing the name.	Staff took their information into consideration. Staff revised the name of the program to reduce confusion. The program name was shifted around to " Housing Rehabilitation and Accessibility Program (HRAP).
Member asked about accessibility for housing rehab programs, specifically liked that the senior mobile home program is recommended.	Staff explained to member, accessibility or adaptability is conducted with our current programs, the proposed programs include accessibility needs. Noted to Council at work session on March 16, 2015, they are supportive of housing rehabilitation programs
<b>North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting - Comments on Draft Consolidated Plan, &amp; AI (Meeting Held on March 12, 2015)</b>	
One committee member indicated that the City touts the Traffic project as the Oval Project, and indicated that they believe the Caltrans traffic project has nothing to do with the Oval Park.	noted herein

Comment	Response to Comment
<p>The same committee member indicated that they were required to go door to door to each business to inform them of an event at the Oval Park. They felt that since they were required to go through this process, that the City should as well.</p>	<p>Staff indicated that they appreciated their input. Staff also indicated that participation reached over 19,000 contacts, through City website, twitter, Facebook, list serves with non-profit agencies, including CoC. Posted at public library and post office, and city offices. The notice was published in the local Visalia Times Delta newspaper and for non-subscribers, was published in the Thursday paper that is delivered to non-subscribers. Also posted with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, which included the notice in their news article. City will incorporate all feedback regarding best methods of outreach as staff and resources are available.</p>
<p>Another member indicated that Fresno utilized KMJ radio to engage the community for their Consolidated Plan, and indicated that the city needed better outreach.</p>	<p>City will incorporate all feedback regarding best methods of outreach as staff and resources are available.</p>
<p>a committee member indicated that part of the parking structure funds needed to go toward needs of children</p>	<p>noted herein</p>
<p>A community attendee indicated that they felt the City didn't do enough outreach, and publishing in newspapers don't reach the community (non subscribers) and felt that the City should go door to door to inform the community of participation, and programs.</p>	<p>Staff indicated that they appreciated their input. Staff also indicated that participation reached over 19,000 contacts, through City website, twitter, Facebook, list serves with non-profit agencies, including CoC. Posted at public library and post office, and city offices. The notice was published in the local Visalia Times Delta newspaper and for non-subscribers, was published in the Thursday paper that is delivered to non-subscribers. Also posted with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, which included the notice in their news article. City will incorporate all feedback regarding best methods of outreach as staff and resources are available.</p>
<p>One member suggested removing CDBG funds from other programs and directing toward the Oval. Also indicated that the Highway Traffic project has nothing to do with the Oval.</p>	<p>Staff asked for clarification and discussed what projects and programs already recommended for continuation of services. The Voucher Program, CoC, Code Enforcement and Parking Structure are committed projects and programs. Staff asked that they be clear on what they were asking for.</p>
<p>The North Visalians made a motion and approved,</p>	<p>noted and presented to City Council on Work</p>



Comment	Response to Comment
<p>to remove a total of \$70,000 in CDBG funding from the three housing programs (Housing Rehabilitation and Accessibility (HRAP) of \$25,000; the Emergency Repair Accessibility Program (ERAP) of \$25,000 and the Senior Mobile Home Program of \$20,000 and direct toward the Oval Park, specifically the playground equipment.</p>	<p>session on March 16, 2015</p>
<p>Two members commented that CDBG targeted areas should have the CDBG funding utilized as they need the most public improvements.</p>	<p>noted herein</p>
<p>A member commented that the 5 year plan should have a priority for accessibility and sidewalks in the CDBG Areas</p>	<p>Noted to Council at work session on March 16, 2015, that they are supportive of housing rehabilitation programs</p>
<p>Committee members asked how and who decides on how the allocations are determined. Indicated that 70% of the funds are going toward the parking structure. One member expressed that allocations should reflect the expressed needs collected during the community outreach process seemingly implying that the parking structure doesn't enhance economic development in a particular targeted CDBG area.</p>	<p>Staff indicated that based on the identified needs, continuation of existing successful projects and programs, and commitments, funds are allocated and determined by Staff, Department and then recommended to Council. The parking structure supports downtown businesses and the hospital. The repayment of the Section 108 loan is through 2018.</p>
<p>A member indicated that the parking structure was needed for downtown businesses, and brought income into the area.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>The same committee member had concerns of removing the funding for our senior population, specifically for the Santa fe mobile home park, which they felt had a lot of problems.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p><b>Emails from Citizens- Input</b></p>	
<p>Community member and Member of North Visalians sent an email: Missing sidewalks on routes to schools and major roadways. i.e. Houston, Divisadero and Rinaldi.  2. Missing safe crossings and crosswalks across main highway through north Visalia i.e. Strawberry and Pine &amp; 63.  3. Absence of parks in north Visalia area i.e. Houston Elementary area. Pocket park proposal.</p>	<p>noted herein</p>

Comment	Response to Comment
<p>4. Completion of Santa Fe trail in north Visalia. Houston to St. John's river.</p> <p>5. Investment in at risk areas for youth i.e. two Gang Injunction zones.</p> <p>6. Investment in abandoned buildings in north Visalia, i.e. NE Third and Court.</p> <p>7. Traffic signals improvements at major intersections, i.e. Jacob and Houston, Race and Locust/Court, Pearl and NW 2/NW 3</p>	
<p>Community member and member of North Visalians sent second email stating that he is requesting similar lighting to which the city did on the very dark NE Second, NE Third and NE Fourth corridors.</p>	<p>noted herein</p>
<p><b>City Council Work Session: Presentation of Draft ConPlan &amp; AI (Meeting held on March 16, 2015)</b></p>	
<p>Councilman Collins has requested Staff &amp; Consultant about quantifying success (identifying how it can be measured, looking at best practices, and that it be performance based.</p>	<p>Consultant responded that the CAPER provides information. however, it is a question posed nationwide. A way to show what impact programs have on a community , other jurisdictions they have worked with formed a committee advisory board, including community members, non-profits. and they indicate what they expect to see (measurements-outcomes).</p>
<p>Councilman Collins would like to see a Housing Conditions Survey, what money in rehabilitation, seniors assisted, are the programs working (doing the job), is blight going down, housing rehab going up. He indicated that he is more concerned on neighborhoods getting better and looking for tools to identify such. Councilman Collins response to CM is that he wants to know if the use of these funds are working and would like to see something.</p>	<p>The CM expressed to Councilman Collins that CDBG &amp; HOME programs are only one component, and gave an example that the SMART Team, looks at what Code Enforcement, police and fire are doing throughout the city. That we could include results of housing.</p>
<p>Councilman Shuklian' asked if the administration of the TBRA Program-staff working with consultant /non profit, and who would be identifying the people.</p>	<p>Staff indicated that they would look to an experienced non-profit, such as Tulare County Housing Authority and the program is for a 2 year term, where the hope is for the tenant to move into the Section 8 program.</p>
<p>Mayor Nelsen indicated that we need to look into transitional housing, that there are none. He would liked to see a portion of the funds allocated to such.</p>	<p>Staff indicated that the TBRA program was recommended for the second year to allow preparation of the RFP, policies and procedures. A</p>

Comment	Response to Comment
<p>Also would like to see the TBRA program started the first year, rather than the second. Mayor Nelsen would like to see a portion of funds allocated toward transitional type housing</p>	<p>community member, Betsy McGovern, also a member of the CoC, previous consultant and City partner on a CHDO housing program and</p>
<p>Councilman Link asked what happens if CDBG and HOME funds are no longer received. What happens to the established programs, how would they be financed. He also asked has staff considered this when moving forward- how to maintain funding.</p>	<p>Staff indicated that there are program income funds coming from existing loan payments that may be able to carry for a short time. The CM indicated that they would no longer be funded.</p>
<p>Councilman Gubler asked if the City could obtain another Section 108 loan, potentially for another parking structure, if qualified CM asked EF to respond and indicate what the back up is.</p>	<p>Eric Frost, Deputy CM indicated that the Section 108 loan payment is through 2018. The back up funding (Contingency Plan) was Redevelopment funds, which is not longer available. If funding were to no longer be received, the General Fund would be the back up option (contingency) of payment.</p>
<p>Public Comments received from community member Betsy McGovern; thanked the City for the ongoing partnership and professionalism through the SHE CHDO programs; The 5 unit underway is one that she has been speaking with other non-profit agencies - working in conjunction with a permanent housing/rapid rehousing program to serve formerly eligible homeless or near homeless applicants. Self Help also has a 36-unit development that could also participate in conjunction with other programs to assist in housing extremely low income households.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Ms. McGovern also provided education to Council regarding HUD's model programs are no longer Transitional housing, but rather, Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Housing, which is basically similar to the recommended TBRA program.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Ms. McGovern also indicated that the Continuum of Care is searching to fill a position for a Housing Navigator and creating an index, which accesses individuals and identifies barriers, then prioritizes.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Ms. McGovern provided an overview of what the Trust requires- preliminary information. She also indicated that Self Help will be pursuing funds</p>	<p>n/a</p>

Comment	Response to Comment
<p>through the National Housing Trust Fund, once more information is available. She also suggested that this type of funding be referenced in the Consolidated Plan, in order to apply and/or work with the City</p>	
<p>Mr. Salinas indicated that he was appointed to the North Visalians Advisory Committee. He shared what the committee requested, being" to increase the Oval Park from \$50k to \$120k, which was a recommendation to allocate the recommended housing program funds to the Oval. He indicated that the park playground was approximately \$155k. He also indicated that \$200k was allocated to the park in previous years.</p>	n/a
<p><b>City Council Public Hearing: Presentation of final Draft ConPlan &amp; AI (Meeting held on April 06,2015)</b></p>	
<p>Mr. Salinas supported the Final ConPlan, Action Plan, specifically the allocation of \$50,000 CDBG toward the Oval Park.</p>	N/A
<p>Main Comments received through public comment period- responses included in City Council Staff Report</p>	<p>Response to Council and the Community main comments are included in the City Council Staff report, as presented.</p>

## Appendix “F”: Response to CPP Minor Amendment Comments-(March 16, 2018 – April 16, 2018)

Comment	Response to Comment
<b>Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting- Comments on Citizens Participation Plan Minor Amendment (Meeting held on April 04, 2018)</b>	
Motion to support proposed 2018 Action Plan, 2017 CDBG Amendment and Minor CPP Amendment	noted
<b>Disability Advocacy Committee Meeting: Comments on Citizens Participation Plan Minor Amendment (Meeting held on April 09, 2018)</b>	
Motion to support proposed 2018 Action Plan, 2017 CDBG Amendment and Minor CPP Amendment	noted
<b>North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting - Comments on Citizens Participation Plan Minor Amendment (Meeting Held on April 12, 2018)</b>	
No quorum- no comments related to the CPP Amendment	Noted
<b>Emails from Citizens- Related to the Citizens Participation Plan Amendment</b>	
None received to date	noted
<b>City Council Public Hearing: Presentation of Citizens Participation Plan Minor Amendment (Meeting held on April 16, 2018)</b>	
None received to date	Noted

# Appendix “G”: Response to CPP Substantial Amendment Comments-(May 13, 2020 – May 18, 2020)

<b>Comments related to CDBG-CV; 2019, 2020 AP Amendments, CPP Amendments, HOME &amp; CDBG Waivers</b>	
<b>City of Visalia</b>	
<b>Community Input/feedback from Community meetings, Council Input &amp; Public Testimony Notes</b>	
<b><i>Discussion of available CARE Act funding; options related to COVID-19 Pandemic</i></b>	
<b>Council discussion</b>	<b>City Response</b>
Review of updated financials and potential list of solutions in an effort to assist the citizens of Visalia during the COVID-19 pandemic	Staff will return with eligible uses of CDBG-CV funding; thereafter, return again through the public hearing process
<b><i>Input, Feedback on CARE Act fund needs</i></b>	
<b><i>City Council Meeting May 7, 2020- Special Meeting- for Input/Feedback</i></b>	
<b>Public Comment:</b>	<b>City Response</b>
City Council Special meeting- reviewed CARE Act funding, including CDBG-CV	Reviewed eligible uses of CDBG-CV funding; Staff will return through public hearing process, including input from the community.
<b><i>Public Comment period- May 13, 2020 through May 18, 2020</i></b>	
<b><i>Survey Monkey</i></b>	
<b>Public Comment:</b>	<b>City Response</b>
Posted link to Survey monkey related to eligible uses of CDBG-CV and needs	Results of Survey Monkey # 709 survey's completed; 193 comments submitted; Highest need was public services, followed by business- see attached survey results
<b><i>City Council Public Hearing- May 18, 2020</i></b>	
<b>Public Comment:</b>	<b>City Response</b>
Gabriel discussed options for the public- businesses, open economy; suggested signage of wearing masks, washing hands, etc	Noted
Council supported Staff's recommendation of public services- food; and provided Survey results overview to Council	Council voted 4-0; 1 absent
Survey Monkey comments	Comments included 193 comments- see attached survey results
<b><i>Posted Public Notice- CDBG-CV 2019, 2020 &amp; CPP Amendments, Waivers</i></b>	
<b><i>Posting/Publishing of the Draft 2019 &amp; 2020 AP Amendments; CPP Amendments(5 Day comment period</i></b>	
City of Visalia Finance page; posting of notice, 2019 & 2020 AP Amendments, CPP Amendments and HOME & CDBG Waivers	Posted May 13, 2020
City of Visalia Twitter; posting of notice, 2019 & 2020 AP Amendments, CPP Amendments and HOME & CDBG Waivers	Posted May 13, 2020
City of Visalia Facebook; posting of notice, 2019 & 2020 AP Amendments, CPP Amendments and HOME & CDBG Waivers	Posted May 13, 2020
City of Visalia "Inside City Hall"; posting of notice, 2019 & 2020 AP Amendments, CPP Amendments and HOME & CDBG Waivers	Posted May 13, 2020
City of Visalia Twitter; posting of Survey- CDBG-CV	Posted May 13, 2020
Visalia Times Delta, legal/retail published public hearing notice on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 *(English and Spanish)	Posted in local paper
Sent notice and survey to foodlink, Tulare County	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to ccfoodbank.org	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to Visalia Rescue Mission	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to "Love in the name of christ"	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to Community Services Employment Training (CSET), Inc.	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and Survey to Continuum of Care office, 525 W Center, Suite A, Visalia-notice	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to Habitat for Humanity location 637 S Lovers Lane, Visalia-	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to Self Help Enterprises, 8445 W Elowin Court, Visalia-	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to Family Services of Tulare County	sent on May 13, 2020
Sent notice and survey to Kingsview	sent on May 13, 2020
Posted notice on City main page website	Posted Notice on March 13, 2020
City- News Item- and mailing	Posted Notice on March 13, 2020
2019 & 2020 AP Amendment, CPP 2019 & 2020 Amendment and Waivers available for public review- 707 West Acequia	Available for public review on May 13, 2020
Public Library, located at 200 West Oak Avenue, Visalia	Unable to provide copy of the Draft plan, Public Library closed due to COVID-19.