

FY 2025/26 – FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan



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#### **Executive Summary**

#### ES-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

#### Introduction

The City of Visalia ("the City") is an entitlement jurisdiction for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and a participating jurisdiction for the HOME Investment Partnerships Act Program (HOME). As a requirement by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City develops a Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) every five years to guide the use of federal CDBG and HOME funding. The five-year Con Plan is the guiding document for allocating these resources which support projects and programs that benefit low- and moderate-income people by increasing housing and economic opportunities, strengthening low-income neighborhoods, and addressing public service and infrastructure needs. The Annual Action Plan is also required by HUD each year of the five-year cycle and will summarize the programs and projects that will be funded by the annual grants to achieve the goals and objectives of the Con Plan. Annual accomplishments are reported on progress toward Con Plan goals in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

#### **Overall Summary**

The City conducted several public meetings, focus groups, and public hearings to gather input from citizens, local organizations, and key community stakeholders for use in combination with relevant housing and economic data in drafting the City's FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan. The City has reviewed several plans and supplemental data to gather information for the development of this Plan, including the City's 2023 Adopted Housing Element, CAPERs, Annual Action Plans, housing needs analyses, homeless statistics, etc. Please see PR-10 for additional plans reviewed.

The City implemented a comprehensive community engagement strategy to inform the development of its FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan. This strategy included a series of public meetings, focus groups, and public hearings designed to gather valuable input from citizens, local organizations, and key community stakeholders. To ensure a well-rounded approach, the City combined this community feedback with relevant housing and economic data. Concurrently, the City conducted an extensive review of existing plans and supplemental data sources. Additional documents and data reviewed included the City's 2023 Adopted Housing Element, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs), Annual Action Plans, housing needs analyses, and homeless statistics. This review process provided important context and data to support the Con Plan's development. For a complete list of additional plans consulted, please refer to section PR-10 of this document. By integrating community perspectives with comprehensive data analysis, the City has strived to create a Con Plan that accurately reflects the needs and priorities of its residents while aligning with broader housing and community development goals.

#### **Summary of Needs Assessment Results and Goals**

The City's strategy for community enhancement utilizing CDBG and HOME funds centers on several key goals, specifically including:

- Public services
- Property maintenance
- Neighborhood preservation
- Emergency shelter
- Improve community and public facilities

- Affordable housing
- Administration

The City of Visalia has developed specific strategies to achieve these goals, which are outlined in the following sections.

- Address special service needs
- Preserve homeownership
- Combat blighting conditions
- Combat homelessness
- Enhance community development
- Increase affordable housing
- Program administration

#### **Evaluation of past performance**

HUD requires an evaluation of the City's progress of using the CDBG and HOME funds each year of the five-year Con Plan period. Over the past five-year Con Plan period, 2020 to 2024, the City has met or exceeded the majority of its goal outcomes, and the City will meet all remaining goal outcomes by the end of FY 2024/25. Table 1 below lists goals and outcome indicators from the previous Con Plan, along with progress made to date:

	Table 1: Progress Tow	ard FY 2020/21 –	FY 2024/25 Co	nsolidated Plan Goals	
Goal	Description	Need	Funding	Outcome Indicators	Progress
Increase Affordable Housing	Improve housing opportunities for 0-80% AMI households through:  New construction  Particularly larger rental units and accessible housing units  senior housing  homeowner mortgage assistance  transitional housing  rental assistance programs	Affordable Housing	HOME - \$3,737,560	<ul> <li>7 households with mortgage assistance</li> <li>11 new rental units</li> <li>11 rental acquired/ rehabbed</li> <li>5 new construction – single family</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5 households with mortgage assistance completed</li> <li>11 new rental units completed</li> <li>50 rental units acquired/rehabbed completed</li> <li>5 new construction – single family completed</li> </ul>
Create Suitable Living Environment	Code Enforcement  Provide for a suitable living environment for all residents and income levels by:  • Housing rehabilitation (SMHRP)  • Emergency repair and accessibility program	Property Maintenance	CDBG - \$1,025,000 HOME - \$125,000	<ul> <li>1,000 Code cases addressed</li> <li>8 Emergency repair and accessibility program projects</li> <li>10 mobile homes rehabilitated</li> <li>4 tenant-based rental subsidy recipients</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>788 Code cases addressed completed. Remaining goal will be met in FY 24/25</li> <li>12 Emergency repair and accessibility program projects completed</li> <li>9 mobile homes rehabilitated completed. Remaining goal will be met in FY 24/25</li> <li>7 tenant-based rental subsidy recipients completed</li> </ul>

Address Community/ Special Need Services	Enhance programs for:  • special needs populations  • youth  • domestic abuse  • mental health services  • CoC and fair housing  • supportive services, including case management and street outreach	Shelter and counseling for homeless	CDBG - \$391,000	<ul> <li>75 new case management for mental health individuals</li> <li>15 people assisted with housing vouchers</li> <li>100 people assisted - behavioral health services</li> <li>5 Fair housing activities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>74 new case management for mental health individuals completed.</li> <li>14 people assisted with housing vouchers completed.</li> <li>74 people assisted - behavioral health services completed. Final 26 will be completed in FY 24/25.</li> <li>1 Fair housing activities completed.</li> </ul>
Address Homeless Needs	<ul> <li>provide emergency shelter for homeless</li> <li>provide mental health services, mental health services</li> <li>services for youth in the schools</li> <li>substance abuse treatment, domestic violence support</li> <li>support services for elderly (meals, transportation)</li> <li>rent/utility payments</li> <li>Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)</li> <li>expanded voucher program</li> </ul>	Public Services	CDBG - \$242,875	<ul> <li>2,000 people assisted through Continuum of Care</li> <li>70 households assisted with case management /street outreach</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2,007 people assisted through Continuum of Care completed</li> <li>74 households assisted with case management /street outreach completed</li> </ul>
Enhance community development	<ul> <li>improve public infrastructure in the City's LMI residential areas street and ADA sidewalk improvements, including acquisition of right-of-way</li> <li>improve community facilities particularly accessibility</li> <li>improve park and recreation facilities</li> <li>safety improvements</li> </ul>	Improve community and public facilities	CDBG - \$3,888,145	<ul> <li>5 ADA compliance projects</li> <li>1 Public infrastructure improved</li> <li>1 public facility improved</li> <li>1 public park improved</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2 ADA compliance projects completed</li> <li>1 public infrastructure facility developed</li> <li>1 public park improved underway will completed in FY 24/25</li> </ul>

Administration and planning administration services for City's CDBG and HOME	Program administration and planning	CDBG - \$1,355,505 HOME - \$421,770	Program administration	Completed
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#### Summary of citizen participation and organization consultation processes

Beginning in July 2024, the City implemented a comprehensive community engagement strategy to ensure broad and meaningful participation in the planning process. This strategy included:

- Surveying residents, local businesses, and community organizations;
- Leading two focus groups for organization consultations;
- Hosting a public hearing during the City's monthly City Council meeting (September 3, 2024);
- Presenting at a monthly Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting (September 4, 2024);
- Facilitating a virtual public meeting (September 9, 2024);
- Presenting the draft Con Plan at a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting (April 2, 2025);
- Hosting a public hearing following the publication of the draft Con Plan during the City Council meeting (April 7, 2025); and
- Hosted a public hearing for adoption of the draft Con Plan during the City Council meeting (April 21, 2025).

#### Citizen and organization online questionnaires

To initiate its citizen participation process, the City created a 36-question Citizen Questionnaire (English and Spanish) and a 29-question Organization Questionnaire in Microsoft Forms designed to elicit feedback about community needs for housing, supportive service, economic and workforce development, planning and community development, and homelessness.

Both questionnaires were open for responses from July 12, 2024, to August 2, 2024, however the Organization Questionnaire was relaunched twice (August 12-16, 2024, and September 25-October 4, 2024) at the request of several organizations and in an effort to collect additional feedback. Additionally, the Citizen Questionnaire also relaunched between September 6-13, 2024, also to elicit additional resident feedback. Overall, the Organization Questionnaire Survey had 23 respondents, whereas the Citizen Questionnaire had 122 individual respondents. No responses were received for the Spanish Citizen Questionnaire.

The City's Housing Division created two additional surveys to poll attendees at two events – the 2023 Farmworker Women's Conference on housing and community development needs and the CAC meeting on September 4, 2024. These surveys asked about supportive service, housing, economic development, infrastructure, and community facility needs.

#### Focus groups

To prepare for the execution of the stakeholder focus groups, agencies were invited to register via Microsoft Forms to attend any of the two virtual focus groups being offered to provide their input. Focus groups were scheduled across a one-week timeframe for the following dates and times:

- Focus Group 1: Wednesday, September 25, 2024, 9:00 A.M. PST 11:00 A.M. PST
- Focus Group 2: Wednesday, October 2, 2024, 9:00 A.M. PST 11:00 A.M. PST

A total of 46 agencies were invited to participate in the virtual focus group sessions; 14 individuals representing 11 agencies participated in at least one focus group. Agencies invited included, but were not limited to: housing providers, health service providers, social service providers,

organizations representing protected classes, fair housing, education agencies, and real estate organization. During the focus groups, a variety of open-ended questions were asked to address the following topics while increasing dialogue among the groups:

- Populations most in need of assistance
- Greatest unmet needs and gaps in services among qualifying populations
- Potential project ideas that may be eligible under the CDBG and HOME programs

#### Public hearing, CAC, and public meeting

The City hosted and presented at three public engagement events to gather community input. A public hearing was held on September 3, 2024, a CAC meeting was held on September 4, 2024, and a virtual public meeting was held on September 9, 2024. The hearing and meetings were designed to solicit input regarding pressing community and housing needs throughout the City. Events include a public hearing (September 3, 2024), and CAC meeting (September 4, 2024), and a virtual public meeting (September 9, 2024). Designed to solicit feedback from both the general public and City Council members, these meetings were advertised across several platforms (i.e. email blast to 77 community organization points of contact, publication in a local newspaper, flyers, the City's website and social media channels) to ensure broad participation. This comprehensive approach aimed to identify and prioritize the most pressing community and housing needs in Visalia, ensuring that the City's planning efforts were well-informed by diverse perspectives from residents and officials alike.

Following the publication of the draft Con Plan, the City met again with the CAC on April 2, 2025, and held two public hearings on April 7, 2025, and April 21, 2025.

#### **Summary of public comments**

A summary of all comments received and staff's response to those comments can be found in Appendix B: Response to Comments.

Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them Not applicable – feedback received during and upon completion of both public comment and public hearing processes were considered and analyzed as part of the Con Plan development process. The City has reviewed and accepted all comments.

#### **The Process**

#### PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Table 2: Agencies					
Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency			
Lead Agency	City of Visalia	Finance Department - Housing Division			
CDBG Administrator	City of Visalia	Finance Department - Housing Division			
HOPWA Administrator	N/A	N/A			
HOME Administrator	City of Visalia	Finance Department - Housing Division			
HOPWA-C Administrator	N/A	N/A			

#### **Narrative**

The City of Visalia (City) is the Lead Agency for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) entitlement programs at the City of Visalia. The City's Finance Department, Housing Division administers the funds it receives under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs.

#### **Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

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#### PR-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

#### Introduction

The City undertook a comprehensive community and stakeholder engagement process to gather feedback on community needs, priorities, and project ideas for funding through CDBG and HOME funds. This process included input from residents, agencies, organizations, public officials, and other stakeholders. The feedback was inclusive of various areas such as housing, supportive services, economic and community development, and infrastructure/facilities. To facilitate this effort, the City enlisted the consulting services of Baker Tilly Advisory Group.

The City followed its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), and the CPP is available to review on the City of Visalia website at <a href="https://www.visalia.city">www.visalia.city</a>.

## Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I)).

During the preparation of the Con Plan, a comprehensive range of agencies and organizations were engaged, as detailed in Table 3. These entities provide a variety of services, including health and human services, mental health services for children and families, drug treatment, homeless services, support for victims of domestic violence, transitional living services, housing, education, disability services, employment services, and services for the elderly. Additionally, local and regional government agencies were also included.

Engagement with these entities occurred through various methods, such as surveys and focus groups. The Citizen and Organization Questionnaires collected extensive feedback on City needs, service gaps, and the effectiveness and sufficiency of facilities and services. The Organization Questionnaire was complemented by focus groups, where agencies and organizations shared more detailed observations on City needs and project ideas based on their experiences with the populations they serve. Additionally, City staff met with the CAC, which serves as a liaison between the public and the City Council, to present an overview of the Con Plan, gather detailed feedback on community needs, and present the draft Con Plan.

# Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance (KTHA) is the San Joaquin Valley continuum of care which includes homeless service providers, advocacy groups, government agencies, and homeless individuals. KTHA promotes quality of life for homeless individuals by improving access to housing and to supportive services like health, education, and employment. City staff regularly meets with KTHA to understand the needs and challenges facing homeless populations and to coordinate strategies that ensure effective regional collaboration in helping homeless individuals and families achieve maximum self-sufficiency. The City supports KTHA by providing grant funding for the annual Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Census and counts, the Project Homeless Connect events, and the ongoing administration of the HUD Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS. The City does not currently receive Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds.

Describe agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

	Table 3: Agencies, groups, and organizations who participated				
No	Agency / Group / Organization Name	Agency / Group / Organization Type	Section of Plan addressed by consultation	How was the Agency / Group / Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
1	Self-Help Enterprises	Housing; Services – housing	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.	
2	Lindsay Healthy Start Family Resource Center	Services – children; Services – homeless; Services – health	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Homeless needs – chronically homeless</li> <li>Homeless needs - families with children</li> <li>Homelessness strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.	
3	Proteus, Inc.	Services – health; Services – employment	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>HOPWA strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.	
4	RH Community Builders LP	Housing	<ul><li>Housing need assessment</li><li>Market analysis</li></ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the	

			Economic development	Community Organization Survey.
5	Visalia Rescue Mission	Services – homeless	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Homeless needs – chronically homeless</li> <li>Homeless needs - families with children</li> <li>Homelessness needs – veterans</li> <li>Homelessness needs – unaccompanied youth</li> <li>Homelessness strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.
6	Central CA Legal Services	Regional organization; Other – Legal aid services	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey. Discussed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in a focus group.
7	Tulare County Library-Visalia Branch	Other government – County	<ul><li>Housing need assessment</li><li>Market analysis</li><li>Economic development</li></ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.
8	Tulare County HHSA	Health Agency; Services – housing; Services – employment	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>HOPWA strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey. Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.

9	Kingsview	Services – health	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>HOPWA strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey. Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
10	Tulare County Office of Education Foster and Homeless Youth Services	Other government – County; Services – education; Services – children	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey. Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
11	The Source LGBT+ Center	Services – health; Services – education	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>HOPWA strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.
12	Visalia Senior Housing	Housing Services-elderly persons	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.
13 - 14	Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance	Services – homeless; Regional organization	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Homeless needs – chronically homeless</li> <li>Homeless needs – families with children</li> <li>Homelessness needs – veterans</li> <li>Homelessness needs – unaccompanied youth</li> <li>Homelessness strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.

			<ul> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	
15	Community Services Employment Training	Services – education; Services – housing; Services – employment; Services – children	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.
16	Housing Authority of the County of Tulare	Housing; PHA	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Public housing needs</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>Market analysis</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey. Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
17	Champions Recovery Alternative Programs, Inc.	Services – health	<ul><li>Housing need assessment</li><li>Non-homeless special needs</li><li>Market analysis</li></ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.
18	TC Hope	Services – homeless	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Homeless needs – chronically homeless</li> <li>Homeless needs - families with children</li> <li>Homelessness needs – veterans</li> <li>Homelessness needs – unaccompanied youth</li> <li>Homelessness strategy</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.
19	St. Paul's Church	Other – Religious institution	<ul><li>Housing need assessment</li><li>Market analysis</li></ul>	Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
20	Anthem Blue Cross	Services – health	Housing need assessment	Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via

			<ul><li>Non-homeless special needs</li><li>HOPWA strategy</li><li>Market analysis</li></ul>	participation in an agency focus group.
21	Aspiranet	Services – children	<ul><li> Housing need assessment</li><li> Market analysis</li></ul>	Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
22	Kings/Tulare Area Agency on Aging	Services – elderly persons	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Anti-poverty strategy</li> </ul>	Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
23	College of the Sequoias/Giant Marketplace	Services – education	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Non-homeless special needs</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> </ul>	Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
24	City of Visalia Planning	Other government – Local	<ul> <li>Housing need assessment</li> <li>Market analysis</li> <li>Economic development</li> <li>Lead-based paint strategy</li> </ul>	Discussed detailed needs of the populations the organization serves via participation in an agency focus group.
25 - 27	Anonymous (3)*		<ul><li>Housing need assessment</li><li>Market analysis</li><li>Economic development</li></ul>	Contributed views on community needs via the Community Organization Survey.

#### Identify any agency types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting.

The City reached out to a wide range of agencies and organizations through various methods, including email to large list servs (ex. KTHA's email newsletter) and information sharing between entities. This approach was promoted by the City to ensure that as many local entities as possible were provided with an opportunity to contribute to Con Plan priorities. No agency types were excluded from this outreach effort.

### Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Table 4: Other local/regional/federal planning efforts						
Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?				

City of Visalia General Plan Housing Element, 2023-2031	City of Visalia	The Housing Element assesses the need for housing for all levels of income and establishes policies to meet those needs.  The Strategic Plan goals support the implementation of the Housing Element by working to construct and rehabilitate new and existing affordable housing units.
City of Visalia Consolidated Plan and Action Plans/CAPERs, 2020/21-2024/25	City of Visalia	The City of Visalia's previous 5-year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans/CAPERs provided context for the City's previous needs and goals, as well as the progress the City has made toward those goals.
City of Visalia Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), 2025/26-2029/30	City of Visalia	The City of Visalia's recently prepared Al contributed current insight on community conditions and fair housing needs that could be incorporated in and complemented by the 2025/26-2029/30 Consolidated Plan.
Pathway Home: Responding to Homelessness in Tulare County	Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance	This 2019 CoC strategic plan lays out goals for addressing homelessness based on county-specific conditions, needs, and strategies, as well as a roadmap.
Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance 2023 Point-In-Time Count Survey	Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance	The Point-In-Time Count Survey provides recent data and patterns regarding the homeless populations within the counties of Kings and Tulare.
Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count Report	Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance	This report provides a count of available beds for homeless populations in the area and provides context for assessing the City's need for additional beds.

## Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(I))

The City of Visalia collaborated with various City departments and public entities to develop the Consolidated Plan. This collaboration ensures a comprehensive approach to addressing community needs and leveraging resources effectively. Regularly the City engages with neighboring local government agencies through participation within the KTHA Continuum of Care (CoC) to address regional issues that cross city boundaries within the region. This includes coordination on housing strategies, economic development projects, and infrastructure improvements. By fostering strong partnerships with adjacent jurisdictions, the City ensures a cohesive and unified approach to regional housing and economic challenges while enhancing its ability to implement the Con Plan effectively, ensuring that the needs of the community are met in a coordinated and efficient manner.

#### **PR-15 Citizen Participation**

## 1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation

#### Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal setting.

The City of Visalia conducted community outreach through various channels, including the City's website, social media, questionnaires for citizens and organizations that focused on housing and community needs, public meetings, and a public hearing. Several organizations listed in Table 5 assisted in promoting these engagement opportunities to their contacts.

#### Community and Housing Surveys

The City created a total of four questionnaires designed to gather input on community needs from citizens, community organizations and local agencies. The Citizen Questionnaire targeted Visalia residents, asking about housing, supportive services, economic and workforce development, planning and community development, and homelessness. An Organization Questionnaire covering similar topics was also created to gather input from community agencies and organizations. Additionally, a Spanish version of the Citizen Questionnaire was prepared.

The questionnaires were open for responses from July 12, 2024 - August 2, 2024, and were reopened from September 6-13, 2024, in anticipation of a virtual public meeting. A total of 122 individuals responded to the Citizen Questionnaire, while no responses were logged for the Spanish version.

The City's Housing Division also created two additional surveys for specific events: the 2023 Farmworker Women's Conference (a Spanish speaking event), and the Citizen CAC community meeting on September 4, 2024. These surveys focused on housing and community development needs, supportive services, economic development, infrastructure, and community facility needs.

#### Public Meetings and Hearing

The City held several public meetings and hearings to gather public input in the development and during the 30-day public comment period of the draft 2025-2029 ConPlan and 2025 Action Plan. These meetings garnered input from both the public and City Council members. All meetings were publicized to the community through English and Spanish public noticing in the local newspaper, various organizational listservs, and on the City's website and social media channels.

During the development of the 2025-2029 ConPlan and 2025 Action Plan the following public meetings and hearings were held to gather input on the highest community needs.

- Public Hearing City Council Meeting on September 3, 2024, at 7:00pm
- Community Meeting Citizens Advisory Committee on September 4, 2024, at 5:30pm
- Community Meeting Virtual Public Meeting on September 9, 2024, at 1:00pm

During the 30-day public period the following public meetings and hearings were held.

- Community Meeting Citizens Advisory Committee on April 2, 2025, at 5:30pm
- Public Hearing City Council Meeting (Draft Review) on April 7, 2025, at 7:00pm
- Public Hearing City Council Meeting (Adoption) on April 21, 2025, at 7:00pm

<u>Consolidated Plan Public Comment Period</u>
The draft program year 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan 30-day public period was held from March 21, 2025, through April 21, 2025. A summary of all comments received and staff's response to those comments can be found in Appendix B: Response to Comments.

**Table 5: – 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 Meeting	Non-English Speaking – Specify other language: Spanish	On November 16, 2023, the City's Housing Division survey 107 individuals attending the 2023 Farmworker Women's Conference held at the Visalia Convention Center on housing and community development.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Internet Outreach	Non- targeted/broad community	Community Needs Assessment public notices and surveys shared on City social media outlets reaching 22K on Facebook, 19K on Instagram, and 6K on Twitter. Community Needs Survey and information also shared on the City website and Inside City Halll newsletter.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A
Other	Non- targeted/broad community	Citizen Needs Assessment public notices and surveys on various email distribution listservs including the Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance to 645 individuals, the Homeless Task Force to over 200 individuals, and the Community Care Coalition to over 200 individuals.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A
Other	Non- targeted/broad community	Citizen Needs Assessment public notices shared at various locations City Hall West, City Hall East, City Hall North, Visalia Transit, Visalia Senior Center, Visalia Library, and Visalia Parks & Recreation locations.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A

Other	Non- targeted/broad community	Citizen community needs survey launched from 7/12/24 – 8/2/24, and 9/6/24 – 9/13/24, and received 122 individual respondents.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Other	Non- targeted/broad community	Organization community needs survey launched from 7/12/24 – 8/2/24, 8/12-8/16/24, and 9/25/24-10/4/24, and received 23 individual respondents.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Newspaper Ad	Non- targeted/broad community	Community needs assessment public notice posted in the Visalia Delta-Times newspaper on 8/27/24.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A
Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	On September 3, 2024, a City Council public hearing was held on the development of the ConPlan.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community  Other: Citizens Advisory Committee	On September 4, 2024, a Community meeting was held on the development of the ConPlan, and community needs assessment. 25 individuals attended.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On September 9, 2024, a virtual community meeting on the development of the ConPlan and community needs assessment. 10 individuals attended.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A

Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community Other: Organizations	On September 25, 2024, a focus group was held on the development of the ConPlan, and community needs assessment. 10 individuals attended from various organizations.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community Other: Organizations	On October 2, 2024, a focus group was held on the development of the ConPlan, and community needs assessment. 12 individuals attended from various organizations.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	On December 3, 2024, a City Council work session was held to discuss the development of the 5-year ConPlan.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Newspaper Ad	Non- targeted/broad community	30-day public comment period public notice was published in the Visalia Times Delta on 3/21/25 and 4/1/25.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A
Internet Outreach	Non- targeted/broad community	Draft 2025-2029 ConPlan and 2025 Action Plan were available on the City's website from 3/21/24 - 4/21/25.	No comments received.	N/A	www.visalia.city
Internet Outreach	Non- targeted/broad community	City social media posts on City's website news page, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A

Listserv Notice	Non- targeted/broad community	The Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance listserv notices.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A
Public Notices	Non- targeted/broad community	Public notices posted at the following city sites: City Hall, Community Development, Administrative Office, Recreation, Senior Center, and Visalia Transit from 3/21/25 - 4/21/25.	No comments received.	N/A	N/A
Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	Citizens Advisory Committee community meeting to review draft and obtain public comment held on 4/2/25.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Public Hearing	Non- targeted/broad community	Public Hearing to review draft 2025- 2029 ConPlan 2025 Action Plan and obtain public comment held on 4/7/25.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A
Public Hearing	Non- targeted/broad community	Public Hearing to approve the 2025-2029 ConPlan and 2025 Action Plan and authorize submission of the plan to HUD held on 4/21/25.	See Appendix B	N/A	N/A

#### **Needs Assessment**

#### **NA-05 Overview**

#### **Needs Assessment Overview**

The following is a summary of the City of Visalia's projected housing needs and non-housing needs for the coming five-year period. Housing data included in this portion of the plan has been collected from U.S. Census data, data as provided by HUD, CHAS 2017-2021 data, American Community Survey data (2019-2023 5-Year estimates), the region's Continuum of Care, the Housing Authority of Tulare County, and through consultation with social service agencies and other entities with whom the City partners.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) receives custom tabulations of American Community Survey (ACS) data from the U.S. Census Bureau. This data, known as the "CHAS" data (Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy), demonstrates the extent of housing problems and housing needs, particularly for low-income households. CHAS data included in the tables is from the ACS 2017-2021. The CHAS cross-references each income category with other data, such as, race/ethnicity, home tenure, household size, age of housing, number of vacant housing units, and, as described in the paragraph above, household problems:

- Units with physical defects (lacking complete kitchen or bathroom)
- Overcrowded conditions (housing units with more than one person per room)
- Housing cost burden, including utilities, exceeding 30 percent of gross income, and
- Severe housing cost burden, including utilities, exceeding 50 percent of gross income

Data regarding housing problems, as described above, is cross-referenced with the numbers of households earning low- to moderate- incomes.

The City of Visalia is located along State Highway 198, east of State Highway 99, in the southern portion of the agricultural San Joaquin Valley. Visalia is the oldest San Joaquin Valley town, and the largest in Tulare County, which has an overall population of 477,544.

Nathanial Vise, one of the original inhabitants of a fort built at Four Creeks – named after the watersheds and creeks which emptied in the area from the Sierra Nevada Mountains – was tasked with surveying the town. He envisioned the area becoming the capital seat of Tulare County, and one year later in 1853, Visalia did become the county seat. The City of Visalia takes its name from Visalia, Kentucky, the original home of Nathanial Vise, after whose family the Kentucky city was named.

The City of Visalia is located between Bakersfield and Fresno. The gold rush along the Kern River led to growth in Visalia. Many of its early inhabitants were gold miners who hailed from the South. Many failed miners stopped and remained in Visalia on their journeys home.

On September 15, 1857, John Butterfield, a businessman and financier out of Utica, New York, won a six-year, \$600,000-a-year contract to transport U.S. mail twice a week between St. Louis, Missouri, and San Francisco. To deliver the mail year-round, from St. Louis to San Francisco in 25 days, Butterfield's route went south through Texas, west through New Mexico Territory, passing Fort Yuma Arizona, and to Visalia before rolling on to San Francisco. Saloons and hotels were built near the stage stop which aided commerce.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Camp Babbit was constructed. The Camp was constructed by the federal government to quell sympathy for the Southern cause due to the number of Southern migrants residing in Visalia at the time. Union soldiers were not tasked with fighting but did keep order in the area. During this period, in 1874, Visalia was incorporated as a city with a common council and an ex-officio Mayor and President, and today is a charter city that operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City of Visalia continued to grow at a steady pace due to its livestock, railroads, hydroelectrical power and irrigation water, which makes the area very suitable for agriculture. Today, many of Visalia's historic downtown buildings comprise the Main Street shopping and dining district. Visalia is also located in close proximity to Sequoia National Park.

According to the 2019-2023 5-Year estimate from the American Community Survey (ACS), the population of Visalia is 142,649, up 0.9% and 14.6% from the 2020 (141,384) and 2010 (124,442) US Census, respectively. The US Census Bureau's Gazetteer Files show that Visalia has a total land area of 37.91 square miles. The City's Finance Department – Housing Division, is responsible for carrying out projects and programs with the use of funds received from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The US Census Bureau reported a slight decrease in average household size in Visalia from 3.00 to 2.99 from 2020 to 2022, compared to an average household size of 2.98 persons per household in 2010. These slight changes are likely indicative of household formation changes remaining relatively constant between 2010 through 2022. Across the same time period, housing stock increased by 9.9% in Visalia according to Esri, but slowed substantially between 2020 to 2022, with housing stock increasing only 0.2%, less than the city's annual average increase of 0.8% between 2010 and 2022.

Single-family homes within the City of Visalia make up 76.6% of all housing stock, while multifamily housing (2 units or more) makes up 19.9% of the housing stock. The remaining 3.5% is allocated to mobile homes (3.4% of housing stock) and boats, RVs, and vans (0.1% of housing stock). As of 2024, the median price of a home within Visalia is \$401,500, up 5.4% from 2023. According to CoStar and apartments.com, rents range from \$1,239 for a studio apartment to \$2,599 for a 4-bedroom apartment. Lower income households may be able to afford studio units; however, larger units and homeownership would likely not be affordable to lower income households.

A community's housing needs depend on different determining factors. For example, different age groups have distinct family types, sizes, and income levels, all of which correspond to different housing needs. Younger adults tend to seek apartments, condominiums, and single-family units that are proportionate to their typically smaller household sizes and more constrained finances.

Adults with children may seek larger single-family homes. As grown children begin to leave home, older adults and seniors often seek to trade their larger homes for smaller single-family homes and condominiums that are typically easier to maintain and afford. The largest age cohort for Visalia is persons between the ages 25 to 44 at 30.1%. Older adults (persons 45 and older) make up 33.3% of Visalia's population.

#### **Housing Needs Assessment**

According to CHAS 2017-2021, 35.4% (16,050) of Visalia's households earned incomes between zero and 80 percent of the area median income which are extremely low to moderate, according to HUD's income limits.

#### According to Table 9:

- Households with children six years old or younger account for 26.1% of total households below 80% AMI.
- 3,995 households are in the extremely low-income bracket, 4,720 are very low, and 7,335 are low-income
- 18.4% of extremely low to low-income (0-80% AMI) households contain at least one person 62-74 years of age and
- 17.2% percent of low-income households contain at least one-person age 75 or older.

Overall, the data shows two household types with the most need. Small family households at zero to 80% AMI make up 41.4% of total households in this income range, and families with children six years old or younger make up 26.1% of the total households in this income range.

#### Disproportionately Greater Need

#### Housing Problems

The data in Table 18 shows that for the extremely low-income bracket (0 to 30% AMI), 83.2 percent of the jurisdiction experienced housing problems. No individual group in this income bracket is experiencing housing problems disproportionate to the jurisdiction as a whole.

For the very low-income bracket (30 to 50% AMI), 83.8 percent of the jurisdiction experienced housing problems (Table 19), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

- Black/African American households
- American Indian, Alaska Native households

For the low-income bracket (50 to 80% AMI), 69.1 percent of the jurisdiction experienced housing problems (Table 210) and disproportionate need was experienced by:

• Black/African American households

For households earning incomes of 80% to 100% AMI, 35.9 percent of households in the jurisdiction experienced housing problems (Table 21). No individual group in this income bracket is experiencing housing problems disproportionate to the jurisdiction as a whole.

#### Severe Housing Problems

The data analysis shows that for the extremely low-income bracket (0% to 30% AMI), 74.1 percent of households in the jurisdiction as a whole experience severe housing problems (Table 18). No individual group in this income bracket is experiencing housing problems disproportionate to the jurisdiction as a whole.

For the very low-income bracket (30% to 50% AMI), 47.8 percent of households in the jurisdiction experienced severe housing problems (Table 24), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

• Black/African American households

For the low-income bracket (50% to 80% AMI), 22.9 percent of households in the jurisdiction as a whole experienced severe housing problems (Table 25), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

Black/African American households

For the 80% to 100% AMI income bracket, 12.4 percent of households in the jurisdiction as a

whole experienced severe housing problems (Table 26), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

Asian households

#### Homeless Nees Assessment

Visalia's share of homeless accounted for 53.66% (587) of the total homeless counted for Kings and Tulare Counties. Approximately, 19.6% were sheltered and 80.4% were unsheltered in Visalia on the night of the 2024 Point in Time count (January 21, 2024).

#### Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment

Data gathering and community outreach prioritized needs as follows:

#### Non-homeless Community Services

- Senior services
- Childcare
- Counseling services

#### Housing

- Affordable housing, both rental and mortgage
- Need for larger units
- Senior housing

#### Non-Housing Community Development Needs

- Priority needs identified for Public Facilities are, in order of priority, youth centers, park and recreational facilities, health facilities, senior centers, and childcare centers.
- Priority needs identified for Public Improvement are, in order of priority, street improvements, sidewalk improvements, and street lighting improvements.
- Priority needs identified for Community Services and Programs are, in order of priority, providing law enforcement services, providing fire protection services, and programs for atrisk youth
- Priority needs identified for Public Services included shelter and counseling, youth services, domestic violence services and, specific to homeless needs, emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing.

#### NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

#### **Summary of Housing Needs**

Several steps were taken to assess housing needs in Visalia. Analysis of current data shows a need for affordable housing for extremely low and very low-income households. Based upon the community outreach meetings, stakeholder interviews and surveys completed, housing needs identified are mortgage assistance, rental assistance, senior housing, and housing for the disabled. According to a windshield survey of housing conditions, there is also a need for rehabilitation for both renter and homeowner units. Additionally, priority homelessness needs include emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing.

Between 2010 and 2023, Visalia's population increased by 14.6%. According to ACS 2019-2023 5-Year estimates, Visalia's populace was estimated at 142,649 individuals. Visalia's population growth outpaced that of Tulare County, which stood at 7.3% for the same period. Visalia's household count has grown by 12.4% since 2010.

Table 6: Regional Population Growth Trends						
Jurisdiction	2010 Population	2020 Population	2023 Population	% Change 2010-2023	% Change 2020-2023	
City of Visalia	124,442	141,384	142,649	14.6%	0.9%	

**Source**: 2010 and 2020 Census, 2019-2023 5-Year ACS

Table 7: Household Growth					
2010	2023	Percent Change			
41,349	46,466	12.4%			

Source: 2010 Census (Base Year), 2019-2023 5-Year ACS

Since the mid- to late 20th century, poverty has fallen but income inequality has increased. As indicated in Table 8 below, the median household income for Visalia is \$79,952 based on the 2019-2023 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS) estimate. Since the 2010 US Census, the median household income has increased by 20.1%.

Table 8: City of Visalia-Median Household Income (2010-2023)					
Median Household Inco	ome	Paraant Changa			
2010	2023	Percent Change			
\$66,549	\$79,952	20.1%			

**Source:** 2010 US Census, 2019-2023 5-Year ACS

According to CHAS 2017-2021, 35.4% (16,050) of Visalia's households earned incomes between zero and 80 percent of the area median income-incomes that are extremely low to low, according to HUD's income limits.

#### According to Table 9:

- Households with children six years old or younger account for 26.1% of total households below 80% AMI.
- 3,995 households are in the extremely low-income bracket, 4,720 are very low, and 7,335 are low-income
- 18.4% of extremely low to low-income (0-80% AMI) households contain at least one person 62-74 years of age and

• 17.2% percent of low-income households contain at least one-person age 75 or older.

Overall, the data shows two household types with the most need. Small family households at zero to 80% AMI make up 41.4% of total households in this income range, and families with children six years old or younger make up 26.1% of the total households in this income range.

	Table 9: Total Households						
Household Type	0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI		
Total Households	3,995	4,720	7,335	5,070	24,260		
Small Family Households	1,145	1,960	3,535	2,005	11,960		
Large Family Households	695	685	885	970	3,440		
Household Contains at least one-person aged 62-74	758	1,040	1,150	1,395	5,785		
Household contains at least one-person aged 75+	615	825	1,320	615	1,880		
Households with one or more children aged 6 or younger	855	840	2,490	1,639	4,230		

Source: 2017-2021 CHAS

#### **Housing Needs Summary**

Tables 10 and 11 below contains the number of households earning incomes between zero and 100 percent of the area median income that are experiencing housing problems. Overall, renters experience housing problems more than homeowners and cost burden occurs more often than other problems, followed by overcrowding. Housing cost burden was the problem experienced most, by both owners and renters, followed by severe housing cost burden. Renters accounted for 58.0% of households experiencing housing cost burden and 53.4% of households experiencing severe housing cost burdens.

According to 2017-2021 CHAS (Table 10 and Table 11) a total of 1,325 households were overcrowded (between 1.01 and 1.5 per room) in Visalia, 67.6% of which were renters. Additionally, 530 renters experienced severe overcrowding (more than 1.51 persons per room) while only 90 owner occupied households experienced severe overcrowding.

Once again, renters experienced the problem of cost burden more so than owners. Of the 5,225 households that were severely cost burdened (those paying more than 50 percent of their income), 53.4% were renters and 46.6% owned their home (see Table 10 and Table 11). For cost burdened households (those paying more than 30% of their income towards housing), 58.0% were renter households and 42.0% were owner occupied households.

Renter households experience substandard housing (lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities) at a much greater rate than owner occupied households, accounting for 77.8% of households experiencing substandard housing. Of these renter households, 80 households had extremely low incomes, 85 were very low, 50 were low, and 65 were moderate income.

Table 1	0: Housing	Problems			
		Re	nter Occupi	ed	
Household Type	0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	80-100% HAMFI	Total
Substandard Housing-Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	80	85	50	65	280
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	75	205	140	110	530
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	240	255	265	135	895
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,595	820	365	10	2,790
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	200	1,360	1,870	415	3,845
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	295	0	0	0	295

Source: 2017-2021 CHAS

Table 1	Table 11: Housing Problems							
		Ow	ner Occupi	ed				
Household Type	0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	80-100% HAMFI	Total			
Substandard Housing-Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	0	0	80	0	80			
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	0	10	80	90			
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	100	110	85	135	430			
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	875	785	685	90	2,435			
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	165	330	1,520	775	2,790			
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	105	0	0	0	105			

#### Source: 2017-2021 CHAS

#### 1. Housing Problems

Households with one or more housing problems, as defined by HUD, include units which lack kitchen or complete plumbing, are overcrowded, or the residents are cost burdened. Additionally, severe housing problems are discussed in the following section.

In Visalia, of households earning incomes between zero and 100 percent of AMI, renters make up 55.9% of total households. Additionally, 8,345 Renter households in the 0-100% AMI bracket experience housing problems, while 5,825 owner households experience housing problems.

Table 12: Housing Problems (cont.)						
	Renter Occupied					
Household Type	0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	80-100% HAMFI	Total	
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	2,185	2,730	2,690	740	8,345	
Having none of four housing problems	465	240	1,060	1,700	3,465	
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	300	0	0	0	300	
		Ow	ner Occup	oied		
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	1,140	1,225	2,380	1,080	5,825	
Having none of four housing problems	205	525	1,205	1,550	3,485	
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	130	0	0	0	130	

Source: 2017-2021 CHAS

#### Cost Burden

As illustrated in Table 13, renter households that are 0-80% AMI account for a larger portion than owner households in this income bracket with cost burden. Small related households, both renter and owner occupied, are the household type with the largest number of households with cost burden. Other household types and large families were two other household types that have a large number of cost burdened renter-occupied households. For owner occupied households with cost burden, the second two largest household types after small families, were elderly families and elderly non-families.

The number of households that have severe cost burden, housing costs greater than 50 percent of household income, are similar to households with cost burden. The number of renter occupied households with severe cost burden are greater than the number of owner-occupied households with cost burden (Table 14). Most severely cost burdened households are those earning below 50% AMI. Small family households for renters and Elderly Non-Family for owner-occupied households, have the most severe cost burden. For owner occupied households, small family and elderly non-family households also have a high share of households that are severely cost burdened.

Table 13: Cost Burden > 30%				
Renter Occupied				
0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	Total	
145	85	260	490	
680	1,300	1,385	3,365	
460	375	185	1,020	
360	390	90	840	
515	495	520	1,530	
2,160	2,645	2,440	7,245	
Owner Occupied				
95	290	340	725	
295	470	1,145	1,910	
115	125	265	505	
365	190	395	950	
230	85	160	475	
1,100	1,160	2,305	4,565	
	0-30% HAMFI 145 680 460 360 515 2,160 95 295 115 365 230	Renter Occ  0-30% 30-50% HAMFI HAMFI  145 85  680 1,300  460 375 360 390 515 495 2,160 2,645  Owner Occ  95 290  295 470  115 125 365 190 230 85	Renter Occupied           0-30% HAMFI         30-50% HAMFI         50-80% HAMFI           145         85         260           680         1,300         1,385           460         375         185           360         390         90           515         495         520           2,160         2,645         2,440           Owner Occupied           95         290         340           295         470         1,145           115         125         265           365         190         395           230         85         160	

Source: 2017-2021 CHAS

Table 14: Cost Burden > 50%					
	Renter Occupied				
Household Type	0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	Total	
Elderly Family (2 persons, with either or both age 62 or over)	125	25	85	235	
Small Family (2 persons, neither person 62 years or over, or 3 or 4 persons)	605	410	225	1240	
Large Family (5 or more persons)	380	165	20	565	
Elderly Non-Family	300	235	25	560	
Other Household Type (non-elderly, non-family)	460	180	55	695	
Total Need by Income	1,870	1,015	410	3,295	
	Owner Occupied				
Elderly Family (2 persons, with either or both age 62 or over)	50	260	225	535	
Small Family (2 persons, neither person 62 years or over, or 3 or 4 persons)	285	280	135	700	
Large Family (5 or more persons)	115	45	10	170	
Elderly Non-Family	280	130	315	725	
Other Household Type (non-elderly, non-family)	205	85	0	290	
Total Need by Income	935	800	685	2,420	

Source: 2017-2021 CHAS

#### Crowding

As illustrated in Table 15, of households earning between zero and 100% AMI, renter occupied households experience overcrowding, meaning more than one person per room, at nearly three times the rate of owner-occupied households (1,429 compared to 525). Single family households is the largest household type that is experiencing crowding in both renter and owner-occupied households. There is only a small percentage of multiple, unrelated family households and other non-family households experiencing crowding, and most of these households are renter households.

Table 15: Crowding Information 1-2 (More than one person per room)					
	Renter Occupied				
Household Type	0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	80-100% HAMFI	Total
Single Family Households	315	430	355	150	1,250
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	30	50	39	119
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	60	60
Total need by Income	315	460	405	249	1,429
	Owner Occupied				
Single Family Households	65	110	75	215	465
Multiple, unrelated family households	40	0	20	0	60
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by Income	105	110	95	215	525

Source: CHAS 2017-2021

Table 16: Crowding Information 2-2					
	Renter Occupied				
Household Type	0-30% HAMFI	30-50% HAMFI	50-80% HAMFI	80-100% HAMFI	Total
Households with Children Present	670	610	1,450	809	3,539
	Owner Occupied				
Households with Children Present	185	230	1,040	805	2,260

Source: CHAS 2017-2021

### Describe the number and type of single-person households in need of housing assistance.

There are 9,018 one-person households, accounting for 19.4% of total occupied housing units, according to the 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. Almost half of those households (45.3%) are seniors aged 65 and older, who may need multiple types of housing assistance as they age and may have a fixed income. Of all one-person households, 15.6% (1,411 people) were below poverty level, which is slightly higher than the poverty level in the city, of 11.3%. Although the ACS does not provide additional detailed information on single person households, there are likely single person households in need of housing assistance due to their age and/or poverty status.

## Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

According to the 2024 Kings/Tulare Counties Point-in-Time survey, of the 1,672 homeless respondents for both counties, 33.2% were considered severely mentally ill and 34.8% had chronic substance abuse issues. Approximately one third of Visalia's homeless population, including sheltered and unsheltered (approximately 226 persons) reported a disabling condition. Additionally, of the homeless persons surveyed in the Counties of Kings and Tulare, 196 persons (11.0%) reported they were victims of domestic abuse.

Central California Legal Services ("CCLS") is a non-profit, public interest law firm that provides civil legal assistance to low-income populations in the San Joaquin Valley. CCLS serves eligible clients in Tulare County, and several other counties for health-related cases. Legal services may be provided in the areas of health, housing, domestic violence, utilities, employment law, elder' law, immigration, and public benefits. CCLS's client community lacks safe, healthy, and affordable housing. A major portion of CCLS's client community consists of households at or below the 125% Federal Poverty Level ("FPL"), which is approximately 30% Area Median Income ("AMI") for Tulare County.

The Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) reported that 58 tenants of Public Housing are disabled and 451 utilize the tenant-based Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) from HUD. HATC reported that, for non-elderly disabled tenants, 10 use the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing voucher (HUDVASH) (see Table 2930).

The 2024 Point in Time count reported that 202 homeless clients have a mental illness, and 226 homeless clients have a disabling condition in Visalia. Additionally, 92 people interviewed in the Point in Time count were homeless due to mental health issues or domestic violence.

#### What are the most common housing problems?

Housing cost burden was the problem experienced most, by both owners and renters, followed by severe housing cost burden. Renters accounted for 58.0% of households experiencing housing cost burden and 53.4% of households experiencing severe housing cost burdens.

Households earning zero to 30 percent AMI experience the most cost burden. Small, related households that are renters experience the most cost burden out of other categories. Renters also experience overcrowding more than homeowners.

### Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

As discussed above, renters tend to experience housing problems more often than homeowners, especially renters in the zero to 30 percent of AMI income bracket.

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance.

Total Households with household income of zero to 80 percent of AMI, with one or more children

6 years old or younger is 4,185, or 26.1% of households with incomes that are low to moderate (see Table 9). This accounts for 9.2 percent of total households in Visalia. The data shows that 855 households earning 0-30% AMI have a child present.

The total number of families on the HATC waiting list for public housing is 16,132, of which 8,568 are families with children. The number of families on the HATC waiting list for public housing who are Extremely Low-income (0-30% AMI) is 11,333; the number of Very Low-income (31-50% AMI) is 3,143, and Low-income (51-80% AMI) is 1,212.

Table 17: Demographics of HATC Waiting Lists						
Household Type	Housing Choice Voucher - County	Public Housing - Visalia	Project Based Rental Assistance			
Number of Families on Waiting List	13,844	16,132	320			
Extremely Low-income (0-30% AMI)	9,233	11,333	213			
Very Low-income (31-50% AMI)	3,009	3,143	72			
Low-income (51-80% AMI)	1,135	1,212	27			
Families with Children	7,748	8,568	11			
Elderly Families	1,063	1,608	265			
Families with Disabilities	3,281	3,852	188			
Waiting List by Race						
White	10,193	12,987	270			
Black	2,250	1,856	28			
Asian	344	318	11			
American Indian/Native Hawaiian	1,057	971	11			
Waiting List by Ethnicity						
Hispanic	8,255	9,728	127			
Non-Hispanic	5,589	6,404	193			

Source: Housing Authority of Tulare County, 2024

Central California Legal Services (CCLS) is a non-profit, public interest law firm that provides assistance to low-income populations in the County of Tulare. CCLS provides legal services related to health, housing, domestic violence, and more. CCLS reports that a large portion of their client community consists of households that are at or below 30% of the AMI for Tulare County and that many low-income families must remain in substandard housing due to their inability to relocate. Individuals and families displaced by natural disasters and hazards also create a need for housing assistance, according to CCLS.

According to the Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance (the region's Continuum of Care), many households enrolled in rapid re-housing do not receive enough income to maintain housing once they exit the program. The Alliance reports that because of the poverty issue in Tulare County, those earning low incomes are unable to sustain housing.

## If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates.

Extremely low-income (ELI) households are defined as those households with incomes under 30 percent of the area median income. Extremely low-income households typically consist of minimum wage workers, seniors on fixed incomes, the disabled, and farmworkers. This income group is likely to live in overcrowded and substandard housing conditions. This group of households has specific housing needs that require greater government subsidies and

assistance, housing with supportive services, single room occupancy (SRO) and or shared housing, and/or rental subsidies or vouchers. In recent years, rising rents, higher income requirements and credit standards imposed by landlords, and insufficient government assistance has exacerbated the problem. Without adequate assistance, this group has a high risk of homelessness.

## Specify housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

Rent is unaffordable for people with extremely low incomes (at or below 30% AMI). There are 3,995 households in Visalia with extremely low incomes as shown in Table 9. Without resources to assist them, a lack of affordable units could potentially put extremely low-income households at risk of homelessness.

### **Discussion**

Housing costs have the potential to cause housing problems in a community. If housing costs are high, relative to household income, there will be higher cases of cost burden and overcrowding. This section summarizes cost and affordability for the City of Visalia. Data from the American Community Survey shows a 46.9% increase in median home value between 2010 and 2023 and a 53% increase in contract rent during the same period.

The high cost of home ownership makes it prohibitive for low-income households to purchase housing in Visalia. Affordable rent for a 3-bedroom unit, in the City for a four-person household with low-income is \$1,953. According to the 2019-2023 5-Year ACS estimate, the median contract rent is \$1,162. According to CHAS 2017-2021, 1,265 households have an income of less than 30 percent of the AMI; an affordable rent to four-person household earning an extremely low-income is \$867, making the average rental in the City unaffordable to these households.

According to Table 12, 58.9% (8,345) of low to moderate income households in the City are renters that experience one or more housing problem; 41.1% (5,825) of low to moderate income households in the City that own their home experience one or more housing problem. Overall, the problem most experienced is cost burden, as shown in Table 11, 35.9% (5,225) of all households (Renter and Owner Occupied) experiencing housing problems have a severe cost burden (housing cost burden greater than 50% of income).

## NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

This section identifies any racial or ethnic group(s) that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the jurisdiction as a whole.

#### Introduction

A key task of the Consolidated Plan is identification of racial or ethnic groups that may experience a disproportionately greater extent of housing problems in the community. A disproportionately greater need exists when the members of racial or ethnic group at a given income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (percent change of 10 or more) than the income level as a whole.

HUD identifies four housing problems:

- 1. Housing unit lacking complete kitchen facilities
- 2. Housing unit lacking complete plumbing facilities
- 3. Overcrowded with more than 1 person per room not including bathrooms, porches, foyers, halls, or half-rooms.
- 4. Cost burdened, with household paying more than 30 percent of income toward housing costs (including utilities)

The data in Table 18shows that for the extremely low-income bracket (0 to 30% AMI), 83.2 percent of the jurisdiction experienced housing problems. No individual group in this income bracket is experiencing housing problems disproportionate to the jurisdiction as a whole.

For the very low-income bracket (30 to 50% AMI), 83.8 percent of the jurisdiction experienced housing problems (Table 19), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

- Black/African American households
- American Indian. Alaska Native households

For the low-income bracket (50 to 80% AMI), 69.1 percent the jurisdiction experienced housing problems (Table 20) and disproportionate need was experienced by:

• Black/African American households

For households earning incomes 80% to 100% AMI, 35.9 percent of households in the jurisdiction experienced housing problems (Table 21). No individual group in this income bracket is experiencing housing problems disproportionate to the jurisdiction as a whole.

Table 18: Housing Problems 0%-30% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Has one or more of four housing problems*	Household has no housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,325	670	83.2%			
White	1,455	225	86.6%			
Black / African American	95	25	79.2%			
Asian	175	125	58.3%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	4	71.4%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	1,545	285	84.4%			

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Table 19: Housing Problems 30%-50% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Has one or more of four housing problems*	Household has no housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,955	765	83.8%			
White	1,395	465	75.0%			
Black / African American	195	0	100.0%			
Asian	135	45	75.0%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	30	0	100.0%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	2,115	245	89.6%			

Source: CHAS 2017-2021

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Table 20: Housing Problems 50%-80% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Has one or more of four housing problems*	Household has no housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	5,070	2265	69.1%			
White	1,610	850	65.4%			
Black / African American	59	0	100.0%			
Asian	95	80	54.3%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	4	50.0%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	3,185	1200	72.6%			

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Table 21: Housing Problems 80%-100% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Has one or more of four housing problems*	Household has no housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,820	3250	35.9%			
White	1,085	1575	40.8%			
Black / African American	10	40	20.0%			
Asian	80	110	42.1%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0.0%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	625	1450	30.1%			

Source: CHAS 2017-2021

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Table 22: Housing Problems 0%-100% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Has one or more of four housing problems*	Household has no housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	14,170	6,950	67.1%			
White	5,545	3,115	64.0%			
Black / African American	359	65	84.7%			
Asian	485	360	57.4%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	44	8	84.6%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	7,470	3,180	70.1%			
Total	28,073	13,678	67.2%			

## **Discussion**

The data analysis for households experiencing housing problems revealed that some racial/ethnic groups in select income brackets experienced housing problems disproportionately. For the very low-income bracket (30% to 50%), Black/African American and American Indian/Alaska Native households experienced disproportionate need. In the category 50% to 80% AMI, one group, Black/African American, experienced disproportionate need.

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

## NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

This section identifies any racial or ethnic group(s) that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the jurisdiction as a whole.

#### Introduction

A disproportionately greater need exists when households in a given racial or ethnic group at a given income level experience severe housing problems at a greater rate (10 percentage points or more) than the households in that income level as a whole.

HUD identifies four severe housing problems:

- 1. Housing unit lacking complete kitchen facilities
- 2. Housing unit lacking complete plumbing facilities
- 3. Overcrowded with more than 1.5 persons per room not including bathrooms, porches, foyers, halls, or half-rooms.
- 4. Cost burdened, with household paying more than 50 percent of income toward housing costs (including utilities)

The data analysis shows that for the extremely low-income bracket (0% to 30% AMI), 74.1 percent of households in the jurisdiction as a whole experience severe housing problems (Table 23). No individual group in this income bracket is experiencing housing problems disproportionate to the jurisdiction as a whole.

For the very low-income bracket (30% to 50% AMI), 47.8 percent of households in the jurisdiction experienced severe housing problems (Table 24), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

Black/African American households

For the low-income bracket (50% to 80% AMI), 22.9 percent of households in the jurisdiction as a whole experienced severe housing problems (Table 25), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

Black/African American households

For the 80% to 100% AMI income bracket, 12.4 percent of households in the jurisdiction as a whole experienced severe housing problems (Table 26), and disproportionate need was experienced by:

Asian households

Table 23: Severe Housing Problems 0%-30% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Households experiencing severe housing problems	Household has no severe housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,965	1,035	74.1%			
White	1,330	355	78.9%			
Black / African American	60	60	50.0%			
Asian	150	145	50.8%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	4	71.4%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	1,380	455	75.2%			

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 50%

Table 24: Severe Housing Problems 30%-50% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Households experiencing severe housing problems	Household has no severe housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,255	2,460	47.8%			
White	905	960	48.5%			
Black / African American	155	40	79.5%			
Asian	50	130	27.8%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	15	20	42.9%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	1,110	1,250	47.0%			

Source: CHAS 2017-2021

\*The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 50%

Table 25: Severe Housing Problems 50%-80% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Households experiencing severe housing problems	Household has no severe housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,680	5,655	22.9%			
White	560	1,900	22.8%			
Black / African American	30	29	50.8%			
Asian	50	130	27.8%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	10	0.0%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	1,030	3,345	23.5%			

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 50%

Table 26: Severe Housing Problems 80%-100% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic Makeup	Households experiencing severe housing problems	Household has no severe housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	630	4,440	12.4%			
White	235	2,425	8.8%			
Black / African American	10	40	20.0%			
Asian	70	120	36.8%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0.0%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	325	1,755	15.6%			

Source: CHAS 2017-2021

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 50%

Table 27: Severe Housing Problems 0%-100% AMI						
Racial/Ethnic makeup	Households experiencing severe housing problems	Household has no severe housing problems or cost burden not computed*	Percent of Households experiencing severe housing problems			
Jurisdiction as a whole	7,530	13,590	35.7%			
White	3,030	5,640	34.9%			
Black / African American	255	169	60.1%			
Asian	320	525	37.9%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	25	34	42.4%			
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%			
Hispanic	3,845	6,805	36.1%			
Total	15,005	26,763	35.9%			

### Discussion

The data analysis for households experiencing severe housing problems revealed that two racial/ethnic groups in these income brackets experienced severe housing problems disproportionately. For the very low-income bracket (30% to 50%), one group, Black/African American households experienced disproportionate need. For the low-income bracket (50%-80%), one group, Black/African American households experienced disproportionate need. In the category 80% to 100% AMI, one group, Asian households, experienced disproportionate need. As shown in Table 27, across these income levels (0% to 100% AMI), Black/African American households are disproportionately impacted compared to other racial/ethnic groups.

<sup>\*</sup>The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 50%

## NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

This section assesses the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the jurisdiction as a whole.

## **Housing Cost Burden**

The CHAS data shows that 13.4% of households in the jurisdiction are severely cost burdened. The race/ethnicity group experiencing disproportionate need is Black/African American, with 25% of these households being severely cost burdened (nearly 12 points higher than the jurisdiction as a whole).

Table 28: Greater Need - Housing Cost Burdens AMI							
Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No/negative income (not computed)	Cost Burdened	Severely Cost Burdened	
Jurisdiction as a whole	29,435	8,605	5,965	424	19.4%	13.4%	
White	15,055	3,460	2,720	100	16.2%	12.7%	
Black / African American	405	200	210	25	23.8%	25.0%	
Asian	1,480	180	240	110	9.0%	11.9%	
American Indian, Alaska Native	85	45	25	4	28.3%	15.7%	
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	
Hispanic	12,410	4,720	2,770	185	23.5%	13.8%	

Source: CHAS 2017-2021

### Discussion

The data shows that an estimated 13.4 percent of households in the City are severely cost burdened, and 19.4% are cost burdened.

Only one race/ethnicity group, according to Table 28, is experiencing disproportionate need: Black/African American at 25.0 percent having severe cost burden.

## NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

# Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

The CHAS data in NA-15, NA-20, and NA-25 (Tables 18-28) show that three racial/ethnic groups experienced housing problems disproportionately as compared to the jurisdiction as a whole for given income groups. Black/African American, American Indian/Alaska Native groups experienced the most disproportionate housing problems in relation to the Asian group.

NA-15, which assesses disproportionate needs of racial/ethnic groups based on a disproportionate share of the group having a housing problem when compared to the jurisdiction as a whole, found that some racial/ethnic groups in select income brackets did experience housing problems disproportionately. Housing problems are defined as:

- 1. Housing unit lacking complete kitchen facilities
- 2. Housing unit lacking complete plumbing facilities
- 3. Overcrowded with more than 1 person per room not including bathrooms, porches, foyers, halls, or half-rooms.
- 4. Cost burdened, with household paying more than 30 percent of income toward housing costs (including utilities)

For the very low-income bracket (30% to 50%), Black/African American and American Indian/Alaska Native households experienced disproportionate need. In the category 50% to 80% AMI, one group, Black/African American, experienced disproportionate need. There were no disproportionate needs experienced in the 0% to 30% or 80% to 100% AMI groups.

NA-20, which performs the same analysis as NA-15 but focuses on severe housing problems, also found disproportionate needs for some income groups. Severe housing problems are the same as housing problems, except that the overcrowding threshold is 1.5 persons per room, and cost burden is defined as a household paying more than 50 percent of income toward housing costs.

Two racial/ethnic groups experienced severe housing problems disproportionately. For both the very low-income bracket (30% to 50%) and low-income bracket (50% to 80%), Black/African American households experienced disproportionate need. In the category 80% to 100% AMI, Asian households experienced disproportionate need. Across income levels (0% to 100% AMI), Black/African American households were disproportionately impacted compared to other racial/ethnic groups.

NA-25 assesses disproportionate need for racial/ethnic groups based on the share of housing cost burden for each group. An estimated 13.4 percent of households in the City are severely cost burdened, and 19.4% are cost burdened. Only one race/ethnicity group is experiencing disproportionate need: Black/African American, with 25.0 percent having severe cost burden.

## If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

All races and ethnicities in the City experience cost burden and other housing problems. Other problems include difficulty obtaining housing through lending, racial discrimination when searching for rental housing, and high concentrations of both minorities and low incomes.

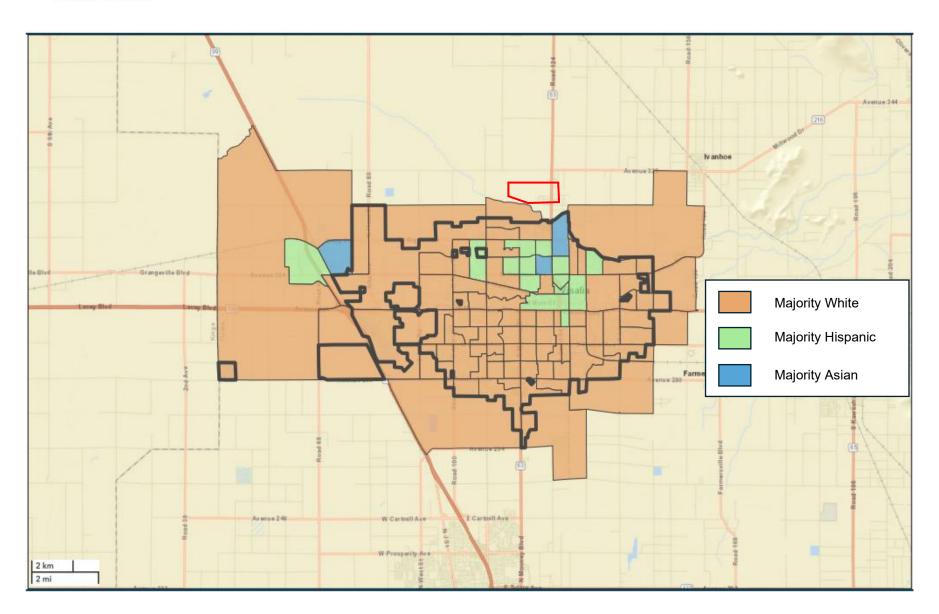
## Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

Map 1 shows minority concentrations at the block group level. Tract 11 is Visalia's racially and ethnically concentrated area of poverty. A concentration is a non-White population of 50 percent or more. Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPs) must also have a non-White population of 50 percent or more. Regarding the poverty threshold, Wilson (1980) defines neighborhoods of "extreme poverty" as census tracts with 40 percent or more of individuals living at or below the poverty line. See the map for race/ethnicity below.

According to U.S. Census American Fact Finder (2022), Map 1, Minority Concentrations, the R/ECAP (Census Tract 11 outlined in red) has a Hispanic population of 79.4%.



## Minority Concentrations by Block Group



## **NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)**

#### Introduction

There are currently 166 public housing units in the City of Visalia, which include a mix of 1, 2, 3, and 4-bedroom single-family homes.

The Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) is the governing body of the Housing Choice voucher program and Public Housing within Tulare County as well as the City of Visalia. These programs work to provide rental assistance to extremely low and very low-income households. Income qualifying residents pay 30 to 40% of their adjusted gross income (AGI) towards rent, while HUD pays the remaining portion of the rent directly to the landlord on behalf of the resident. In total, HATC provides 1,123 vouchers to residents across the county to help extremely low- and low-income households maintain rental affordability.

The federal Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program provides rental assistance to very low-income households for housing. According to the Housing Authority of Tulare County the average annual income for a Project Based Voucher participant in Visalia is \$17,249. Rent (as of 10/2024) in Visalia, ranges from \$1,120 for a studio apartment to \$2,366 for a unit with four or more bedrooms, which, if not for the HCV program, would require anywhere from 78% to 164.6% of monthly household income to go toward a rent payment.

Housing data available from the Tulare County Housing Authority indicates that the agency administers 1,123 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. Of that total, 510 or about 45.4% of the vouchers are held by disabled families. The percentage of current voucher households with disabilities makes evident the need for affordable housing for individuals with disabilities.

### Totals in Use

Table 29: Program Type						
		Section 8 Vouchers				
	Public Housing	Total	Project Based Vouchers	Tenant Based Vouchers	Special Purpose - VASH	
Total Units/Vouchers in Use	166	1,123	63	1,040	20	

Source: Housing Authority of Tulare County, 2024

## **Characteristics of Residents**

Table 30: Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type								
					Sec	tion 8 Vouc	hers	
	Certificate	Mod- Rehab	Public Housing	Total	Project Based Vouchers	Tenant Based Vouchers	Special Purpose - VASH	Special Purpose - Family Unification
Average Annual Income	-	-	\$37,035	\$25,192	\$17,249	\$25,928	\$16,055	-
Average Length of Stay	-	-	4.95	4.61	1.9	4.8	3.71	-
Average Household Size	-	-	3	2.08	1	2	1	-
# Homeless at Admission	-	-	170	1,123	63	1,040	20	-
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	-	-	29	498	58	427	13	-
# of Disabled Families	-	-	58	510	49	451	10	-
# of Families Requesting Accessibility Features	-	-	12	33	2	30	1	-
# of HIV/AIDS Program Participants	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
# of DV Victims	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-

Source: Housing Authority of Tulare County, 2024

## Race and Ethnicity of Residents

Table 31: Breakdown by Race									
				Section 8 Vouchers					
	0 45	Mod-	Public		Burtus 4		Special Purpose		
	Certificate	Rehab	Housing	Total	Project Based Vouchers	Tenant Based Vouchers	VASH	Family Unification	
White	0	0	147	1,029	58	945	26	0	
Black/African American	0	0	13	81	5	75	1	0	
Asian	0	0	3	21	1	20	0	0	
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0	8	0	8	0	0	
Pacific Islander	0	0	2	4	0	4	0	0	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Hispanic	0	0	120	654	29	618	7	0	
Non-Hispanic	0	0	45	489	35	434	20	0	

Source: Housing Authority of Tulare County, 2024

Table 32: Demographics of HATC Waiting Lists						
	Housing Choice	Public Housing	Project Based			
	Voucher - County	- Visalia	Rental Assistance			
Number of Families on Waiting List	13,844	16,132	320			
Extremely Low-income (0-30% AMI)	9,233	11,333	213			
Very Low-income (31-50% AMI)	3,009	3,143	72			
Low-income (51-80% AMI)	1,135	1,212	27			
Families with Children	7,748	8,568	11			
Elderly Families	1,063	1,063 1,608				
Families with Disabilities	3,281	3,852	188			
	Waiting List by Rac	е				
White	10,193	12,987	270			
Black	2,250	1,856	28			
Asian	344	318	11			
American Indian/Native Hawaiian	1,057	971	11			
Waiting List by Ethnicity						
Hispanic	8,255	9,728	127			
Non-Hispanic	5,589	6,404	193			

Source: Housing Authority of Tulare County, 2024

## Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units.

The Visalia Area Manager for the Housing Authority for Tulare County maintains a separate waiting list for accessible Public Housing units in the City of Visalia. As an accessible unit becomes available, preference is given to physically handicapped applicants on the accessible units' waiting list. There are a total of 11 accessible units in public housing stock in the City of Visalia. Currently, there are no households on the accessible units' waiting list for the public housing units in Visalia.

## Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders.

Public Housing households have an average income of \$37,035; this presents the economic hardship that most program participants endure. Public housing programs in Visalia work to encourage and facilitate self-sufficiency. However, program participants continue to lack adequate access to employment opportunities that will enable them to achieve higher incomes. Enhancing economic opportunities within the area is a critical need for public housing and Section 8 HCV program participants.

## How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large?

A great need exists for Visalia residents that are not living in public housing or using Housing Choice Vouchers, especially because of possible rent fluctuations and housing cost burdens. As mentioned in Table 9, according to CHAS 2017-2021 data, 35.4% (16,050) of Visalia's households are low-income, earning incomes between zero and 80 percent of the area median income. Of total households in Visalia 8.8% (3,995) of households are extremely low-income (0-30% AMI); 10.4% (4,720) are very low-income (30-50% AMI); 16.2% (7,335) are 50-80% AMI. In addition, 11.5% of total households experience housing cost burden greater than 50% of income and 14.6% experience housing cost burden greater than 30% of income. Households utilizing public housing or housing choice vouchers only account for 2.8% of total households in Visalia.

### Discussion

In response to the great need for housing affordable to low-income households, the City is dedicated in continuing to support the construction of new affordable units and preservation of existing affordable units through the Consolidated Plan process and other resources identified.

## NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

## Introduction

The "Annual Homeless Assessment Report ("AHAR") to Congress" prepared by HUD provides the best and most comprehensive insight into the current state of homelessness in the United States. It should be noted that the 2021 national Point-in-Time ("PIT") counts were considerably impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. During the public health crisis, HUD encouraged communities to determine whether conducting an unsheltered PIT count posed a high risk of exacerbating COVID-19 transmissions, given the lack of widespread access to COVID-19 vaccines at the time. As a result, less than half of communities conducted a full sheltered and unsheltered count.

The Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance ("KTHA") conducts a Point-in-Time (PIT) count within Kings and Tulare County, and further breaks down the data by city, including the City of Visalia. The following homeless information for Tulare County and the City of Visalia is taken from the KTHA 2024 Point in Time Report, which was conducted on the night of January 22-23, 2024. In Visalia, there were 564 homeless individuals on any given night in 2024.

Table 33: Homeless Populations, City of Visalia						
Sub-group	Number of Individuals	Percentage of All Homeless Individuals				
Unsheltered	472	80.4%				
Emergency Shelter	78	13.3%				
Transitional Housing	37	6.3%				
Veterans	37	6.6%				
Disabled	226	38.5%				
Unaccompanied Youth	32	5.5%				

	Table 34: Homeless Needs Assessment							
	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night Unsheltered Sheltered		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness		
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	42	54	1908	656	170	96		
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	0	2	2	2	unknown		
Persons in Households with Only Adults	973	191	2829	1961	375	99		
Chronically Homeless Individuals	364	23	893	673	132	105		
Chronically Homeless Families	unknown	unknown	153	57	25	145		
Veterans	58	8	110	73	27	91		
Persons with HIV	10	1	47	22	6	unknown		

Source: Kings United Way, Tulare County

## Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families and children and the families of veterans.

Across the entire homeless population in Visalia, 36 were between the ages of 18 and 24, 23 were under the age of 18, and 528 were over the age of 24. There were 32 homeless unaccompanied youth and overall, the study indicated that across all households there were 587 homeless persons.

## Describe the nature and extent of homelessness by racial and ethnic group.

Of the 587 homeless individuals in Visalia:

- 249 were Hispanic/Latino (42.4%)
- 302 were non-Hispanic/non-Latino (51.4%)
- 36 were an unknown ethnicity (6.1%)
- 189 were female (32.2%)
- 376 were male (64.1%)

The city of Visalia shall not use grant funds to promote "gender ideology," as defined in Executive Order (E.O.) 14168, Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government.

## Describe the nature and extent of unsheltered and sheltered homelessness.

In the 2024 PIT count identified 472 individuals that were unsheltered, which accounted for 80% Visalia's homeless population. Additionally, 78 people in emergency shelter and 37 people in transitional housing were reported.

Table 35: Breakdown by Race						
Sub-group	Number of Individuals	Percentage of All Homeless Individuals				
Black/African-American	29	4.9%				
White	360	61.3%				
Asian	8	1.4%				
American Indian/Alaskan Native	40	6.8%				
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	3	1.2%				
Middle Eastern	2	0.3%				
Unknown	36	6.1%				

Table 36: Homeless Needs Assessment						
	Unsheltered	Sheltered				
White	509	158				
Black/African American	69	18				
Asian	12	3				
American Indian or Alaska Native	84	14				
Pacific Islander	12	2				
Ethnicity:						
Hispanic	509	143				
Non-Hispanic		·				

Source: Kings United Way, Tulare County

**Note:** Hispanic was considered a race category within the CoC's PIT Count Reporting and Clients can identify as more than one race. Not included in the table is 1 Sheltered and 2 Unsheltered Middle Eastern Clients, as well as 64 unsheltered Clients with unknown race.

	Table 37: City of Visalia Point in Time Trends (2016-2024)							
Year	Number of Homeless Individuals	% Change	Number of Chronically Homeless Individuals	% Change				
2016	322	-	78	-				
2017	410	27.3%	130	66.7%				
2018	462	12.7%	115	-11.5%				
2019	481	4.1%	111	-3.5%				
2020	540	12.3%	167	50.5%				
2021*	-	-	-	-				
2022	469	-	108	-				
2023	434	-7.5%	133	23.1%				
2024	587	26.06%	152	12.5%				
Average	412	12.5%	110	23.0%				

<sup>\*</sup>Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, data was not collected for 2021.

## **Discussion**

See above.

## NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b, d)

## Introduction

Populations with special needs may have more difficulty finding housing and may require specialized services or assistance. Because of their circumstances, they are more likely to have lower incomes and often have a relatively higher cost of living. These groups include the elderly, large households, single-parent-headed (female and male) households, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, and developmental), and persons with HIV/AIDS.

## Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community

Special needs populations in the City include the senior and elderly population, persons with disabilities, large households, single parent households, and persons with HIV/AIDS.

## Seniors and Elderly

HUD defines elderly as age 62 and older, while the U.S. Census commonly defines elderly as age 65 and older. The population 65 and over represents approximately 12.7 percent of the City's total population, amounting to 18,183 individuals.

Table 38: Senior Profile							
2020 Senior Pop. (% of Total Pop.) <sup>1</sup>	Pop. (% of	Percent Change (2020-2023)	With a Disability <sup>2</sup>	% of Senior Households with LMI <sup>3</sup>	% of Senior Households with Housing Problems <sup>3</sup>		
17,512	18,183	+3.8%	34.2%	32%	53%		

Data Sources: 1) ACS 2016-2020 5-Year Estimate; 2) ACS 2019-2023 5-Year Estimate

According to the City's Housing Element, senior households face unique housing challenges. Those who receive fixed retirement incomes may not receive enough to cover the cost of utilities, repairs, and housing insurance. Further, seniors who are no longer able to drive may need alternative forms of transportation, such as public transit, ride sharing, and safe walking routes.

#### Persons with Disabilities

According to 2019-2023 5-Year ACS estimates, disabled persons make up approximately 11.7 percent of all persons in the City. The City owns and operates 9 accessible public housing units.

According to the City's Housing Element, persons with disabilities may require unique housing accommodations. These housing modifications may include wheelchair ramps, elevators, and modified fixtures and appliances. Additionally, persons with disabilities who receive social security income as their primary source of income may have trouble paying for market-rate housing.

## Large Households

Large households are defined by HUD as having five or more members. These households are usually families with three or more children, or households that have extended family members such as in-laws or grandparents present. According to 2019-2023 5-Year ACS estimates, there are 8,186 large households in the City, representing 17.6% of all households.

Large households are a special needs group because the availability of adequately sized, affordable housing units is often limited. In order to save for necessities beyond housing, such as food, clothing and medical care, some large families may be forced to reside in smaller units, resulting in overcrowding.

## Single Parent Households

Single parent households with children may sometimes require special accommodations in housing. Due to the likelihood of only one income to support a family, single parent households often require special consideration and assistance because of their need for affordable housing, along with paying for accessible daycare, health care and other supportive services for their families. Because of their lower incomes and higher living expenses, female-headed households with children have even more limited opportunities to find affordable, decent and safe housing.

For the City, according to 2019-2023 5-Year ACS Estimates, there are 11,718 single parent households. Of these households, 67.2% (7,876 households) were female-headed.

### Persons with HIV/AIDS

Persons with HIV/AIDS sometimes face biases and misunderstanding about their illness that affect their access to housing. In addition, persons with HIV/AIDS may also be targets for hate crimes, which include crimes committed because of hatred directed toward an assumed sexual orientation. The National Commission on AIDS states that up to half of all Americans with AIDS are either homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless because of illness, lack of income or other resources, or a weak support network.

The California HIV Surveillance Report-2022 published by the California Department of Public Health, Center for Infectious Diseases in Sacramento, California on March 13, 2022, reported a total of 586 individuals living with HIV/AIDS in the County of Tulare. Of these cases, 56.7% of those affected are of Hispanic race or ethnicity.

## What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

In addition to the data mentioned above, based upon stakeholder and community input, priority needs include:

#### Service Needs

- Youth services
- Homeless/homeless prevention services
- Mental health services
- Expanding reach of existing services
- Job training

### Housing Needs

- Affordable rental housing
- Senior housing
- Emergency shelter
- Permanent supportive housing
- Aged out foster youth housing
- Transitional housing
- Home rehabilitation programs for seniors and disabled persons
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance

## Conditions of Housing/Housing Choice

• There are not enough low-cost choices for low-income housing, subsidized housing,

transitional housing, or senior housing.

- Permanent supportive housing is lacking for extremely low-income-30% AMI
- As the owner of a mobile home park, 2-bedroom units are in demand.
- Landlords willing to lease to homeless/low-income individuals is uncommon.
- Property owners willing to rent to people who have been evicted.

Needs for persons with HIV/AIDS were identified based upon the community outreach meetings, stakeholder interviews and surveys completed.

## Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area

Persons with HIV/AIDS sometimes face biases and misunderstanding about their illness that affect their access to housing. In addition, persons with HIV/AIDS may also be targets for hate crimes, which include crimes committed because of hatred directed toward an assumed sexual orientation. The National Commission on AIDS states that up to half of all Americans with AIDS are either homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless because of illness, lack of income or other resources, or a weak support network.

The California HIV Surveillance Report-2022 published by the California Department of Public Health, Center for Infectious Diseases in Sacramento, California on March 13, 2022, reported a total 586 persons living with HIV/AIDS in the County of Tulare. Of the 448 cases, 56.7% are of Hispanic race or ethnicity, 11.7% are reported as female and 86.4% as male. On the evening of the Point-In-Time homeless count by the Continuum of Care, seven cases of HIV were reported in the Bi-County, with two cases in the Visalia PIT Survey count.

If the PJ will establish a preference for a HOME TBRA activity for persons with a specific category of disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness), describe their unmet need for housing and services needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii)):

The City of Visalia HOME TBRA program will establish a preference for targeted assistance to a specific category with special needs as approved in 24 CFR 92.209(C)(2)(i) for homeless persons that reside in a permanent supportive housing unit in the City of Visalia. The purpose of establishing a HOME TBRA preference is to assist in filling a gap in the insufficient number of rental subsidies for people experiencing homelessness in our region.

## **Discussion**

The City of Visalia will continue to work with the service providers it has traditionally worked with and new experienced non-profit providers in order to support special needs populations. Additionally, the City will explore other ways to improve upon support provided in the past.

Based upon the Community Outreach and Housing Surveys, the following top priorities, in order, were identified:

## Housing Needs

- Affordable rental housing
- Senior housing
- Emergency shelter

- Permanent supportive housing
- Home rehabilitation for seniors and disabled persons
- Rental assistance

## Service Needs

- Homeless services
- Homeless prevention services
- Youth services
- Mental health services
- Substance abuse services
- Job training programs
- Domestic abuse services

## NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs - 91.215 (f)

## Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities

The priority needs identified for Public Facilities are, in order of priority, include:

- 1. Youth centers
- 2. Park and Recreational facilities
- 3. Health facilities
- 4. Senior centers, and
- 5. Childcare centers

Additionally, facilities to care for the homeless were identified as priority needs.

## How were these needs determined?

Needs for Public Facilities were identified based upon the community outreach meetings, stakeholder interviews and surveys completed.

## Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements

Priority needs identified for Public Improvement are, in order of priority, included:

- 1. Street improvements and
- 2. Sidewalk improvements with ADA improvements.

## How were these needs determined?

Needs for Public Improvements were identified based upon the community outreach meetings, stakeholder interviews and surveys completed.

## **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services**

Priority needs identified for Public Services are, in order of priority:

- 1. Special needs populations (i.e., homelessness)
- 2. Youth
- 3. Domestic abuse
- 4. Mental health services
- CoC and fair housing supportive services
- 6. Job training
- 7. Substance abuse treatment
- 8. Support services for elderly (meals, transportation)
- 9. Rent/utility payments
- 10. Tenant-based rental assistance

#### How were these needs determined?

Needs for Public Services were identified based upon the community outreach meetings, stakeholder interviews and surveys completed.

## **Market Analysis**

## **MA-05 Overview**

## **Housing Market Analysis Overview**

Many neighborhoods in the City have previously contained affordable housing, however, after the macro-economic changes following Covid-19 the City and County have seen a drastic increase in home and rent prices. This makes the City and County similar to California as they struggle to create more affordable housing units within its various Cities and Counties. Because land and housing costs are cheaper when compared to California as a whole, affordable housing projects are developed in mostly residentially zoned areas in the City. This section is dedicated to providing data and analysis that describe housing conditions, housing costs, cost burdened households, and tenure.

### **Housing Market Characteristics**

In the City there are a total of 18,770 affordable units available to households earning 80% or less AMI (see Table 44), and however, there are 16,050 households within this income bracket in need of housing. However, the majority of affordable units in the City fall into the 50-80% AMI category which has a surplus of units. Shortages of affordable housing are significant in the 0-30% and 30-50% AMI categories. According to 2017-2021 CHAS data, about one in every three households (32.7%) in Visalia are cost burdened. There are more renter households in the City that are cost burdened compared to owner-occupied households; almost half of renter households (43.6%) are cost burdened. Such findings indicate significant numbers of residents experiencing cost burden. Housing market statistics provided by HUD (2019-2023 ACS Estimates; 2017-2021 CHAS Data) provide evidence that there is not an adequate supply of units affordable to low- and moderate-income households in the City:

- 48,737: number of units in Visalia (Table 39)
- 46,466: total occupied units of which 39.2% are renters and 60.8% are owners (Table 40)
- Larger units: Most occupied units are two or more bedrooms: 27,479 for owners and 16,168 for renters (Table 40)
- 0-30% AMI: There are 3,995 households living in this income category, yet there are only 1,265 affordable units available to these households in the City (Table 9 and Table 44)
- 30-50% AMI: There are 4,720 households living in this income category yet there are only 3,655 units available (Table 9 and Table 44)
- 50-80% AMI: there are 7,335 households in this income category and there are 13,850 units (Table 9 and Table 44)
- 4.7%: The housing vacancy rate of 4.7% in the City is considered low (Table 39 and Table 40)

### **Housing Conditions**

The City follows the California Health and Safety Code when it comes to substandard housing. This includes units having structural hazards, faulty weather protection, fire, health and safety hazards, or lacking complete kitchen or plumbing facilities.

Housing for Persons with Special Needs. The Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) provides rental assistance to very low- and moderate-income families, seniors, and disabled persons and their families throughout the County. Public housing in the County has a good conditions rating. Homeless populations are considered to be a special needs category. In 2024

there were a total of 587 homeless persons in the City of Visalia, of which 472 were unsheltered and 115 sheltered (Table 33). There was a 22% increase in homelessness in Visalia since 2019, when the number of unhoused people was 481(Table 37). There are currently 313 shelter beds in Kings and Tulare County, according to the HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Housing Inventory Count Report 2024 (Table 52) as well as a comprehensive provision of facilities and services that meet the needs of persons who require supportive housing and programs but are not homeless.

## **MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)**

## Introduction

The housing stock in the City is primarily owner-occupied detached single-family homes with a small number of multifamily units. Specifically, out of 48,737 total housing units, 38,808 (78.9%) are single-family homes of which 93.9% are detached structures (Table 39). Beyond single-family homes, the housing stock consists of 8,447 multi-family units, which represents just 17.3% of units (Table 39). Most multi-family apartment buildings consist of 2-4 units (60.8%). Other types of housing units available (1,482 units or 3.0% of the total housing stock) include mobile homes, boats, RVs, and vans (Table 39).

The vacancy rate in the City is considered low according to the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. A healthy vacancy rate is somewhere between 7 and 8 percent. Out of the total 48,737 units comprising the housing stock for the City, 46,466 are occupied (Table 40), which equates to a vacancy rate of 4.7%. The occupied housing stock is primarily represented by owner-occupied units (60.8%) compared to renter-occupied households (39.2%) (Table 40). Most owner-occupied units are three or more bedrooms (88.3%), while most renter-occupied units are two bedrooms (83.3%).

## All Residential Properties by Number of Units

Table 39: Residential Properties by Unit Number							
Property Type	Number	% of Total Units					
1-unit, detached structure	36,455	74.8%					
1-unit, attached structure	2,353	4.8%					
2-4 units	5,136	10.6%					
5-19 units	1,804	3.7%					
20 or more units	1,507	3.1%					
Mobile home, boat, RV, van, etc.	1,482	3.0%					
Total	48,737	100.0%					

Data Source: 2023 5-Year ACS

## **Unit Size by Tenure**

Table 40: Unit Size by Tenure							
Number of Bodycome	Ow	ners	Renters				
Number of Bedrooms	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage			
No bedroom	257	0.9%	475	1.2%			
1 bedroom	535	1.9%	1,552	8.6%			
2 bedrooms	2,516	8.9%	7,662	83.3%			
3 or more bedrooms	24,963	88.3%	8,506	6.9%			
Total	28,271	100.0%	18,195	100.0%			

Data Source: 2023 5-Year ACS

## Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

According to information provided by the City, since 2015, 596 housing units targeting very low-, low-, and moderate-income households have been developed within Visalia (Table 41). Table 41 lists multi-family housing receiving government assistance in the City. Included in the table is the funding source, year built, the number of units, and the target income.

Table 41: Affordable Housing Developments within the City of Visalia							
Name of Development	Address	Sponsor	Funding Sources	Year Built / Funds Provided	Affordability Period End Date	# of Units	Type / Target Income Groups
Clark Court	626-630 E. Tulare Ave	HATC	RHCP	1983	2030	24	Supportive Housing
Visalia Garden Villas	4901-5075 W. Crenshaw Ave.	HATC	LIHTC, RHCP	1987	2042	60	Senior; very low & low-income
Westport Village	3123 S. Avocado St.	TCHA	LIHTC	1989	2029	25	Senior; low & moderate income
Fairview Village	2700 N. Willis St.	HATC	LIHTC, CDBG	1994	2049	8	Very low-income
Willowbrook Estates	1819 North Tipton Street	TCHA	Visalia RDA, HOME	1996	2051	10	Low-income
Kimball Court	303 West Kimball Ave.	HATC	Visalia RDA, LIHTC	1999	2054	95	Senior; very low & low-income
The Meadows	3900 W. Tulare Ave.	Christian Church Homes	Visalia RDA	2001	2054	99	Senior; low-income
Transitional Mental Health	546 E. Tulare Ave.	TCHA	Visalia RDA, HOME	2003	2058	17	Very low-income
Oak Meadows	111 W. School Ave.	Christian Church Homes	HUD	2004	2057	60	Senior; low-income
Mill Creek Parkway Family Apartments	3433 Manzanita Ave.	Buckingham Property Management	Visalia RDA	2007	2061	70	Low & Moderate Income
Robinwood Court	5817-5842 W. Robinwood Ct.	HATC	HOME, Visalia RDA, LIHTC	2008	2037	10	Very low, low & moderate-income
TMHSA Housing	653, 657, 701 E. Tulare Ave.	HATC	HUD	2009	2058	22	Supportive Housing
Encina Triplex	301 W. Encina St.	Kaweah Management	HOME, Visalia RDA	2009	2064	3	Very low-income

Name of Development	Address	Sponsor	Funding Sources	Year Built / Funds Provided	Affordability Period End Date	# of Units	Type / Target Income Groups
Sierra Meadows Senior Apartments	1120 E. Tulare Ave.	Christian Church Homes	HUD, HOME, LIHTC	2011	2062	43	Senior; low-income
Paradise & Court Apartments	1526 S. Court St.	City of Visalia; VIAAH; Kaweah Management	HOME, Visalia RDA, LIHTC	2012	2065	20	Very low-income
Confidential	Confidential	Confidential	Visalia RDA, HOME	2012	2055	3	Very low-income
East Kaweah	632-644 E. Kaweah Ave.	TCHA	Visalia RDA	2013	2064	8	Very low & low- income
Highland Gardens	2401 N. Highland St.	Self Help Enterprises	HOME, LIHTC	2016	2071	36	Very low & low- income
Santa Fe Triplex	617-619 S. Santa Fe St.	TCHA	Visalia RDA	2017	2072	6	Very low & moderate- income
Encina Self- Help Enterprises	517-527 N. Encina St.	Self Help Enterprises	HOME	2018	2073	6	Very low, low & moderate-income
Town Meadows	115 W. Murray Ave.	Thomas Safran & Associates Development, Inc.	LIHTC, HUD	2018	2073	100	Senior; supportive housing
Myrtle Avenue Senior Apartments	4316 W. Myrtle Ave.	Pacific West Communities, Inc.	LIHTC	2021	2076	66	Senior; very low & low-income
Lofts at Fort Visalia	300 E. Oak Ave	Self-Help Enterprises	LIHTC, HOME, Visalia RDA	2022	2077	80	Supportive Housing (40); low-income
Rancho Colegio	3520 N. Court St.	Self-Help Enterprises	LIHTC, HOME	2025	2080	80	Very low-income
Demaree Street Apartments	N. Demaree St. & Houston Ave.	Pacific West Communities, Inc.	LIHTC	2025	2080	222	Very low, low & moderate-income

Data Source: City of Visalia Housing Element 2023-2030; Note: All developments listed have a 55-year affordability covenant.

## Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

Table 41 above, Affordable Housing Developments within the City of Visalia, lists affordability period end dates, or the date units may convert to market rate. Although most affordability period end after 55-years, most sponsors choose to restrict the property to the original target population. No Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) contracts will expire.

## Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

There are more low and extremely-low income households in need of affordable housing in the City than there are affordable housing units for those income ranges. In the City there are a total of 18,770 units considered to be affordable to households earning 80% or less AMI, and 16,050 households within this income bracket that are in need of housing. This creates a false impression of supply adequate to meet the overall demand and requires a closer look at the data broken down by each income category. Just over one-third of the households (35.4%) in Visalia eam 80% and below AMI. However, when examining lower income levels, such as extremely low-income (0-30%AMI), there is a gap in housing available compared to the need. For example, there are 3,995 extremely low-income households within the City, yet there are just 1,265 units affordable to this population, representing a gap of 2,730 units. There are 4,720 low-income households, earning between 30-50% AMI, but only 3,655 housing units available, which leaves a gap of 1,065 units. Overall, lower income household groups have gaps between the number of units affordable to those households and the number of households at that income level. Data provided in this paragraph references Table 44 and Table 9.

## Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Data gathered from community outreach showed a need for affordable units, both for rent and sale as well as a need for larger units for families and senior housing. The overall need for affordable housing is also evidenced by the fact that HATC maintains a waiting list for housing vouchers; however, data for this list is not published.

### **Discussion**

See above.

## MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

## Introduction

The cost of housing within a jurisdiction is an important consideration as it determines the affordability of housing to residents within various income groups. The housing tables below indicate that housing costs have substantially increased from 2010 to 2020 and 2020 to 2023 for both owners and renters. The median home value increased 81.8% from \$187,300 in 2010 to \$340,600 in 2023 (Table 42). Median monthly rent has increased by 50.9% from \$770 in 2010 to \$1,162 in 2023 (Table 42). Overall, owners are being squeezed by the increased cost of housing as wages have only increased 55.4% across the same time period (Table 42). However, when considering the change from 2020 to 2023, home values grew by 33.8% and rents grew by 27.7%while incomes grew at a considerably lower rate, at 19.9%. This shows that housing is becoming more unaffordable in Visalia for renters as well as owners.

Table 42: Cost of Housing							
	2010	2020	2023	% Change			
Median Home Value	\$187,300	\$254,600	\$340,600	81.8%			
Median Contract Rent	\$770	\$910	\$1,162	50.9%			
Median Household Income	\$51,464	\$66,668	\$79,952	55.4%			

Data Source: 2010 1-Year ACS, 2020 5-Year ACS, 2023 5-Year ACS

Table 43: Rent Paid							
Rent Paid	Number	%					
Less than \$500	569	3.3%					
\$500-999	2,318	13.5%					
\$1,000-1,499	7,260	42.3%					
\$1,500-1,999	4,106	23.9%					
\$2,000 or more	2,912	17.0%					
Total	17,165	100.0%					

Data Source: 2023 5-Year ACS

Table 44: Housing Affordability						
Number of Units Affordable to HH's Earning	Renter	Owner				
30% HAMFI	1,265	N/A				
50% HAMFI	2,630	1,025				
80% HAMFI	9,460	4,390				
100% HAMFI	4,900	4,405				
Total	18,255	9,820				

Data Source: CHAS 2017-2021

Table 45: Monthly Rent						
Rent Type	Studio	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4+Bedroom	
Fair Market Rent	\$1,082	\$1,089	\$1,429	\$1,967	\$2,272	
Low HOME Rent	\$770	\$825	\$990	\$1,143	\$1,406	
High HOME Rent	\$977	\$989	\$1,264	\$1,452	\$1,600	

Data Source: HUD FY 2025 Fair Market Rent; HUD HOME Rent Limits FY 2024

## Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

The tables above combined with CHAS data for 2017-2021 show that there is not an adequate amount of housing affordable to LMI households, especially for extremely low- and very low-income households. There are not sufficient housing units for the lower income categories.

- 0-30% AMI: There are 3,995 households living in this income category, yet there are only 1,265 units available that are affordable to these households in the City. (Table 9)
- 30-50% AMI: There are 4,720 households living in this income category yet there are only 3,655 units available. (Table 9)
- 50-80% AMI: There are 7,335 households in this income category and there are 13,850 units. (Table 9)

## How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

Table 42 above shows the recent changes to factors affecting affordability including income, rent and home value. Since 2010, median income has increased at an annual rate of 4.2% per year from 2010 to 2023. Although the growth in median contract rent (+3.9% per year) grew at a similar rate to income since 2010, it is clear that rental housing prices are outpacing income growth since 2020. This may continue to strain affordability in the rental housing market and lead to higher rates of housing cost burden, especially for LMI households. Additionally, when looking at the owner market, ownership is even less attainable now than it was previously in 2010. This is evidenced by the fact that median home value has shown a significant increase of over 6.2% per year.

## How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

Since the majority of low- and moderate-income households in Visalia are renters (Table 12), the cost and affordability of rental housing is of particular importance. High median rents in the City pose a challenge to strategies seeking to increase the availability of affordable housing and lessen the impact of rental housing assistance programs to households in need. Table 45 shows comparative rent figures. Area median rent for the City is higher than all categories of Fair Market Rent. This again points to a lack of affordable housing, especially for extremely low-income and very low-income households, and shows a need to preserve and produce affordable rental housing options in Visalia. The affordability gap for these populations has been detailed in previous sections.

#### **Discussion**

See discussion above.

## MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

#### Introduction

This section reviews significant characteristics of the existing housing supply such as the age and condition, risk of lead-based paint hazards, and the number of vacant units. This housing data is important in understanding the possible need for housing rehabilitation programs and lead-based paint abatement to maintain safe and sanitary housing as an affordable housing option in the community.

## Describe the jurisdiction's definition for "standard condition" and "substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation"

HUD's definition of housing "conditions" is similar to its definition of housing problems previously discussed in the Needs Assessment. These conditions are overcrowding, cost burden, or a lack of complete plumbing or kitchen facilities.

The City further defines substandard housing as buildings or units that are not in compliance with the California Health and Safety Code. This includes units having structural hazards, faulty weather protection, fire, health and safety hazards, or again lacking complete kitchen or plumbing facilities. Standard condition housing is defined as being in compliance with the California Health and Safety Code.

Table 46: Condition of Units							
	Owner-Occupied		Renter-0	Occupied			
Condition of Units	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage			
With One Selected Condition	7,746	27.4%	8,104	44.5%			
With Two Selected Conditions	248	0.9%	975	5.4%			
With Three Selected Conditions	0	0.0%	185	1.0%			
With Four Selected Conditions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%			
No Selected Conditions	20,277	71.7%	8,931	49.1%			
Total	28,271	100.0%	18,195	100.0%			

Data Source: 2023 5-Year ACS

Table 47: Year Unit Built							
	Owner-0	Occupied	Renter-Occupied				
Year Built	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage			
2000 or later	9,440	35.5%	4,225	22.5%			
1980-1999	7,485	28.1%	6,135	32.7%			
1960-1979	6,390	24.0%	5,495	29.3%			
1940-1959	2,610	9.8%	2,345	12.5%			
1939 or earlier	665	2.5%	580	3.1%			
Total	26,590	100.0%	18,780	100.0%			

Data Source: 2017-2021 CHAS

Table 48: Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard							
	Owner-0	Occupied	Renter-C	Renter-Occupied			
Year Built	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage			
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	9,665	36.3%	8,420	44.8%			
Housing Units Built Before 1980 with Children Present*	1,545	16.0%	2,179	25.9%			

Data Source: 2017-2021 CHAS; \*Children under 6 years of age present.

Table 49: Vacant Units							
Year Built	Suitable For Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total				
Vacant Units	-	-	2,271				
Abandoned Vacant Units	-	-	-				
REO Properties	-	-	-				
Abandoned REO Properties	-	-	-				

Data Source: 2023 5-Year ACS

Data for units suitable for rehab is not collected by the City; Vacant Units 2023 5-Year ACS

### **Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation**

As shown in Table 46, there is a different level of need for owner and rental rehabilitation. For owner-occupied units, 71.7% of units have zero selected housing conditions showing that the stock is in relatively good shape. However, almost half of rental units have at least one selected housing condition. This shows the need for rental unit rehabilitation throughout the City. Also, rental housing stock is older than the owner housing stock, with 44.8% of rental units being built before 1980 compared to just 36.3% of owner units.

## Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Families with Lead-Based Paint Hazards.

The use of lead-based paint in housing was banned in 1978. For the purposes of this plan, the number of units built before 1980 occupied by households with children serve as a default baseline of units that contain lead-based paint hazards. According to 2017-2021 CHAS data, 9,665 owner-occupied units and 8,420 renter-occupied units may be hazardous due to the potential presence of lead-based paint, accounting for 39.59% of the total occupied housing units of 45,375 units. For housing units with children under the age of 6 present, there were 1,545 households to both have children and also be built before 1980, compared to a total of 2,179 for renter-occupied units.

### **Discussion**

See above.

## MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing - 91.210(b)

#### Introduction

HATC provides rental assistance to very low- and moderate-income families, seniors and people with disabilities and their families throughout the County. Many housing programs are offered and include but are not limited to the conventional public housing program, the housing choice voucher program, the farm labor program for families with farm labor income, and senior housing programs. HATC also owns or manages individual subsidized rental complexes that do not fall under the previous categories. Table 50 below shows public housing and housing voucher details for the County.

Table 50: Program Type									
						Vo	uchers		
	Certificate	Mod- Rehab	Public Housing	Total	Project Based Vouchers	Tenant Based Vouchers	Special Purpose - VASH	Special Purpose – Family Unification Program	Special Purpose - Disabled*
Total Units/Vouchers in Use	0	0	166	1,123	63	1,040	20	0	0
Accessible Units/Vouchers**	-	-	12	30	1	29	0	-	-

Data Source: Housing Authority of Tulare County, 2024

## Describe the supply of public housing developments

While Table 50 presents data for the County overall, there are 166 Public Housing units within the City. Sixty public housing units are occupied by disabled families and a further 499 disabled families have housing vouchers.

# Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

All public housing units are in satisfactory physical condition (Table 51), having been recently renovated or having annual maintenance performed. HATC works diligently to routinely maintain and rehabilitate all public housing units within their housing stock portfolio.

## **Public Housing Condition**

Table 51: Public Housing Condition						
Public Housing Development Average Inspection Score						
Visalia #CA030000815	94					

Data Source: Housing Authority of the County of Tulare, HUD

## Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction.

HATC will continue to own and manage 166 units in the City of Visalia. In Fiscal Year 2023, HATC invested a total of \$1,573,365 in Capital Fund improvements. The expenditures facilitated the completion of capital rehabilitation projects, including roof replacements, landscaping, carpet replacements, and air conditioning and heating improvements. Additionally, the Fiscal Year 2025

<sup>\*</sup>Includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

<sup>\*\*</sup>Families requesting accessibility Features

plan estimates a total investment of \$1,978,380 towards Capital Fund improvements.

# Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing.

HATC, established in 1945, initially sought to provide affordable housing for returning WWII veterans and their families. Currently, HATC provides affordable and well-maintained rental housing to over 5,000 households throughout Tulare County. Since its establishment, HATC has incorporated numerous programs into its housing portfolio. These programs are funded by various types of agencies that include the HUD, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Tax Credit Allocation Committee of the State Treasurer's Office (LIHTC), California's Rental Housing Construction Program (RHCP), HOME, City Redevelopment Successor Agencies (SA) and other local agencies. HATC is also a current participant of the Moving to Work (MTW) Demonstration Program.

Families participating in the MTW program either pay a fixed rent for public housing or receive a fixed subsidy for voucher. Because rents are not tied to income, MTW participants are able to keep the full amount of any extra earnings they make while on the program. However, assistance is terminated when a family's income reaches 120 percent of the area median or after five years in the program, whichever comes first.

Families have the option of Housing Authority owned public housing units as they become available, or voucher rental assistance. Public housing applicants will have to pass normal screening procedures, and, if housed, pay a flat rental amount based on the unit bedroom size. Voucher families receive a flat rental subsidy amount, depending on the unit size the family qualifies for, or the actual unit size rented, whichever is smaller. Families pay the difference between the rent charged by the landlord and the flat subsidy amount. HATC inspects units to ensure that they meet Housing Quality Standards. Either public housing or voucher families who have members who are not citizens or eligible aliens have an increased flat rent amount or decreased subsidy amount of \$25 per ineligible family member.

All new families admitted from the waiting list shall be admitted under the MTW program rules. If a new family has a Head of Household that qualifies as Elderly or Disabled, those families would be allowed into the program with their rent being calculated at either MTW flat rents or based on their income. If the MTW flat rent is selected the term limits shall apply to the family. Incomes will be verified annually for statistical purposes but will not affect rental or subsidy amounts unless verified income exceeds the income limits. Interim redeterminations and utility allowances are eliminated. Hardship situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

MTW gives participants the opportunity to save as their incomes rise, thus providing an incentive to seek out employment or better jobs. The five-year time limit on assistance also increases the motivation for families to gain employment and self-sufficiency skills, so that they will be able to afford alternative housing once their assistance is terminated. The time limits also reinforce the notion that rental assistance is not a lifetime benefit but a helping hand to families as they move toward self-sufficiency. HATC hopes that at the end of five years, families will have earned and saved enough to purchase a home.

Additionally, the Housing Choice Voucher Program offers affordable, decent and safe housing in open market rentals selected by Voucher holders. Under the MTW program, residents receive a fixed subsidy, which HATC pays directly to the landlord, and the resident pays the rest of the rent for the unit. There is a five-year time limit to this type of rental assistance in most cases, because

the fixed subsidy helps families to stabilize their housing costs as they work to achieve self-sufficiency and save for other housing opportunities. Elderly families, whose head or co-tenant is over 62 or disabled that do not possess the capabilities to work, will have their rent based on their income rather than the fixed subsidy amounts, however time limits do not apply to these households.

# **Discussion**

See above.

# MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

#### Introduction

The Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance (Alliance) is the Continuum of Care for the region that includes Visalia. Each year, the Alliance conducts a Point in Time (PIT count) of the number of people experiencing homelessness within Kings and Tulare Counties. Information gathered through the PIT survey is used by the Alliance to understand the issues associated with homelessness, including causes of homelessness, service needs of the homeless, the region's unmet housing needs, and trends overtime of homelessness in the region.

The 2024 PIT count was held on January 22, 2024. A total of 587 persons were counted in the City, with 472 found to be unsheltered and 115 sheltered.

Table 52: Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households					
	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
Types of Homeless Households	Year-Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	153	0	15	46	0
Households with Only Adults	160	0	134	269	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	153	0
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	20	0	0

Data Source: HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Housing Inventory Count Report 2024

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons.

The Alliance works closely with mainstream benefit providers to ensure that persons experiencing homelessness are connected to mainstream benefits. The Tulare County SSI Advocacy unit participates in the annual PIT count.

Led by the Alliance, the Local Initiatives Navigation Center (LINC) holds agency "fair" at the Bethlehem Center. The fair walks individuals through the process of applying for needed services. From urgent housing assistance to Veterans services and more, between 15 and 20 agencies are available to offer services. Participants include CalWorks to offer CalFresh (food stamps), MediCal, and General Relief assistance.

In addition to LINC, Tulare County Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) program also attends and offers substance abuse treatment beds or outpatient services, as appropriate. The Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency has recently implemented the Housing Disability Advocacy Program

(HDAP) to enroll clients in mainstream benefit programs, with a special focus on SSI benefits.

The Alliance also has a strong partnership with healthcare organizations such as Family Healthcare Network, Kaweah Delta, and Anthem Blue Cross. These providers participate in the Point in Time count as well as LINC events. Assistance includes signing people up for insurance, providing on-site medical services, arranging transportation to/from appointments, etc.

The Alliance ensures that service providers are updated on new mainstream benefit programs. Information is disseminated in a variety of ways such as through the Alliance listserv, membership presentations, and required trainings. The Alliance also requires that CoC-funded agencies participate in the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) SOAR training annually. SOAR is designed to increase access to Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Income for eligible homeless adults who are and have a mental illness and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. SOAR and other community efforts have been effective in increasing the number of homeless persons receiving SSI/SSDI.

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

The Visalia Navigation Center (VNC) was developed in 2024 in partnership with the City of Visalia, CSET, TC Hope, and Self-Help Enterprises. The VNC is a first of its kind in Tulare County. The VNC is approximately 20,000 sq. ft. that includes space to accommodate 100 beds for homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth. The VNC also includes office space for case management supportive services, two group dormitory-type spaces one for men and one for women, up to 7 private rooms to accommodate families with children, seniors, vulnerable populations. Interior amenities include showers, a dining room, a large common area, and a laundry room. Exterior amenities include a playground area, day-use area with green space, a dog park, and animal kennel space for pets. The VNC provides a robust wrap around case management services including rapid rehousing services, housing search, landlord mitigation, mental health assessments/enrollments, job training programs, financial literacy, and life skills workshops that will lead to a life of stability into permanent housing.

Table 53: Services and Facilities that Meet the Needs of Homeless Persons			
Agency	Program(s)	Description	
Family Services of Tulare County	PSH II Myrtle Court PSH III United Way Tulare Housing First Tulare Housing First II Tulare Housing First II Bonus	Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronically Homeless households.	
Family Services of Tulare County	Transitional Housing + Services	Transitional housing for households with children who are victims of domestic violence.	

Family Services of Tulare County	Karen's House	Emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence.
Community Services & Employment Training	Visalia PSH and Tulare County PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronically Homeless households.
Community Services & Employment Training	ESG 2	Rapid Rehousing assistance for homeless households.
Turning Point	Casa de Robles	Transitional and permanent supportive for single males with disabilities.
Agency	Program(s)	Description
Turning Point	Court Street	Transitional housing for single men.
Visalia Rescue Mission	Overnight Guest	Overnight emergency shelter for single men who are homeless.
Visalia Rescue Mission	Shelter of Hope	Overnight emergency shelter for single women and women with children who are homeless.
Visalia Rescue Mission	House of Hope	Transitional housing program for single women experiencing homelessness.
Visalia Rescue Mission	House of Restoration	Residential treatment program that serves homeless and non-homeless men.
Visalia Rescue Mission	Women's Transitional Program	Transitional housing program for single women experiencing homelessness.
Department of VA	VASH Program	Permanent housing for homeless veterans and their families.
Uplift Families	THP Plus	Housing and services for transitioning age youth Age 18-24
Bethlehem Center	N/A	Provides hot meals six days a week (breakfast and lunch M-F) and lunch only Saturday and Sunday, emergency food and clothing.

Visalia Emergency Aid	N/A	Food pantry, clothing, financial counseling and homeless prevention.
Family Healthcare Network	N/A	Provide Medi-Cal and dental assistance on a sliding scale/ability-to-pay fee structure.
Visalia Corps (Salvation Army)	N/A	Food basket distribution, material assistance, youth activities, and emergency and miscellaneous services.
Visalia Health Clinic	N/A	Provide Medi-Cal enrollment and provide health care for persons who do not qualify for Medi-Cal and meet the eligibility criteria.
Agency	Program(s)	Description
Central Valley Recovery Services	N/A	Residential treatment, methamphetamine, withdrawal from opiates, outpatient treatment, and drug addiction help.
Tulare County HHSA	Veteran's Service Office	Veterans Services (County HHSA).
Tulare County HHSA	Visalia Adult Integrated Clinic	Mental health services.
Tulare County HHSA	Transitional Living Center	Transitional housing for single men and women with a serious mental illness.
Tulare County HHSA	East Tulare Avenue Cottages	Permanent supportive housing for single men and women with a serious mental illness.
Westcare	Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)	Rapid Rehousing Program for veteran households experiencing homelessness.
Visalia Homeless Center	Visalia Warming Center	Seasonal overnight Emergency Shelter.
Self-Help Enterprises	Eden House Transitional Housing	Transitional housing for chronically homeless households.
Self-Help Enterprises	The Lofts at Fort Visalia Santa Fe Commons I & II Palm Terrance I & II Sierra Village I & II	Permanent supportive housing & low-income housing mixed.
Self-Help Enterprises/ Salt + Light	Neighborhood Village	Permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless households.

RH Community Builders	Sequoia Village Madison Gardens Majestic Gardens	Permanent Supportive Housing for chronically homeless households.
UPHoldings	Finca Serna Northstar Courts	Permanent Supportive Housing & low-income housing mixed.
CSET/TC Hope/ Self-Help Enterprises	Visalia Navigation Center	Transitional housing for homeless households.

Data Source: County of Tulare 2025

# **MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)**

#### Introduction

Special needs populations often have an increased need for housing, services and facilities. Identified special needs populations in the City include the elderly (including frail elderly), and persons with disabilities.

Special needs populations often benefit from supportive housing, which is a combination of housing and services intended to help people live more stable, productive lives. Supportive housing is widely believed to work well for those who face the most complex challenges and is coupled with such social services as job training, life skills training, substance abuse programs, educational programs, and case management.

Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify and describe their supportive housing needs.

These Populations referenced face a two-fold challenge as it pertains to their housing needs. Not only do they need well-maintained affordable housing, they require the necessary supportive services to be able to remain in good health. HATC has made it a priority to address such needs through various collaborations with social service providers. HATC has an extensive number of partnerships with various social service agencies. These partnerships allow stakeholders to maximize available funding and not duplicate services. HATC continues to allocate a number of Section 8/Housing Choice Vouchers to various social service provider agencies such as: Community Services Employment Training (C-SET), Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC), Tulare County Child Welfare Services, Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance and the California Department of Rehabilitation. The noted partnerships allow program participants to receive both rental assistance/subsidized housing from HATC, along with the necessary social services by their partnering agencies.

HATC has expanded the Transitional Living Center, collaborating with the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Visalia and Tulare County Mental Health Services, by acquiring an additional 17 units (Liberty & Court) in which Tulare County Mental Health Services provides services and case management on-site. This is in addition to similar collaborations with Tulare County Health and Human Services at Clark Court (24 units) and the existing Transitional

Living Center which houses up to 40 occupants in an 11-bedroom house as well as an apartment building. HATC also continues a partnership with CVRC as they provide full-time living assistance to individuals who are developmentally disabled at the Kaweah Triplex for Mentally Challenged Adults. The City of Visalia assisted in the development of the Kaweah Triplex for Mentally Challenged Adults by providing Redevelopment Low Mod funding toward rehabilitation.

Tulare County Health and Human Services purchased Casa Grande a former assisted living facility to convert into a 96-bed behavioral health supportive service housing center to serve Tulare County residents experiencing mental health conditions.

# Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing.

The City has a number of licensed community care facility beds available for persons with health-related conditions. This may include the following type of licensed care facilities:

- Small Family Homes: Small Family Homes provide 24-hour care in the licensee's family residence for six or fewer children who are mentally disabled, developmentally disabled, or physically handicapped, and who require special care and supervision as a result of such disabilities.
- Group Homes: Group Homes are facilities of any capacity and provide 24-hour non-medical care and supervision to children in a structured environment. Group Homes provide social, psychological, and behavioral programs for troubled youth.
- Adult Residential Facility: Adult Residential Facilities (ARF) are facilities of any capacity that provide 24-hour non-medical care for adults ages 18 through 59, who are unable to provide for their own daily needs. Adults may be physically handicapped, developmentally disabled, and/or mentally disabled.
- Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly: Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) provide care, supervision and assistance with activities of daily living, such as bathing and grooming. They may also provide incidental medical services under special care plans. The facilities provide services to persons 60 years of age and over and persons under 60 with compatible needs. RCFEs may also be known as assisted living facilities, retirement homes, and board and care homes. The facilities can range in size from fewer than six beds to over 100 beds. The residents in these facilities require varying levels of personal care and protective supervision. Because of the wide range of services offered by RCFEs, consumers should look closely at the programs of each facility to see if the services will meet their needs.
- Social Rehabilitation Facility: A Social Rehabilitation Facility is any facility that provides 24-hours-a-day non-medical care and supervision in a group setting to adults recovering from mental illnesses who temporarily need assistance, guidance, or counseling.

Table 54: Licensed Adult Residentials And Day Programs Care Facilities				
Facility Name	Facility Address	Capacity		
Creative Center, The	410 E. Race St.	115		
Social Vocational Services, Inc	1120 S Ben Maddox Way Ste 100	90		
Life Skills Learning Center	2505 N Shirk Rd.	76		
Central Valley Training Center	9838 W. Grove Ave.	75		
Social Vocational Services, Visalia #2	3140 W. Caldwell Ave.	75		
People's Care Bliss Center Visalia	909 W. Murray Rd	60		
Links	26818 S. Mooney Blvd.	50		
Transitional Living Center	546 E. Tulare Ave.	38		
Chances Learning Center	823 W. Center Ave.	36		

Plumlee's Board And Care #1	2030 N Bridge St.	15
Plumlee's Board And Care #2	2032 N Bridge St.	15
Transitional Living Center #2	1108 E Liberty Ct.	10
Dago Residential Facility	1741 W. Vine Ave.	6
Deena's Care Home	3537 W. Cutler Ave.	6
Diaz Care Home 3	2313 S. Jacques St.	6
Diaz Care Home li	2128 S. Ashton Ct.	6
Diaz Family Care Home	1603 S. Peppertree Ct.	6
Diaz Oak View Home	144 W. Oak View Dr.	6
D.P. Butler Home	3500 W. Victor Ave.	6
Ewing Palm Home, Llc	4836 W. James Ct.	6
Kenyon Home #2, The	2541 E. Mary Ave.	6
Sandoval Home	1537 W. La Vida Ave.	6
Sandoval Home li	3815 S. Silvervale St.	6
Sandoval Home lii	13851 Ave 320	6
Facility Name	Facility Address	Capacity
Sue's Care Facility	1616 Castleview Dr.	6
Valley Care Home	3600 W Oakridge Ave.	6
Valley Care Home	331 E. Riverway Ave.	6
Walnut Grove House, Inc. Dba Lewis Graves		0
Arf #1	25401 Road 152	6
Zanyk li	421 N. Divisadero St.	6
Abarquez Homes Inc.	312 NW 4th St.	4
Ambitions - Mae Carden	2126 N. Mae Carden Ct.	4
Ambitions - Sumter Court	1020 N. Sumter Ct.	4
Bryant-Little Home 2	2733 W. Country Ln.	4
Crowe House Llc, The	13274 Perry Ct.	4
Diaz Oak View Home 2	2850 S. Maselli Ct.	4
Discovery In The West	12143 Avenue 322	4
Dorothy Wilson Home	3611 W. Millcreek Dr.	4
Grove Home Llc, The	3413 E. Grove Ave.	4
J&M Home	616 W. Loyola Ave.	4
Kaiser Specialized Residential Taylor	2816 W. Taylor Ave.	4
Kaiser Specialized Residential Vassar	4224 E. Vassar Ave.	4
Kenyon Home #1, The	2511 N. Liberty Ct.	4
Lee's Country Home	11282 Avenue 272	4
Martinez Residence	3527 W. Oakridge Ave.	4
Patriot In The West	3702 N. Sallee St.	4
People's Care Damsen	6502 W. Damsen Ave.	4
People's Care Marlin	12744 Marlin Ave.	4
Pira Home Care	4222 S. Rova St.	4
Sails Sunnyside	5712 Sunnyside Dr.	4
Transitional Living Center #4	1136 S. Liberty Ct.	4
Walnut Grove House, Inc. Dba Lewis Graves Arf #3	3143 Douglas Ave.	4
Transitional Living Center #3	1142 S. Liberty Ct.	3
Pata Source: State of California Department of Social Source	<del>-</del>	

Data Source: State of California Department of Social Services: https://www.ccld.dss.ca.gov/carefacilitysearch/DownloadData

# Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one- year goals. 91.315(e).

The non-profit organization Community Services Employment Training (CSET) helps provide services within the jurisdiction. CSET connects the public to integrative programs at senior centers, to Family Resource Centers that are one-stop shops, giving families access to services ranging from nutrition, health and education to housing, utility assistance and employment training. Also, the City works with the Citizens Advisory Committee that acts as a liaison between the general public and the City Council concerning community problems and needs, as well as the Citizen's Advisory Committee that includes two members from the disbanded Disability Advocacy Committee that advises the City on the needs of the disabled community in the City and promotes physical, social, communication and attitudinal access for every citizen of the City.

Furthermore, this Consolidated Plan includes plans to fund a Single-Family Home Repair Program and Senior Mobile Repair Program for senior and disabled low-income owner-occupied households. Repairs will include but are not limited to accessibility improvements, roof repairs/replacements, floor repairs, plumbing repairs, and energy efficiency improvements to assist senior and disabled low-income owner occupants remain in their home longer. The City also plans to fund ADA accessibility improvements throughout the City to assist the disabled and special needs community within the City.

# For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

The City of Visalia is utilizing HOME funds to develop Rancho Colegio an 80-unit affordable multifamily project for working low-income households 50 percent of the area median income, and lower who are not homeless. Rancho Colegio includes 20 units for farm working households. The City is also utilizing HOME funds to develop an 80-unit senior housing project for low-to-moderate income seniors who are not homeless. Both projects will include a portion of fully accessible units for those with physical disabilities. Both projects will include on site supportive services for residents. Both HOME funded projects are included in the 2025 HOME Annual Action Plan.

In addition, the City is utilizing CDBG funds to administer a Senior-Mobile Home Repair Program (SMHRP) and Single-Family Home Repair Program (SFHRP) to provide essential home repairs including roof repairs/replacements, and ADA improvements to low-to-moderate income senior and disabled owner-occupants to assist frail citizens to continue to live in their home. Both programs are included in the 2025 CDBG Annual Action Plan.

# MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)

# Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

A potential barrier to housing opportunities can be related to public policies. Such policies include tax policy, land use controls, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limits, and other policies that affect the return on residential investment. Amending local zoning and land use laws or allocating funding for affordable housing through grants are mechanisms that can support the development of affordable units. Changes in policies can also help a community to overcome disparities in access to opportunity by the implementation of plans that will revitalize areas with existing affordable housing by improving services, schools and other community assets, sidewalks, and other infrastructure.

The City's 2025-2030 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) found that land use and zoning laws are a factor in a lack of affordable housing, with residents vulnerable to displacement. The 2023-2031 City of Visalia Housing Element examines land use controls, building codes, processing and permit procedures, fees, and infrastructure requirements as potential barriers. Goals to encourage construction and maintenance of affordable housing in the City have been included in the 2023-2031 Housing Element. The City has made gradual improvements in all areas to reduce barriers to the development of affordable housing.

# Free Market as Barrier to Development of Affordable Housing

The 2023-2031 Housing Element identifies the availability of financing, land costs, and construction costs as barriers to the development of affordable housing.

The City lists sites available for development in its sites inventory list, for which the free market will determine who will develop and when development will occur. There are sites listed in the sites inventory with an entitlement status as "approved tentative subdivision map" or "ready to build with building permits".

Visalia has demonstrated in its Housing Element that it has the capacity to accommodate the Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) for the planning period from December 1, 2023, to December 31, 2031. Visalia has been allocated 10,791 units among the four income levels. The locations of the "RHNA sites" that make up the site inventory are listed and shown in the Site Inventory and Analysis RHNA section of the 2023-2031 Housing Element.

## Land Use Policies

Policies to guide future development and achieve a vision for the community are contained in the City's General Plan. Two of the seven State mandated General Plan elements – Housing and Land Use Elements – have direct impact on the local housing market in terms of the amount and range of housing choice. The City's Zoning Ordinance, which implements the Land Use Element, is an important document that influences the amount and type of housing available in a community – the availability of housing choice.

The City of Visalia's ordinances contain a variety of zoning districts that allow a range of housing opportunities for persons with special needs, including people with disabilities and people requiring transitional or supportive housing. The City of Visalia periodically evaluates local zoning laws and policies that may affect fair housing choice. The Al identified certain zoning provisions that can prevent the development of certain housing types, including high-density housing, emergency shelters, and supportive or transitional housing.

Visalia has made changes to residential zone districts based on the adoption of its General Plan in 2024. The highest allowed multi-family density permitted by right is 15 to 35 units per acre, provided that the development does not exceed 80 units. The City's General Plan Update formally established two new land use designations: CMU (Commercial Mixed Use), and DMU (Downtown Mixed Use). Both new designations encourage vertical and horizontal mixed-use developments. Both designations encourage high commercial floor area ratios (2.0 for CMU and 5.0 for DMU) and also allow residential densities as high as the site and setting can facilitate.

## **Entitlement Process**

The actual entitlement process requires several types of review. Following completion of site plan review, necessary entitlements could include zoning and general plan land use designation change, tentative subdivision map approval, and planned development approval. The Housing Element proposes providing an impact fee waiver for housing projects with 100% of units affordable for low-income households.

Overall, there is a need for incentives for developers to develop housing, especially to develop housing that is affordable, both for rent (multi-family) and for purchase (smaller, lower priced homes for sale). Developers require financial feasibility and certainty in the entitlement process as well as a clear understanding of community needs based upon stakeholder input. There is a lack of a variety of housing types, including townhouses, condos, small apartment complexes, and ADUs on the properties of single-family homes. A more streamlined entitlement process or elimination of the need for the processing of certain entitlements could incentivize developers to build more affordable units.

## Community Engagement

The opinions of the community can also constrain housing development. Sometimes individual neighborhoods can influence development decisions. For example, residents may resist changes in their community, which can contribute to a lack of vision for a City in terms of planning. When change occurs, it can also displace residents, gentrify an area, and create undesirable impacts.

## **Environmental Constraints**

Visalia rests in the heart of the Kaweah River Delta system. Terminus Dam, which forms Lake Kaweah about 18 miles to the east, controls river flows of the Kaweah River. The St. John's River, a branch of the Kaweah River, extends along the City's northeastern city limit line. In addition, the City contains an extensive network of creeks and irrigation ditches that carry programmed releases of water from Lake Kaweah and from the Friant Irrigation Canal to area farms and orchards. These creeks and ditches also channel and carry area-wide and local storm water runoff through the City in a generally northeast to southwest pattern, terminating west of the City near the Tulare Lakebed.

# MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets - 91.215 (f)

# Introduction

This section of the Consolidated Plan describes the City's economic development asset needs. This section will focus primarily on the City and regional economy and workforce.

# **Economic Development Market Analysis**

Ta	able 55: Busin	ess Activity			
Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	2,998	1,954	4.7	5	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	5,877	3,713	9.2	14	5
Construction	4,803	4,097	7.6	5	-3
Education and Health Care Services	16,390	19,982	25.8	16	-10
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	2,249	2,520	3.5	7	4
Information	1,102	1,308	1.7	1	-2
Manufacturing	5,062	5,540	8.0	7	-2
Other Services	3,480	3,227	5.5	4	-2
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	5,044	4,677	7.9	5	-3
Public Administration	5,033	3,485	7.9	0	-8
Retail Trade	6,334	8,371	10.0	18	8
Transportation and Warehousing	4,215	5,837	6.6	4	-3
Wholesale Trade	994	809	1.6	5	3
Total	63,581	65,520			

**Data Source:** 2019-2023 ACS (Workers), 2023 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs). City of Visalia, Economic Development Division, June 2024

Table 56: Labor Force			
Employment Characteristics	Number of People		
Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	67,594		
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	63,581		
Unemployment Rate	5.9		
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	12.0		
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.0		

Data Source: 2019-2023 ACS

Table 57: Occupations by Sector			
Occupations by Sector	Number of People		
Management, business and financial	21,652		
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	-		
Service	13,004		
Sales and office	12,911		
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	7,570		
Production, transportation and material moving	8,404		

Data Source: 2019-2023 ACS.

Table 58: Travel Time			
Travel Time	Number	Percentage	
< 30 Minutes	42,672	74.9%	
30-59 Minutes	11,306	19.9%	
60 or More Minutes	2,980	5.2%	
Total	56,958	100%	

Data Source: 2019-2023 ACS

Table 59: Educational Attainment by Employment Status				
Edwarf and Affairment	In Labo			
Educational Attainment	Civilian		Not in Labor	
(Population 18+ years)	Employed	Unemployed	Force	
Less than high school graduate	5,274	332	3,969	
High school graduate (includes				
equivalency)	12,293	1,174	5,052	
Some college or Associate's degree	21,275	1,008	5,251	
Bachelor's degree or higher	14,199	375	1,558	

Data Source: 2019-2023 ACS

Table 60: Educational Attainment by Age						
	Age In Years					
Educational Attainment	18–24	25–34	35–44	45–64	65+	
	yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	
Less than 9th grade	106	507	1,017	3,770	1,683	
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	1,304	491	1,142	2,648	858	
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	4,333	6,012	4,717	7,829	4,753	
Some college, no degree	5,042	7,183	4,558	7,324	4,370	
Associate's degree	883	2,874	2,802	2,834	2,088	
Bachelor's degree	580	3,681	2,848	3,793	2,580	
Graduate or professional degree	22	1,426	2,071	2,359	1,851	

Data Source: 2019-2023 ACS

Table 61: Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months			
Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months		
Less than high school graduate	30,275		
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	36,337		
Some college or Associate's degree	48,883		
Bachelor's degree	75,872		
Graduate or professional degree	101,032		

Data Source: 2019-2023 ACS

# Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

Education and healthcare services (25.8%), retail trade (10.0%), and arts, entertainment, and accommodations (9.2%) are the top employment sectors for the City according to Table 55. Additionally, the manufacturing; professional, scientific, and management services related occupations; and public administration sectors combined yield almost one quarter of employment, at 23.8%.

# Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community.

Priority sectors for the City receiving targeted support and investment according to Employment Connection are:

- Green Energy: Includes renewable energy production, energy-efficient technologies, and environmental conservation efforts.
- Advanced Manufacturing: Includes food processing, biotechnology, and high-tech manufacturing.
- Transportation & Logistics: Includes trucking, warehousing, distribution, and supply chain management services; this sector benefits from Tulare County's transportation network and geographic location.
- Agri-business: Agriculture is central to the Tulare County economy and includes activities like crop production, food processing, agricultural technology, and distribution. Healthcare: Includes a need for medical professionals, administrators, and support staff.

Construction: Includes residential and commercial construction as well as infrastructure projects.

Workforce skill needs correspond to these priority industries.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

Upcoming economic impacts and trends in the City include but are not limited to the following (data sourced from HUD's State of the Cities Data Systems (SOCDS) Building Permits database, CoStar, and the Census Bureau):

- Single-family and multifamily residential units were issued 212 and 327 permits in 2024, the lowest count since 2012, respectively, according to HUD's State of the Cities Data Systems (SOCDS) Building Permits Database
- A number of workforce development efforts are underway but an emphasis on industrial job growth and workforce availability must continue to be a focus among education and workforce development partners in the region
- 2022 had the highest new residential building permit activity and new commercial building permit square footage since the early 2000's. The construction industry will experience a considerable job increase in the area at least in the short term
- There have been 240 units of positive absorption and 440 units of net deliveries in the last year in the City
- The state minimum wage increased to \$16.50/hr. effective January 1, 2025, and is likely playing a factor in the automation of certain jobs across sectors. This is also increasing the cost of goods and services in the region
- There are numerous other private sector developments currently underway or planned to be underway that will create additional jobs in the local economy. However, an economic slowdown could impact the timing of many of these projects

# How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

The City labor population has done a fairly sufficient job of meeting employment opportunities. This is evidenced by comparing the total number of jobs in a sector to the total number of workers in that sector, as shown in Table 55. Several sectors, including Education and Health Care Services; Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate; Information; Manufacturing; Retail; and Transportation and Warehousing, face the condition of having more jobs than workers. Gaps are largest in Education and Health Care, Retail, and Transportation and Warehousing.

# Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

There are many workforce training initiatives occurring in the City, led by various organizations:

- Training on soft skills and leadership, quality systems and continuous improvement, industrial automation, manufacturing, food safety, computer software skills, and social media (currently being done by College of the Sequoias Training Resource Center [COS TRC])
- Making skill development more financially accessible (being achieved locally in a variety

- of ways including, but not limited to, COS college coursework for VUSD high school students/dual enrollment, increased emphasis on internships and job shadowing in VUSD, increased efforts to create apprenticeship programs, and the COS TRC successfully acquiring an Employment Training Panel Multiple Employer Contract)
- Aligning and expanding traditional education (this is visible in VUSD's emphasis on Career Pathways/Linked Learning Academies and partnership with COS for Career Technical Education)
- Maximize hiring through a subsidized employment program (i.e., the Work Investment Board [WIB], TulareWORKs)
- Upskill Tulare County A community-wide initiative focused on increasing the skills of entry level workers to meet demands of middle skilled positions. This practice encourages employers to "grow their own" staffing resources, while promoting upward mobility in the workplace. Training courses include:
  - Essential workplace skills
  - Basic math for manufacturing industry
  - o Certified logistics associate
  - o Emergency medical tech refresher course
  - Front line supervisor
  - Intro to lean systems
  - Preventive controls for human foods training
  - Welding
  - o Intro to computer hardware and maintenance
  - Intro to sourcing and onboarding
  - Intro to Windows 10
- Sequoia Community Corps (SCC) offers vocational training in the trades of construction, solar, weatherization, urban forestry, recycling, electronic waste collection, oil collection and recycling education. SCC has been successfully operating in Tulare and Kings Counties for the past 30 years and has provided over 4,000 young adults with valuable job training and educational opportunities.
- Proteus operates the William M. Maguy School of Education (WMSE) and provides workforce development services "to assist the poor of Central California in meeting their employment and education needs by conducting educational and training programs on their behalf as well as expanding the range of job opportunities available to them." Since 1967, the non-profit organization has provided Adult Basic Education and ESL educational services to farmworkers in Tulare County and in 1972, the organization was incorporated and expanded to include the counties of Kings, Kern and Fresno. Today, in addition to education, Proteus also provides programs to families and individuals, some of which include workforce development, youth services, community service programs, energy services, foster care, and others.
- Community Services Employment Training (CSET) provides workforce development services that assist local businesses to thrive, while training residents of all ages to find their path to good jobs. These services are funded by the WIB, Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, Kings/Tulare Area Agency on Aging, and others. CSET is the WIB's One-Stop Operator for the Employment Connection a proud partner of America's Job Center of California Network in Visalia and Porterville, with satellite services in Tulare. Each location is equipped with a Resource Room including computers, printers, and internet access. Businesses attend specialized workshops to speak with job seekers who learn about employment opportunities. Youth gain work readiness and leadership skills, plan for college and careers, and gain valuable experiences through work-based learning.

# Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

No

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

Though the Tulare County Economic Development Corporation (TCEDC) has not developed a strategy document, the corporation facilitates the annual Sequoia Regional Economic Summit, where it presents the results of annual economic outlook reports that inform state, regional, and local economic development stakeholders of recent trends and developments in the regional economic climate. Tulare County's development is also guided by its General Plan, which is regularly updated.

#### **Discussion**

See above.

# **MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion**

# Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

The map below (Figure 4) illustrates census tracts where at least 51 percent of households are LMI (HUD's definition and requirement for "concentration"). As described in the Needs Assessment, multiple housing problems are experienced primarily by LMI households.

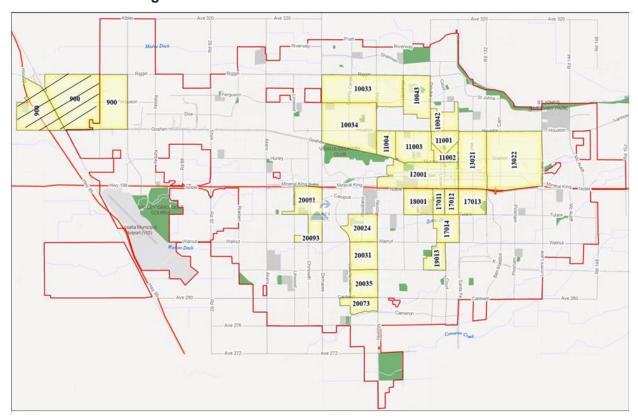


Figure 1: 2025 CDBG Low to Moderate Income Areas

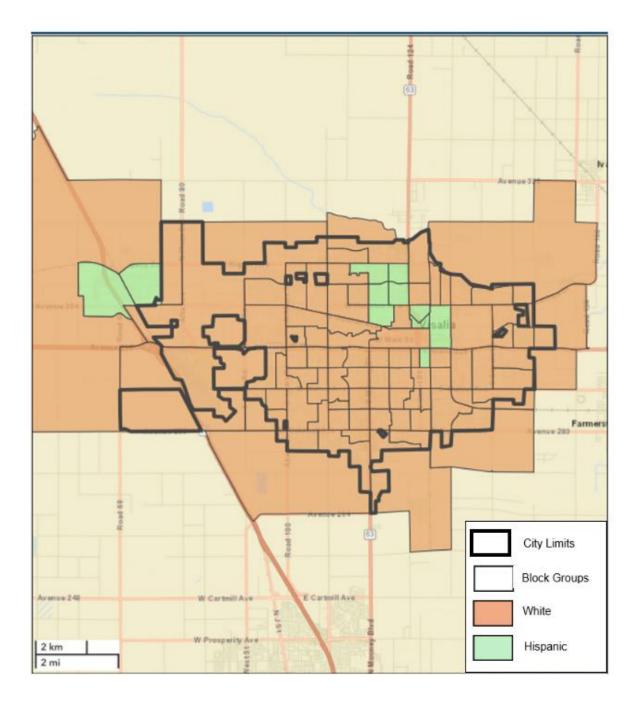
# Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

The map below (Figure 5) displays areas of racial or ethnic concentrations. See the map above for LMI concentrations.

To be considered a racially or ethnically concentrated area, the non-white population must be greater than 50%, while neighborhoods of "extreme poverty" are regarded as census tracts with 40% or more of individuals living at or below the poverty line. According to the California Department of Public Health, the 2024 Federal Poverty Level is \$20,783 for one individual, calculated by multiplying the national federal poverty level by 138%.

Figure 2: Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas





# What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

Some examples of market characteristics in these areas include:

- Tract 10.09 through 10.12's main commercial corridor is along Dinuba Blvd., from Houston Ave. to Riverway Dr. This area mainly consists of neighborhood commercial and mixed-use commercial zoning. This stretch of primarily retail uses has sub development potential. Adjacent to this tract at the NW corner of Dinuba and Riggin is the site of Orchard Walk West, which is part of the Donahue Schriber Orchard Walk retail center development. The Visalia Navigation Center is also located within this area.
- Tract 11 is included in the City's Opportunity Zone and contains a variety of zoning options. Main nodes would be the Oval Park area (commercial mixed-use zoning), including the Court/Locust downtown mixed-use corridor connecting downtown 'proper' to the Oval area and the Goshen/Murray commercial corridor from Divisadero to Santa Fe. The Oval features several restaurants and small businesses around the perimeter of the Oval Park, and a large office building that houses Visalia Youth Services, a division of Turning Point of Central California. Further up NW 3rd Avenue is the 'Community Campus' which is the location of several office facilities including CSET, Proteus, the Wittman Village Community Center, the Samaritan Center, and a Visalia Police Department substation. Also, there is a new community garden in an existing vacant lot adjacent to the substation.
- Tract 12 includes the downtown proper' and is the heart of the city. Mainly consisting of downtown mixed-use zoning, it also contains some commercial mixed use, office conversion, professional/administrative office, and single and multifamily residential. As the core of downtown, this is a major jobs center with retail, entertainment, nonprofit, government, professional and healthcare employment opportunities. The largest employer in this tract is also one of the largest employers in the city, Kaweah Health Care District. In addition, Family Healthcare Network is based in this tract as well.
- Tract 13.06 includes the east downtown area, the future site of the city's civic center and the city's next big major regional park. The 200-acre park around Mill Creek and Packwood Creek will also serve as groundwater recharge but will feature golf, riparian trails, a large special event area, picnic arbors, playground, soccer fields, baseball field, tennis courts, an amphitheater, and education barn. Also, the city's future civic center is underway with the first facility constructed, the Visalia Emergency Communications Center (VECC). The VECC is a 2 story 18,790 sq-ft., essential services facility that houses 911 Dispatch, Fire Administration, the City's Emergency Operation Center, the Traffic Management Center, and the City's secure Data Center. The Civic Center is breaking ground Summer of 2025 and will include the new civic center, city hall, public safety building, police department processing, storage building, city council chambers, and an outdoor pavilion.
- Tract 17.01 has a broad mix of zoning types, including multifamily, single family, light industrial, neighborhood commercial, office conversion, professional/administrative office, commercial mixed use and service commercial. There are two main activity centers in this tract, the Kaweah Delta Urgent Care medical area along Court at Paradise and the Olive Plant industrial space along Santa Fe and the neighborhood and service commercial corridor adjacent to the north. There are other medical users near the Kaweah Delta Urgent Care facility and Walgreens on the northwest corner of Walnut and Court nearby. There is also Advanced Food Products, which is a food processing facility near the

northeastern edge of this tract that is a quality employer in the area. Lastly, adjacent to this tract is the city's main auto row along Ben Maddox and Mary's Vineyard shopping center and Walmart.

# Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Some examples of community assets in these areas include:

- Tract 10.09 through 10.12- Tulare County Public Health Clinic, Bethlehem Center, Tulare County WIC office, Proteus Administration office, Social Vocational Services, Highland Gardens (Self Help Enterprises housing development), Manuel Hernandez Community Center, Crowley Elementary, Shannon Ranch Elementary, and Riverview Elementary.
- Tract 11 Creative Center and Ice House Theater (Visalia Players), Family Healthcare Network Walk in Clinic, Visalia Rescue Mission shelter facilities, Visalia Emergency Aid Council, ProYouth, Houston Elementary, and Highland Elementary.
- Tract 12 Visalia Transit Center, Visalia Arts Consortium, Town Meadows senior housing, Visalia Senior Center, Oak Meadows senior housing, Tulare County Library, Turning Point Youth Services, Source LGBT+ Center, Visalia Police Department, Redwood High School, Anthony Community Center, Community Water Center, Planned Parenthood, and Visalia Veteran's Memorial Building.
- Tract 13.06 City Hall, Visalia PAL, and the Visalia Rescue Mission.
- Tract 17.01 Sierra Meadows senior housing, Tulare County Health and Human Services Mental Health Clinic, Washington Elementary, Boys and Girls Club, Victory Outreach Women's Recovery Home, and Eden House.

## Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

Tract 10.09 through 10.12 –The northern end of this commercial corridor is the main retail power center in North Visalia and is across from an extremely popular regional park. There are plans in the works for more retail and residential development in this area as well as to the west. The Dinuba Boulevard corridor can realize additional development as a result.

Tract 11 – The Oval Park commercial area features a number of excellent small businesses and restaurants and is connected to the Downtown core via the Court/Locust downtown mixed-use corridor. Efforts must be made to encourage more foot traffic in this retail area from the downtown corridor and greater region as it is a destination of its own. Additionally, more efforts could be made to assist residents and families in the immediate vicinity to improve their abilities to generate wealth. This could potentially include additional programs to assist with job training and entrepreneurship and subsidized childcare services. There are sites that could be redeveloped and developed in this area, and again, this tract is in the Opportunity Zone.

Tract 12 – There are a number of projects underway in the downtown core. As always, parking availability and safety continue to be integral to the downtown's continued success.

# **MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing**

# Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

The City of Visalia recognizes that access to reliable, high-speed broadband internet is vital for economic opportunity, education, healthcare, and overall quality of life for its residents. While identified as a need, numerous households and residents still lack adequate high-speed internet connections. Limited access to high-speed broadband internet contributes to an ongoing digital divide that adversely impacts individuals residing in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. The lack of access can significantly hinder the ability of residents to obtain critical resources and services that are essential for maintaining a good quality of life. Consequently, neighborhoods with limited or no access to high-speed internet face various challenges in acquiring equitable opportunities for learning, employment, medical care, etc. This disparity can further perpetuate economic and social inequalities, impacting the ability of residents to fully participate in the digital economy and access vital online services.

## **Speed and Service Across Visalia**

According to data from <u>BroadbandNow</u>, approximately 95% of Visalia residents have access to broadband internet speeds of at least 25 Mbps. However, this leaves an estimated 5% of the population without access to basic broadband speeds. More concerning is the limited availability of high-speed fiber internet, which is accessible to only 24% of Visalia residents. Throughout Visalia, broadband access varies significantly by connection type. As seen below in Figure 1, satellite internet is available to 100% of residents, ensuring coverage even in rural areas, though it typically has high latency. DSL service, which offers on average 100 Mbps in terms of speed but is generally slower than cable or fiber, is available to 56.23% of the population. Cable internet, with speeds ranging from 250 Mbps to 1 Gbps is accessible to 92.28% of residents. However, fiber internet, which provides the fastest speeds at 1 Gbps or higher, is only available to 21.29% of Visalia residents, highlighting a significant gap in access to high-speed infrastructure.

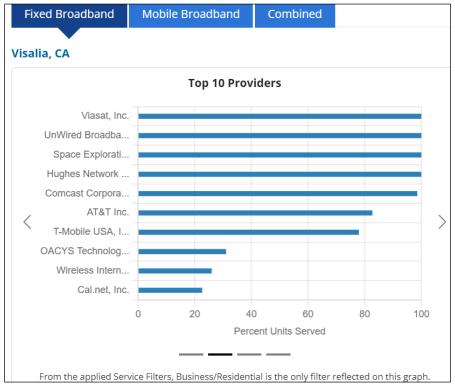
CONNECTION TYPE	ABOUT THIS CONNECTION TYPE	AVAILABILITY IN VISALIA, C
Satellite	Available even in very rural areas	100%
	Typically has high latency (lag)	
DSL	Typically about 100 Mbps	56.23000000000004%
	Slower than Cable or Fiber	
Cable	• Typically 250 Mbps - 1 Gbps	92.28%
	Widely available	
	A good choice for most users	
Fiber	Typically 1 Gbps or faster	21.29%
	Upload speeds match download speeds	

Figure 3 - Provider Connection Types in Visalia, CA (BroadbandNow.com)

## **Visalia Service Providers**

<u>BroadbandNow</u> also shows that Visalia residents have access to 23 internet service providers. Data reflected in Figure 7 below from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) highlights the top 10 broadband service providers that offer coverage across the city. Thus, Visalia's

population has multiple options when selecting an internet service provider, though access to high-speed options such as fiber remains limited in certain areas.



Provider	Residential
Viasat	100% coverage
	56.3K units
UnWired	100% coverage
	56.3K units
Space	100% coverage
Exploration	56.3K units
Hughes	100% coverage
	56.3K units
Comcast	98.5% coverage
	55.5K units
AT&T	82.7% coverage
	46.6K units
T-Mobile	77.91 coverage
	43.9K units
OACYS	31.0% coverage
	17.6K units
Wireless	25.9% coverage
	14.6K units
Cal.net	22.5% coverage
	12.7K units

Figure 4 - Top 10 Broadband Providers (Federal Communications Commission)

#### **Visalia Broadband Needs**

The <u>FCC National Broadband Map</u> (as of December 31, 2023) also reflects areas throughout the City of Visalia where coverage is not readily available for several residential areas. Figures 8 and 9 below reflects several areas of the City considered to be low- to-moderate income where coverage is either not available, or available in a limited capacity. Areas of no coverage are primarily located in the following areas:

- South of W. Noble Ave., east of S. Demaree St.
- North of W. Tulare Ave., east of N. Ben Maddox Way
- South of E. Goshen Ave., east of N. Tipton St.

Based on the Highest and Lowest Income Map shown at <u>BestNeighborhood.org</u> (Figure 10), these areas of the City are considered to be low- to-moderate income neighborhoods, which are more likely to be disproportionately impacted by limited broadband access.

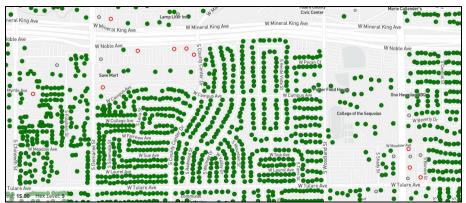
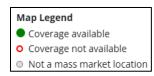


Figure 5 - south of W. Noble Ave., east of S. Demaree St.; north of W. Tulare Ave., east of N. Ben Maddox Way



Map LegendCoverage availableCoverage not availableNot a mass market location



Figure 6 - south of E. Goshen Ave., east of N. Tipton St.

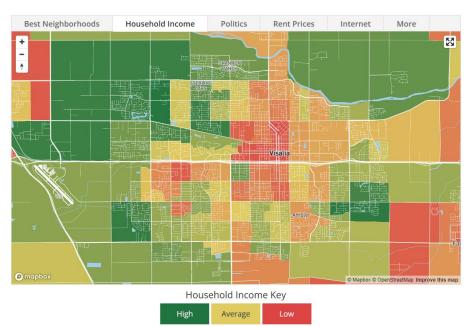


Figure 10 – Highest and Lowest Income Areas in Visalia, CA.

Low-income households face particular challenges in accessing broadband. The <u>Affordable Connectivity Program</u> (ACP) was providing critical support, offering up to \$30 per month to help cover internet costs for eligible low-income families.

With the expiration of this program in June 2024, many households have had to reduce their internet plans or lose service entirely. According to a <u>FCC survey</u> completed December 2023, 77% of ACP enrollees reported they would need to change or stop their broadband service without the benefit.

The FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), launched in December 2021, provided up to \$30 monthly to assist eligible low-income households afford internet service. With the expiration of the ACP in June 2024, many households found themselves needing to downgrade their internet plans, while some found themselves needing to terminate their broadband internet service completely. An FCC survey from December 2023 revealed that 77% of ACP enrollees indicated they would need to alter or discontinue their broadband service without access to the ACP benefit. This data highlighted the program's importance in maintaining broadband access for low-income families and the potential negative impact of its expiration.

# Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

The current market landscape and its effects on residents highlight the City's need for greater competition among multiple broadband internet service providers in Visalia, CA. While the City has 23 internet service providers, access to high-speed options like fiber remains limited, with only 21.29% of residents having access to this fastest internet technology. The lack of competition in high-speed services has led to continued disparities in coverage, particularly among low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, widening the digital divide. Increased competition could drive providers to expand their coverage, improve service quality, and offer more affordable options for low-income households struggling to maintain their internet service. By fostering a more competitive broadband market, Visalia could address coverage gaps, improve internet access, and advance digital equity for all socioeconomic groups.

## The following consultations were completed for Broadband and emergency management.

## **Broadband:**

- <u>Self-Help Enterprises</u>: This organization helps to bridge the digital divide by providing free computer access in most of its rental communities as well as digital literacy classes.
- <u>Tulare County</u>: The County was recently awarded funding from the State of California and is working with Comcast to expand broadband infrastructure and access throughout the area.

# **Emergency Management:**

<u>Tulare County</u>: The City of Visalia is one of 11 jurisdictions participating with Tulare County
as part of a Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The City and County
regularly coordinate on emergency management issues.

# **MA-65 Hazard Mitigation**

# Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change

The City of Visalia has historically experienced multiple climate-related hazards, including flooding, extreme heat events, wildfires, and drought conditions. Based on current climate projections, these environmental risks are anticipated to increase in both frequency and intensity due to ongoing climate change impacts. Analysis indicates that the City's Low- and Moderate-Income (LMI) population is disproportionately vulnerable to climate change impacts. Demographic and geographic data reveal that 100% of the LMI population resides in areas with historically higher exposure to climate-related hazards compared to the average exposure levels across California.

Figure 11 (below) shows that around half of the geographical area occupied by LMI households would face an overall hazard exposure exceeding the 35<sup>th</sup> percentile relative to other locations in the State, while the other half would face an overall hazard exposure exceeding the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile. All of the City's LMI households live in areas that have a hazard exposure exceeding the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile in at least one of the four hazard categories mentioned above, and none of the City's LMI households reside in an area with no hazard exposure.

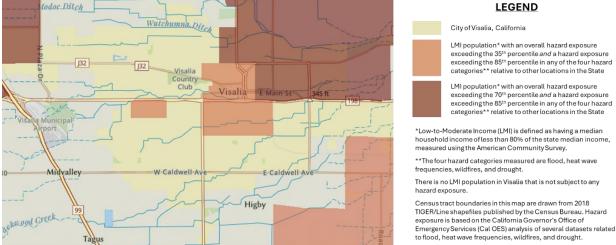


Figure 11 Visalia hazard exposure and LMI concentration map

#### Flood Risk Increase

Due to the City's proximity to the Kaweah River distributary system, flooding has historically been a problem and is expected to worsen as climate change brings stronger storms and higher sea levels. These events create heavier rainfall may exceed the capacity of the area's existing flood management infrastructure. This risk is particularly pronounced during El Niño seasons, which are characterized by above-average rainfall and have shown a trend of increasing intensity in recent decades.

Furthermore, the Kaweah River distributary system originates in the Sierra Nevada Mountains – with increasing temperatures due to climate change, ice melting and runoff from these mountains could also strain groundwater stores and further increase the likelihood of severe flooding in the area. Tulare County, in which the City of Visalia resides, also hosts a significant portion of its population within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains.

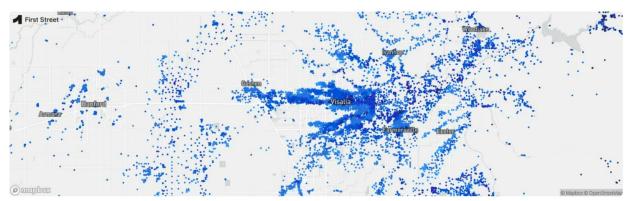


Figure 72 Visalia Flood Map

#### **Heat Risk Increase**

Due to climate change, days with higher temperatures will increase in both frequency and intensity. This is expected to prolong dry seasons, leading to more frequent and severe heatwaves. According to data from <u>First Street</u>, a reliable climate risk data analysis firm, Visalia is trending towards experiencing 109 days per year with temperatures above 90°F. Extreme heat events (categorized as over 84°F) present serious health risks to human life, such as cardiovascular and respiratory-related mortality, while also increasing hospital admissions and emergency room visits.

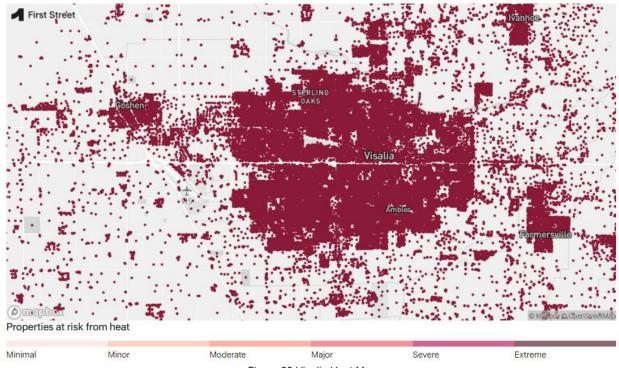
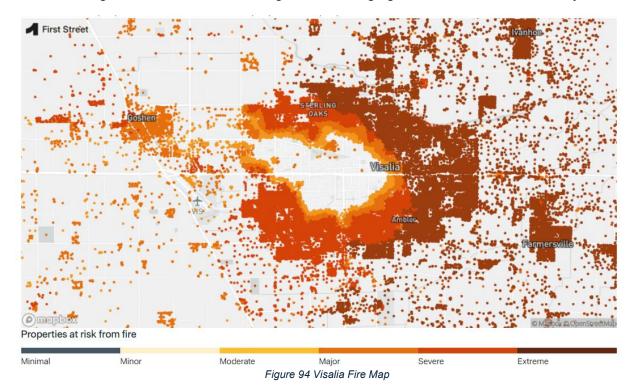


Figure 83 Visalia Heat Map

#### Wildfires Risk Increase

Rapidly increasing temperatures and lengthened dry seasons are prime causes for wildfires, particularly in areas near the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The <u>Tulare County Hazard Mitigation Plan</u> lists an expectation of 2 to 3 wildfires per year within the County. This risk is exacerbated by the County's overstocked forests, severely overgrown vegetation, and lack of

defensible space around structures. Specifically, according to First Street data, there are 38,104 properties in Visalia that have some risk of being affected by wildfires over the next 30 years – this represents 83% of all properties in Visalia. In addition to damaging properties, wildfire can also cut off access to utilities and impact emergency services and evacuation, especially since excessive vegetation is often found alongside and hanging over roads in Tulare County.



Prolonged heat events cause more water to evaporate from the land, which can dry out soil and vegetation and reduce surface water quantity. The increased frequency and intensity of drought conditions resulting from climate changes adversely impact the agricultural productivity and economic stability of Visalia. This environmental stress poses significant challenges to the region's primary economic sector and overall fiscal health. Direct impacts of prolonged droughts include reduced crop productivity, increased fire hazards, and increased livestock mortality, which in turn cause higher prices for food and lumber, unemployment, reduced tax revenues, and foreclosures on bank loans to farmers and businesses.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

# **Vulnerability to Flooding**

**Drought Risk Increase** 

Housing occupied by LMI households in Visalia is particularly vulnerable to flooding, primarily due to their location in high-risk flood zones, including the 100-year and 500-year floodplains. Additionally, many of these homes are in substandard physical condition, which further increases their risk of damage during severe flooding events.

These homes have outdated infrastructure, poor drainage, and inadequate floodproofing, all of which increase the likelihood of significant property damage during a flood. Many LMI households

also cannot afford flood insurance, making them less likely to perform home repairs that would help in withstanding recurring floods.

## **Vulnerability to Heat**

Affordable homes occupied by LMI households often lack proper insulation or efficient cooling systems, making them more susceptible to dangerously high indoor temperatures during prolonged heat waves. Furthermore, the LMI population includes a higher proportion of the elderly, young children, and those with pre-existing medical conditions, all of whom are more susceptible to heat-related illnesses. LMI individuals may experience barriers when attempting to access public cooling centers and other heat mitigation resources during extreme heat events, including: limited transportation, inability to access and/or receive critical information, and reluctance to leave their homes due to security concerns. The MJHMP recommends providing increased heat warnings and protective information to vulnerable residents, and setting up services, such as frequent transportation and evacuation, to help LMI individuals access safer locations to escape extreme heat conditions.

## **Vulnerability to Wildfires**

The substandard or dilapidated housing commonly occupied by LMI households often lacks adequate air filtration and window systems to protect against smoke and poor air quality from nearby wildfires. This creates significant health risks, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and individuals with medical conditions within the LMI community. LMI households may face additional struggles with the financial and logistical aspects of relocating in the event of evacuation, even temporarily, and may also have limited access to healthcare and necessary protective measures, such as air purifiers and N95 masks. Furthermore, rising labor and construction material costs are making it increasingly challenging for LMI households to retrofit their homes. In addition, the growing prevalence of home insurance non-renewals and cancellations due to wildfire risks, particularly in states like California, exacerbates these difficulties, leaving many LMI households with limited options for improving the safety and resilience of their homes. Based on the MJHMP, efforts should be made to first identify existing housing structures that do not conform to contemporary fire standards, especially in severe fire hazard zones which include many LMI residential areas, and then seek grant funding for the rehabilitation of deteriorated and dilapidated structures.

## **Vulnerability to Drought**

Overall, drought conditions do not inherently pose a greater risk to housing occupied by LMI households compared to other income groups. However, water shortages caused by prolonged drought periods may disproportionately impact LMI households due to their pre-existing challenges in accessing reliable water supplies. As water becomes scarcer, utility costs are likely to rise, thereby forcing these households to make difficult decisions such as reducing water use to levels that compromise their hygiene and health. Drought conditions also contribute to wildfires, exacerbating this cycle of disaster vulnerability for LMI populations. The City should engage the LMI community to further develop, revise, and maintain drought response plans with a focus on activities that could foreseeably impact the LMI population.

# **Strategic Plan**

## **SP-05 Overview**

# **Strategic Plan Overview**

The Strategic Plan documents the City's priority needs, goals and strategies. These priority needs, goals and strategies have been developed after an assessment of the data presented in the Market Analysis, Needs Assessment, and 2025/26-2029/30 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, as well as a review of feedback gathered from community residents, organizations, agencies, and other stakeholders via citizen participation and consultation activities.

Data and feedback revealed the following priority needs to guide the City's strategy for utilizing CDBG and HOME funds:

- Public Services
- Property Maintenance
- Neighborhood Preservation
- Emergency Shelter
- Improvements to Community and Public Facilities
- Affordable Housing
- Program Administration

The City has established the following seven goals, with corresponding projects, to address these priority needs:

Table 62: Goals and Projects				
Projects				
Public Services (15%)				
Single-Family Home Repair Program				
Senior Mobile Home Repair Program				
Code Enforcement Low-Mod Income Areas				
Emergency Shelter Development				
Sidewalk ADA Improvements				
Park/Public Youth Improvements				
HOME-CHDO Project - Rancho Colegio				
HOME-CHDO Project - Senior Housing				
HOME-CHDO Project - Affordable Rental Housing				
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance				
Administration and Planning				

# SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

# **Geographic Area**

CDBG and HOME funds will be available citywide for eligible projects that serve Low-and Moderate-Income (LMI) populations. Other projects that benefit entire residential areas, such as code enforcement and park/public improvements will be targeted at Low-Moderate-Income (LMI) Census Tracts.

**Table 63: Geographic Priority Areas** 

1	Area Name:	Citywide		
	Area Type:	Citywide program or activity		
	Other Target Area Description:	N/A		
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	N/A		
	% of Low/ Mod:	N/A		
	Revital Type:	N/A		
	Other Revital Description:	N/A		
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	Within the City of Visalia, CA boundaries. Visalia lies within the County of Tulare  Visalia is the oldest town in the San Joaquin Valley-an area that is the largest contributor to the United States' agricultural production. Visalia is 37.74 square miles, the largest city in Tulare County, which is located east of State Highway 99 and along State Highway 198. In 1874, Visalia was incorporated as a city with a common council and an ex-officio Mayor and President. Today Visalia is a charter city.		
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.			
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	N/A		
	Identify the needs in this target area.	N/A		
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	N/A		
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	N/A		
2	Area Name:	LMI Census Tracts		
	Area Type:	LMI Census Tracts in Visalia		
	Other Target Area Description:	LMI Census Tracts in Visalia		
	HUD Approval Date:	Pending		
	% of Low/ Mod:	100%		
	Revital Type:	N/A		
	Other Revital Description:	N/A		

Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	Boundaries are established by the U.S. Census Bureau and determined as CDBG-eligible by HUD.		
Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	Numbers reflect households that are LMI (0-80% AMI) are more often renters. LMI renters outnumber LMI owners by 50%. Also, renters are shown to experience problems at a rate 60% more than owners.		
	The City conducted a Housing Windshield Survey analysis, and data gathered provides additional confirmation that rehabilitation and ADA accessibly improvements of existing housing units is needed.		
How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	Based upon the community outreach meetings, stakeholder interviews and surveys completed the LM areas were found to be the most in need of housing and community improvements.		
Identify the needs in this target area.	Many projects are funded city wide except for Code Enforcement and Park/Public Improvements that would be in LMI tracts for eligible LMA projects.		
	CDBG-funded park/public improvements will typically be categorized under the LMI Benefit national objective as an LMA activity. – Under the LMA benefit the public improvement must benefit all residents of an area where at least 51% of the residents are LMI and the area is primarily residential.		
What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	Code enforcement services and park/public improvements.		
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	Barriers include flood zones that require flood insurance and/or mitigation.		

# Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

CDBG-funded public facilities and improvements will typically be categorized under the Low-Moderate-Income Area (LMA) Benefit national objective as an Area Benefit activity. The specific geographic details of these facilities and improvements are still being determined.

Most projects are funded citywide with the exception of code enforcement and park/public youth improvements that will be located in low-and moderate-income areas.

The City does not receive HUD Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA) funds.

# **SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)**

Based upon the community outreach meetings, stakeholder interviews and surveys completed, the top priorities identified are public services, property maintenance, neighborhood preservation, emergency shelter, improvements to community and public facilities; affordable housing; and program administration

## **Priority Needs:**

- Public Services
  - Homeless assistance/prevention, job training, youth services, and fair housing
- Property Maintenance
  - Single-family and mobile home rehabilitation for low-income senior and/or disabled owner occupants to allow this vulnerable population to remain in their home longer.
- Neighborhood Preservation
  - Code enforcement services in deteriorating or deteriorated LMI census tracts
- Emergency Shelter
  - Development of a low-barrier emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness.
- Improve Community and Public Facilities
  - o Infrastructure accessibility and public youth amenities improvements.
- Affordable Housing
  - Development of affordable rental housing including senior housing, and tenantbased rental assistance.
- Program Administration
  - CDBG and HOME program administration and oversight.

Table 64: Priority Needs Summary						
Priority Need Name	Priority Level	Population	Geographic Areas Affected	Associated Goals	Description	Basis for Relative Priority
Public Services	High	Extremely low, low, and moderate-income persons  Homeless and youth subpopulations	Citywide	Address Special Service Needs	Priority needs identified for Public Services include homelessness services, homeless prevention services, job training, youth services, and fair housing.	Input gathered through community outreach efforts: o Community and organization surveys and forums o City staff and Council input
Property Maintenance	High	Extremely low, low, and moderate-income seniors and/or disabled households.	Citywide	Preserve Homeownership	Rehabilitation of single- family and mobile homes for senior and/or disabled owner occupied LMI households.	Input gathered through community outreach efforts: o Community and organization surveys and forums o City staff and Council input
Neighborhood Preservation	High	Extremely low, low, and moderate- income households	LMI Census Tracts	Combat Blighting Conditions	Code enforcement services in deteriorating or deteriorated LMI census tracts.	Input gathered through community outreach efforts: o Community and organization surveys and forums o City staff and Council input o Community forums

Emergency Shelter	High	Extremely low - income individuals experiencing homelessness	Citywide	Combat Homelessness	Development of a low- barrier emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness.	Input gathered through community outreach efforts: o Community and organization surveys and forums o City staff and Council input
Improve Community and Public Facilities	High	Extremely low, low, and moderate- income senior, disabled, and youth	Citywide & LMI Census Tracts	Enhance Community Development	Improve public infrastructure accessibility for senior and mobility impaired. Improve park and/or public youth amenities in LMI census tracts.	Input gathered through community outreach efforts: o Community and organization surveys and forums o City staff and Council input
Affordable Housing	High	Extremely low, and low-income households Small and large families, seniors, and disabled households	Citywide	Increase Affordable Housing	Development of affordable rental housing and tenant-based rental assistance.	Input gathered through community outreach efforts: o Community and organization surveys and forums o City staff and Council input
Administration	High	Other	Citywide	Program Administration	Program oversight	Program administration and planning.

### **Narrative (Optional)**

#### **Rationale for Prioritization**

The City expects to address all of the priority needs identified in the ConPlan via the planned projects. Other ongoing efforts occurring with other funding sources, as described in later sections, will also target some of the priority needs. The citizen and organization surveys, HUD data, and consultation activities led to the prioritization of these projects.

## SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

### **Influence of Market Conditions**

Table 65:	Influence of Market Conditions
Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Housing cost burden was the problem experienced most, by both owners and renters, followed by severe housing cost burden. Data reflects that LMI renters (0-80 AMI) experience housing cost burdens approximately 1.4 times more often than owners. Renters are also more likely to experience sever housing cost burden. Overall, renters experience housing problems more than homeowners and cost burden occurs more often than other problems.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Similar to market forces that influence the use of TBRA, such as cost burden, many special needs populations may have extremely limited incomes and may only be receiving disability income. In addition, some special needs populations incur greater expenses, such as high medical costs for persons affected by HIV/AIDS which could result in less income to spend on housing costs. There is a need for rental assistance for special needs populations.
New Unit Production	According to CHAS 2017-2021 data, approximately 3,995 households are at 0-30% AMI, and 4,720 households are at 30-50% AMI. The City of Visalia only has 166 public housing units. Median rental units in the City of Visalia range from \$1,239 for a studio apartment to \$2,599 for a 4-bedroom apartment. LMI households may be able to afford studio units; however, larger units and homeownership would likely not be affordable to lower income households.
Rehabilitation	Organization consultations revealed a priority need for the rehabilitation of single-family and mobile home units, particularly for seniors and disabled, to preserve affordable housing and keep seniors and disabled in their homes.
Acquisition, including Preservation	Overall, the CHAS 2017-2021 data show two household types with the most need. Small family households at zero to 80% AMI make up 41.4% of total households in this income range, and families with children six years old or younger make up 26.1% of the total households in this income range. Further, renters experience housing problems more than homeowners, cost burden occurs more often than other problems, followed by overcrowding. Severe cost burden was the problem experienced most by both owners and renters, but more so by renters. Renters in the income bracket of zero to 50 percent accounted for approximately 87 percent of households experiencing severe cost burden.

### SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The City as an entitlement jurisdiction receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These programs are designed to assist low and moderate income (LMI) households by investing in the City's local communities/neighborhoods. This Annual Action Plan (AAP) covers the first year of the City's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and outlines plans for implementing the 5-year goals identified in the Strategic Plan for the 5-year period from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2030.

The Program Year (PY) 2025 CDBG budget consists of \$1,139,838 in entitlement funds, \$50,000 in estimated program income, and \$450,000 in prior year funds for a total of \$1,639,838. The PY 2025 HOME budget consists of \$426,943.86 in entitlement funds, \$100,000 in estimated program income, and \$40,000 in prior resources for a total of \$566,943.86. The "Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan" is the first year 2025 grant allocation multiplied by 4 years to equal total remainder of ConPlan in program year 2025. Each program year the "Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan" is reduced by the current grant allocation.

The City currently does not have an Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) or Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant.

### **Anticipated Resources**

	Table 66: Anticipated Resources								
Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Exp Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income:	nt Available Yea Prior Year Resources: \$	r 1 Total: \$	Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan	Narrative Description	
CDBG	Federal	<ul> <li>Administration</li> <li>Public Services (15%)</li> <li>Single-family and mobile home repair programs</li> <li>Code enforcement</li> <li>Emergency shelter development</li> </ul>	\$1,139,838	\$50,000	\$450,000	\$1,639,838	\$5,000,000	In 2025, the CDBG funds are \$1,139,838 in entitlement funds, and \$500,000 in estimated program income and other funds.	
HOME	Federal	<ul> <li>Administration</li> <li>CHDO Rancho         Colegio rental         project</li> <li>CHDO Senior         rental housing         project</li> <li>CHDO Affordable         rental housing         project</li> </ul>	\$426,943.86	\$100,000	\$40,000	\$566,943.86	\$2,400,000	In 2025, the HOME funds are \$426,943.86 in entitlement and \$140,000 in estimated program income and other funds.	

# Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied.

The City leverages both federal and local housing funds by supporting non-profit organizations that develop affordable housing. The City, or its partners, provides matching funds for housing related services to several programs, which includes the following:

- SHE-CHDO Scattered Multi-Family Site Acquisition/Development. For example, the City's HOME CHDO Rancho Colegio Project is the development of an 80-unit multi-family affordable housing complex that is budgeted at an estimated \$35 million. HOME funds will be leveraged with the various other funding sources, such as, Multifamily Housing Program (MHP), Joe Serna Farmworker Housing Grant (FWHG), and the Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG).
- Voucher Program Match to receive HUD CoC grants to provide permanent supportive housing vouchers.
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Rental subsidies to support affordable housing units.

Below is a list of potential financial resources considered to be a part of the City's overall financial plan to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan. The number and availability of these programs to assist cities is limited, and funding for new projects is unpredictable. The following programs are local, state, and federal programs. None of these are managed locally by the City through funds accessed directly from HUD.

- Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) is a public housing authority with jurisdiction within the City and the County. It administers federal and state funds for its public housing projects and government-assisted housing units, such as Section 8 and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers.
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC) provides federal and state tax credits
  for private developers and investors who agree to set aside all or an established
  percentage of their rental units for low-income households for no less than 30 years under
  administration by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC). Tax credits
  are awarded on a competitive basis at varying times. Compliance is monitored according
  to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules and regulations.

The City will also be receiving Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funding which will assist with matching requirements.

 PLHA provides funding to local governments in California to help increase the affordable housing stock. Funding will help increase the supply of housing for households at or below 60% of area median income; increasing assistance to affordable owner-occupied workforce housing; assisting persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness; and promoting projects to meet Visalia's unmet share of the regional housing needs allocation.

# If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The City of Visalia does not currently own any land considered viable for the needs and uses identified in the plan. However, there is no shortage or available land for these purposes.

#### Discussion

See above discussion.

### **SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)**

# Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Visalia is a charter city and is managed under a Council-manager form of government. City Council provides policy direction to the City Manager who is responsible for administering City operations. City Council members are the leaders and policymakers elected to represent the community and concentrate on policy that addresses the citizens' needs and wishes. The City Manager is appointed by the City Council to carry out policy and ensure that the entire community is served. The legislative body is the City Council and City Councilmembers are the community's decision makers. Visalia voters elect a 5-member Council to serve as the City's legislative and governing body. The members represent the City and their respective Districts, serve four-year terms and they select one member to serve as mayor and one to serve as vice- mayor. A general municipal election is held every two years in November, alternating between two and three positions each cycle.

The Finance Department-Housing Division oversees and administers the day-to-day activities of the CDBG, HOME and other state and federal funded programs. Staff works together with various City departments to develop programs and activities that improve low-and moderate-income neighborhoods throughout the City. The administration of program activities includes housing, public services, public facility, park, and infrastructure improvements.

During the Consolidated Plan public review period, priorities were established. Additionally, input is received by the community, various committees and City Council during the feedback period in developing the annual plan.

Table 67: Institutional Delivery Structure							
Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Type				
City of Visalia	Local Government Departments	Planning	Jurisdiction				
Kings/Tulare Counties Continuum of Care	Non-profit Continuum of Care	Homelessness	Region				

### Assessment of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

Interdepartmental communication and collaboration are two strengths of the delivery system. City staff from various departments works with local organizations and agencies that assist low-income households and individuals. High priority needs were identified during the Consolidated Plan's community engagement and public review periods.

# Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Table 68: Homeless Services Summary								
Homelessness Prevention	Available in the	Targeted to	Targeted to People					
Services	Community	Homeless	with HIV					
Homelessness Prevention Services								
Counseling/Advocacy	X	Χ	X					
Legal Assistance	X	Χ	X					
Mortgage Assistance	Χ	Χ	X					
Rental Assistance	Χ	Χ	X					
Utilities Assistance	Χ	Χ	Χ					
	Street Outreach S	ervices						
Law Enforcement	X	Χ						
Mobile Clinics	X	Χ						
Other Street Outreach	X	X						
Services	^	^						
	Supportive Ser	vices						
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	Χ						
Child Care	X	Χ						
Education	X	Χ						
Employment and Employment	X	X						
Training	Λ	^						
Healthcare	X	Χ						
HIV/AIDS	X	Χ						
Life Skills	X	Χ						
Mental Health Counseling	X	Χ						
Transportation	X	Χ						
	Other							
Other								

Describe the extent to which services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV, and mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services are made available to and used by homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) and persons with HIV within the jurisdiction.

The community conducts extensive street outreach to engage people who are experiencing homelessness. The Alliance hosts a weekly Local Initiatives Navigation Center (LINC) at the Visalia Rescue Mission every Monday from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. A variety of service providers participate in LINC. They offer benefit application assistance, CA ID vouchers, birth certificates, legal assistance, SSI advocacy, mental health triage, chemical dependency assessments, veteran's services, and assessments for housing.

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above.

The service delivery system offers connections in a variety of formats and covers all sub-populations. The primary gap is the lack of housing available and rental subsidies for people

experiencing homelessness in our region. In the past 5 years, several permanent supportive housing projects have been developed, which has exhausted the majority of rental subsidies available for the bi-county region. As a result, additional rental subsidies are needed to sustain new and existing permanent supportive housing projects and ensure tenant long-term housing stability. To minimize this gap, the City is allocating HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) for special needs populations and persons experiencing homelessness.

# Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system to address priority needs

The City will continue working with its partners to identify funding opportunities and leverage federal, state, and local funding to provide affordable housing and public services and overcome gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system to address priority needs. The City will continue its partnerships with non-profit organizations in the community. Additionally, the City will continue to work with the Alliance and partnering with housing, service, and faith-based organizations to discover and address gaps in service.

# **SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)**

### **Goals Summary Information**

	Table 69: Goals Summary								
Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator	
1	Address Special Service Needs	2025	2029	Special Services	Citywide	Public Services	CDBG: \$900,000	Public service activities for Extremely Low-Income Housing Benefit: 2,225 Households Assisted; Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted.	
2	Preserve Homeownership	2025	2029	Household Maintenance	Citywide	Property Maintenance	CDBG: \$1,000,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 30 Household Housing Units	
3	Combat Blighting Conditions	2025	2029	Household Maintenance	LMI Census Tracts	Neighborhood Preservation	CDBG: \$850,000	Housing Code Enforcement/ Foreclosed Property Care: 1,000 Household Housing Units	
4	Combat Homelessness	2025	2029	Homeless Needs	Citywide	Emergency Shelter	CDBG: \$1,301,878	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds Added: 100 Beds	
5	Enhance Community Development	2025	2029	Community Development	Citywide & LMI Census Tracts	Improve Community and Public Facilities	CDBG: \$1,350,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure activities other than Low-Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5,400 Persons Assisted  Public Facility or Infrastructure activities other than Low-Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2,000 Persons Assisted	
6	Increase Affordable Housing	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$2,716,943.86	Rental Units Constructed: 33 Low-Income Household; Tenant-Based Rental Assistance/ Rapid Rehousing: 35 Households Assisted	
7	Program Administration	2025	2029	Administration	Citywide	Administration	CDBG: \$1,237,960 HOME: \$250,000	N/A	

#### **Goal Descriptions**

	Table 70: Goal Descriptions						
#	Goal Name	Goal Description					
1	Address Special Service Needs	Provide essential public services which include homeless services, homeless prevention, housing flex funds, job training, youth services, and fair housing services.					
2	Preserve Homeownership	Single-family and mobile home rehabilitation programs for low-and-moderate-income owner occupants who are elderly and/or disabled.					
3	Combat Blighting Conditions	Code enforcement inspection services within deteriorated or deteriorating low-moderate income eligible areas to arrest the decline of the area.					
4	Combat Homelessness	Development of a low-barrier emergency shelter.					
5	Enhance Community	ADA compliant infrastructure improvements.					
	Development	Park and/or public facilities youth amenities improvements in LMI census tracts.					
6	Increase Affordable Housing	HOME CHDO projects to increase affordable rental housing in the City. Projects include the development of affordable, farmworker, and senior housing; and tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA).					
7	Program Administration	Administration and planning to administer CDBG and HOME funds.					

# Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

It is estimated that the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income households to whom the City will provide affordable housing through the development of affordable housing CHDO projects and tenant-based rental assistance is as follows:

- Extremely Low-Income (30% AMI or less) 50 households
- Low-Income (31% to 60% AMI) 18 households
- Moderate-Income (61% to 80% AMI) 0 households

### SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)

# Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)

The Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) is not under a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement. Section 504 agreement terms are not a regulatory requirement for HATC. However, HATC and its staff members shall adhere to a fair housing policy, which is to: Obey all applicable federal, state and local fair housing laws; refrain from discrimination regarding any application for housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, source of income, marital or familial status, national origin, or physical or mental disability (applicants must have capacity to execute a legal contract); and affirmatively promote fair housing. Governing laws shall include the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352, 78 Stat. 241), Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, and the Fair Housing Amendments of 1988, E. O. 11246, and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974, as they relate to the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development.

#### **Activities to Increase Resident Involvements**

HATC is proactive in the inclusion of public-housing residents in the policy making process. An equitable and transparent policy making process that includes the opinions of public housing residents is achieved through the participation of two tenant commissioners on the HATC Board. Furthermore, HATC has installed a Resident Counsel which is made up of five residents from all of HUD funded programs (Multifamily Housing, LIHTC, HOME, Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing). The Resident Counsel works with HATC staff on evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of HATC rental assistance programs. This provides members the opportunity to provide input on necessary program modifications.

Furthermore, HATC arranges and promotes at least two public hearings on an annual basis. The first is to inform and discuss the agency's submittal of the MTW Annual Plan to HUD, which outlines proposed budgetary and policy modifications to the rental assistance programs and affordable housing programs the agency administers. The second is a public hearing to review and discuss the agency's submission of its MTW Annual Report to HUD- a report that analyzes the outcomes and outputs of the objectives outlined in the aforementioned MTW Annual Plan. Public notices informing residents of Tulare County of the time and date of the public hearings are published by HATC in the local newspaper.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902? HATC is not designated as troubled.

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation N/A

### SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

#### **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

#### Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

A potential barrier to housing opportunities can be related to public policies. Such policies include tax policy, land use controls, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limits, and other policies that affect the return on residential investment. Amending local zoning and land use laws or allocating funding for affordable housing through grants are mechanisms that can support the development of affordable units. Changes in policies can also help a community to overcome disparities in access to opportunity by the implementation of plans that will revitalize areas with existing affordable housing by improving services, schools and other community assets, sidewalks, and other infrastructure.

The City's 2025-2030 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) found that land use and zoning laws are a factor in a lack of affordable housing, with residents vulnerable to displacement. The 2023-2031 City of Visalia Housing Element examines land use controls, building codes, processing and permit procedures, fees, and infrastructure requirements as potential barriers. Goals to encourage construction and maintenance of affordable housing in the City have been included in the 2023-2031 Housing Element. The City has made gradual improvements in all areas to reduce barriers to the development of affordable housing.

#### Free Market as Barrier to Development of Affordable Housing

The 2023-2031 Housing Element identifies the availability of financing, land costs, and construction costs as barriers to the development of affordable housing.

The City lists sites available for development in its sites inventory list, for which the free market will determine who will develop and when development will occur. There are sites listed in the sites inventory with an entitlement status as "approved tentative subdivision map" or "ready to build with building permits".

Visalia has demonstrated in its Housing Element that it has the capacity to accommodate the Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) for the planning period from December 1, 2023, to December 31, 2031. Visalia has been allocated 10,791 units among the four income levels. The locations of the "RHNA sites" that make up the site inventory are listed and shown in the Site Inventory and Analysis RHNA section of the 2023-2031 Housing Element.

#### Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

To address public policy barriers, the City plans to support the development of missing middle housing by identifying and eliminating development constraints and amending the Zoning Code to be consistent with SB 9.

In addition to exploring new policy and regulatory changes, the City will continue its efforts to carry out the following to remove barriers to affordable housing:

- Work with non-profit developers and other public agencies that increase Visalia's supply of affordable housing
- Work with the Housing Authority of Tulare County to properly inform collaborating agencies at the local, state, and federal levels of the need for affordable housing in the City
- Facilitate the construction of affordable rental housing for very-low and low-income

- households by providing regulatory (e.g., density bonus, expedited permit processing, deferred fees, or relaxed parking requirements) and financial incentives
- Support programs that keep people housed, such as tenant-based rental assistance and rapid rehousing
- Streamline the permitting process for affordable housing
- Further incentives to developers for the development of affordable housing
- Incorporate educational components regarding the importance of affordable housing into community outreach
- Encourage the development of smaller, more affordable units

### SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

The City of Visalia works closely with the Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance the region's Continuum of Care (CoC). The Alliance Housing Navigators, Kings View PATH Team, and Tulare County Mental Health Crisis Team canvas the City to conduct outreach to people experiencing homelessness. Street outreach is conducted with techniques such as trauma-informed care, critical time intervention and motivational interviewing. Both the navigation and PATH teams leverage peers to create rapport and trust. Outreach teams assist with connections to mainstream benefits, obtaining documents required for housing (e.g. proof of homelessness, disability certification), provide hygiene kits, transportation assistance, and coordinate warm hand-offs to services such as mental health and substance abuse treatment programs. Program materials are offered in Spanish & other languages upon request. CoC members offer resources for other communication including sign language & accommodations for physical disabilities (e.g., dial-aride paratransit).

The Alliance outreach efforts for persons experiencing homelessness also occur through the weekly Local Initiatives Navigation Center (LINC) event as well as the Point in Time (PIT) count. The one-day PIT survey provides a snapshot of the adults, children in households and unaccompanied youth living in the City of Visalia who meet HUD's definition of homelessness. Information gathered through the PIT is used to understand the causes and trends of homelessness over time, as well as to determine the unmet shelter and service needs of the homeless. On January 27, 2025, stakeholders worked together to collect sheltered and unsheltered homeless data. The Alliance publicly releases its PIT report annually in June. Individual City data is collected at the same time including adults and children, race and ethnicity, current housing, sheltered/unsheltered homeless, chronic homelessness, veterans, disabled, sources of income, reasons for homelessness and bed capacity and needs. Information gathered through the PIT is used to understand the causes and trends of homelessness over time, as well as to determine the unmet shelter and service needs of the homeless.

#### Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Visalia in partnership with the Visalia Homeless Center provides an overnight Seasonal Emergency Shelter - Warming Center annually for people experiencing homelessness with the use of the City's Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funding. The Warming Center serves as an initial platform to enter individuals into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry System (CES) to begin housing placement. The Visalia Rescue Mission provides year-round emergency and transitional housing needs for homeless persons within the City of Visalia. The Visalia Rescue Mission provides overnight shelter, daily meals, daily showers, case management, and linkage to community resources.

In 2020, the City of Visalia in partnership with Self-Help Enterprises opened Eden House, a 22-bed transitional bridge housing project for people experiencing homelessness transiting into permanent housing. Individuals can stay up to 12 months as they await a permanent housing unit. Eden House was developed in part with City CDBG funds. Annually, the City supports Eden House with the use of PLHA and/or CDBG funds.

# Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living

In 2024, the City of Visalia in partnership with Community Services Employment and Training (CSET), TC Hope, and Self-Help Enterprises developed the Visalia Navigation Center, a 100-bed low-barrier navigation center which is a service-enriched center connecting individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing. The Visalia Navigation Center provides a commercial kitchen, resource center, men's dorm, women's dorm, medical rooms, senior rooms, and private family rooms. The Visalia Navigation Center includes overnight shelter, showers, daily meals, storage space, laundry services, and animal kennels. On-site resources include intensive case management, employment training, health/mental health services, substance abuse services, linkage to mainstream benefits, life skill services, and rapid rehousing services for permanent housing placement and independent living. On average, guests are expected to reside at the Visalia Navigation Center between 6 to 9 months. Guests receive follow-up case management up to 2 years to ensure permanent housing stability. The Visalia Navigation Center was developed in part with City CDBG funds. Annually, the City supports the Visalia Navigation Center operations with PLHA and RDA Housing Successor funds.

The City also allocated HOME funded Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) funds to be utilized as rental assistance and security deposits to assist chronically homeless individuals and families transition to permanent housing and independent living. The rental assistance will be provided for a period of up to 24 months of assistance as allowed under the HOME TBRA regulations. HOME TBRA clients also receive case management and support services to ensure they are self-sufficient and/or have another source of rental subsidy when the assistance ends to prevent recidivism.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

The City of Visalia is partnering with Tulare County Foster and Homeless Youth Services, Tulare County Office of Education, and College of the Sequoias Foster Youth Services to assist with addressing social services, education, employment, health, housing, and youth services for extremely low and low-income individuals being discharged from publicly funded institutions and/or systems of care such as foster care. The City in partnership with RH Community Builders is prioritizing housing units for Foster Youth at Sequoia Village and the Majestic Gardens permanent supportive housing projects both located with a one-mile radius of the College of the Sequoias (COS), the largest college campus in Tulare County. COS offers a variety of on-site vocational programs, associates degrees, bachelor's degrees, and master's degrees. This partnership will significantly increase the likely hood of foster youth obtaining a higher education, a successful career, and preventing the cycle of homelessness.

### SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards - 91.215(i)

# Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

One of the goals in the 2023-2031 City of Visalia Housing Element is to develop an environmental pollution reduction plan and reduce lead-based paint exposure. To address lead-based paint exposure, the City will work with a consultant to regularly assess and monitor the exposure in each census tract.

The Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) works to increase awareness about the hazards of lead exposure, to reduce lead exposure in the environment, and to increase the number of children who have been tested for exposure to lead. The CLPPP offers home visits, education about lead poisoning, and environmental home inspections to the families of children with severe lead poisoning. The CLPPP also provides information and education to the general public, medical providers, and community-based organizations.

The City offers many housing programs, which require lead-based paint inspections and/or abatement. Applicants of these programs are provided brochures informing them of the health risks of lead-based paint as part of the application process. In addition, City building inspectors and Code Enforcement staff are alerted to signs of this hazard as they perform their substandard housing inspections. The City requires rehabilitation contractors to utilize safe practices and obtain certification through a HUD certified lead testing agency.

# How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

Lead-based paint was widely used in the United States in homes prior to 1978. The U.S. Congress banned the use of lead-based paint in residential structures and environments in 1971 (United States Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act) but this regulation was not implemented until 1978 by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission). The City's 2025/26 – 2029/30 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice indicated there may be children at risk of being exposed to lead-based paint in both owner and renter-occupied housing units based on the fact that 16.8% of owner-occupied and 28.8% of renter-occupied housing units built before 1980 have children present.

Education is the initial step to mitigating a problem. By providing information regarding lead-based paint hazards, residents can take immediate action to ascertain their risk level and take corrective or preventive action. As the City continues to implement its housing rehabilitation program, consideration will continue to be given to HUD's lead-based paint testing and mitigation requirements. Rehabilitation performed on units built prior to 1978 must be carefully monitored for the presence of lead-based paint in compliance with HUD regulations.

#### How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

The City of Visalia rehabilitation program policies and procedures require that all properties constructed prior to 1978 must be tested for lead-based paint. If lead-based paint is found, it will be removed or encapsulated as required by HUD.

### SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy - 91.215(j)

#### Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

The City is partnering with Tulare County Foster and Homeless Youth Services, and College of the Sequoias to assist with education, employment, housing, and youth services for low-income youth exiting foster care to reduce the number of poverty-level families. The City in partnership with RH Community Builders are prioritizing housing units for youth exiting foster care at Sequoia Village and the Majestic Gardens permanent supportive housing projects both located with a one-mile radius of the College of the Sequoias. COS offers a variety of vocational programs, associates degrees, bachelor's degrees, and master's degrees. This partnership will increase the likely hood of foster youth obtaining a higher education, a successful career, and ultimately reducing the number of poverty-level families.

The City is also partnering with CSET to offer job training and placement for people experiencing homelessness at the Visalia Navigation Center and the Environmental Cleanup Opportunities (ECO) program. The Environmental Cleanup Opportunities (ECO) Project participants learn about the job interview process, build a résumé, and develop budgeting techniques to balance personal finances. After completing the pre-employment sessions, participants begin their transitional jobs training with CSET's Sequoia Community Corps. ECO participants usually obtain a permanent job following successful completion of the program; therefore, increasing their household income.

The City will also continue to partner with organizations to provide services and address the full range of needs of LMI families. There are coordinated programs and services to reduce poverty, but many unmet needs will persist. The City will continue to collaborate with its partners to identify and work toward meeting those needs by focusing resources and efforts.

# How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan?

The City continues to work with regional agencies and non-profit organizations to address poverty through the construction of affordable housing (HOME grant CHDO funding), as well as the Alliance to provide services to special needs, LMI, and homeless populations.

The City of Visalia and the Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) are the two major governmental agencies responsible for local housing programs. Additionally, the City works closely with non-profit organizations involved in affordable housing funding and programs in the city such as Community Services Employment Training, Inc. (CSET), Self-Help Enterprises, Inc. (SHE) and Habitat for Humanity for Tulare/Kings Counties (HFH).

The two repair programs funded through CDBG – the single-family home repair program and the senior mobile home repair program – are intended to keep seniors in their homes and fight poverty in this age group.

#### **SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230**

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

In addition to on-site monitoring, the City conducts desk reviews of each funded activity. Subrecipients are required to submit monthly performance reports detailing the City clients served, client demographic data, services performed, and client outcomes. Agencies are also required to submit monthly budget reports showing revenue, expenses, and a detailed invoice specifying what expenses are being charged to CDBG or HOME funds. Agencies must also submit annual independent audit reports regarding their financial accounting.

The City also prepares the annual performance report required by HUD detailing the progress made in achieving the goals in the ConPlan, which is called the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). In addition, the City prepares detailed agreements with subrecipients outlining goals and objectives to be met. The City's annual report to HUD includes an analysis of any problems or obstacles encountered by sub-recipients in meeting their goals and objectives.

With respect to minority and women-owned businesses, the City will solicit the interest of a wide variety of companies and firms to undertake HUD-funded activities including minority and womenowned businesses.

### **Action Plan**

### AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The City as an entitlement jurisdiction receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These programs are designed to assist low and moderate income (LMI) households by investing in the City's local communities/neighborhoods. This Annual Action Plan (AAP) covers the first year of the City's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and outlines plans for implementing the 5-year goals identified in the Strategic Plan for the 5-year period from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2030.

The Program Year (PY) 2025 CDBG budget consists of \$1,139,838 in entitlement funds, \$50,000 in estimated program income, and \$450,000 in prior year funds for a total of \$1,639,838. The PY 2025 HOME budget consists of \$426,943.86 in entitlement funds, \$100,000 in estimated program income, and \$40,000 in prior resources for a total of \$566,943.86. The "Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan" is the first year 2025 grant allocation multiplied by 4 years to equal total remainder of ConPlan in program year 2025. Each program year the "Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan" is reduced by the current grant allocation.

The City currently does not have an Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) or Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant.

## **Anticipated Resources**

			Table 7	1: Expected I	Resources			
Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Exp Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income:	nt Available Yea Prior Year Resources: \$	r 1 Total: \$	Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
CDBG	Federal	<ul> <li>Administration</li> <li>Public Services (15%)</li> <li>Single-family and mobile home repair programs</li> <li>Code enforcement</li> <li>Emergency shelter development</li> </ul>	\$1,139,838	\$50,000	\$450,000	\$11,639,383	\$5,000,000	In 2025, the CDBG funds are \$1,139,838 in entitlement funds, and \$500,000 in estimated program income and other funds.
HOME	Federal	<ul> <li>Administration</li> <li>CHDO Rancho Colegio project</li> <li>CHDO senior housing project</li> <li>CHDO affordable rental housing project</li> </ul>	\$426,943.86	\$100,000	\$40,000	\$566,943.86	\$2,400,000	In 2025, the HOME funds are \$426,943.86 in entitlement and \$140,000 in estimated program income, and other funds.

# Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The City leverages both federal and local housing funds by supporting non-profit organizations that develop affordable housing. The City, or its partners, provides matching funds for housing related services to several programs, which includes the following:

- SHE-CHDO Scattered Multi-Family Site Acquisition/Development. For example, the City's HOME CHDO Rancho Colegio Project is the development of an 80-unit multi-family affordable housing complex that is budgeted at an estimated \$35 million. HOME funds will be leveraged with the various other funding sources, such as, Multifamily Housing Program (MHP), Joe Serna Farmworker Housing Grant (FWHG), and the Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG).
- Voucher Program Match to receive HUD CoC grants to provide permanent supportive housing vouchers.
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Rental subsidies to support affordable housing units.

Below is a list of potential financial resources considered to be a part of the City's overall financial plan to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan. The number and availability of these programs to assist cities is limited, and funding for new projects is unpredictable. The following programs are local, state, and federal programs. None of these are managed locally by the City through funds accessed directly from HUD.

- Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) is a public housing authority with jurisdiction within the City and the County. It administers federal and state funds for its public housing projects and government-assisted housing units, such as Section 8 and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers.
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC) provides federal and state tax credits
  for private developers and investors who agree to set aside all or an established
  percentage of their rental units for low-income households for no less than 30 years under
  administration by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC). Tax credits
  are awarded on a competitive basis at varying times. Compliance is monitored according
  to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules and regulations.

The City will also be receiving Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funding which will assist with matching requirements.

 PLHA provides funding to local governments in California to help increase the affordable housing stock. Funding will help increase the supply of housing for households at or below 60% of area median income; increasing assistance to affordable owner-occupied workforce housing; assisting persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness; and promoting projects to meet Visalia's unmet share of the regional housing needs allocation.

# If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

There is no publicly owned land or properties located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

#### Discussion

See above discussion.

## **AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives**

## **Goals Summary Information**

	Table 72: Goals Summary								
Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator	
1	Address Special Service Needs	2025	2029	Special Services	Citywide	Public Services	CDBG: \$180,000	Public service activities for Extremely Low-Income Housing Benefit: 465 Households Assisted; Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 20 Persons Assisted.	
2	Preserve Homeownership	2025	2029	Household Maintenance	Citywide	Property Maintenance	CDBG: \$200,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 6 Household Housing Units	
3	Combat Blighting Conditions	2025	2029	Household Maintenance	LMI Census Tracts	Neighborhood Preservation	CDBG: \$170,000	Housing Code Enforcement/ Foreclosed Property Care: 200 Household Housing Units	
4	Combat Homelessness	2025	2029	Homeless Needs	Citywide	Emergency Shelter	CDBG: \$851,878	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds Added: 100 Beds	
5	Increase Affordable Housing	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$516,943.86	Rental Units Constructed: 22 Low- Income Household	
6	Program Administration	2025	2029	Administration	Citywide	Administration	CDBG: \$237,960 HOME: \$50,000	Other: 1	

## **Goal Descriptions**

	Table 73: Goal Descriptions						
#	Goal Name	Goal Description					
1	Address Special Service Needs	Provide essential public services which include homeless services, homeless prevention, housing flex funds, job training, youth services, and fair housing services.					
2	Preserve Homeownership	Single-family and mobile home rehabilitation programs for low-and-moderate-income owner occupants who are elderly and/or disabled.					
3	Combat Blighting Conditions	Code enforcement inspection services within deteriorated or deteriorating low-moderate income eligible areas to arrest the decline of the area to provide neighborhood preservation.					
4	Combat Homelessness	Development of a low-barrier emergency shelter.					
5	Provide Affordable Housing	HOME CHDO projects to increase affordable housing in the City. Projects include the development of affordable, farmworker, and senior housing.					
6	Program Administration	Administration and planning to administer CDBG and HOME funds.					

#### **AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)**

#### Introduction

Program Year 2025 CDBG and HOME Projects were established based on the high priority needs identified in the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan. The Consolidated Plan goals below address the high priority needs and serve as the foundation for strategic actions the City will undertake. These goals are based on the ConPlan's Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis sections as well as community outreach conducted:

- Address special service needs
- Preserve homeownership
- Combat blighting conditions
- Combat homelessness
- Enhance Community Development
- Increase affordable housing
- Program administration

#### **Projects**

	Table 74: Project Information						
#	Project Name						
1	HOME Administration						
2	HOME-CHDO Project - Rancho Colegio						
3	HOME-CHDO Project - Senior Housing Project						
4	CDBG Administration						
5	CDBG Public Services						
6	Single-Family Home Repair Program						
7	Senior Mobile-Home Repair Program						
8	Code Enforcement						
9	Emergency Shelter						

# Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

The projects will address the priority needs described in the Consolidated Plan by providing direct homeless services, homeless prevention services, fair housing services, code enforcement inspections to maintain neighborhood stabilization, housing rehabilitation programs, and affordable housing options for the LMI population. The need to Enhance Community Development is planned for project funding in future years. An obstacle in addressing underserved needs is the needs outweighing funding resources. Nevertheless, the City worked resourcefully in combining multiple funding sources to maximize the allocation of resources to address underserved community needs.

# **AP-38 Project Summary**

### **Project Summary Information**

	Ject Summary information				
1	Project Name	2025 HOME Administration			
	Target Area	Citywide			
	Goals Supported	Program and planning administration			
	Needs Addressed	Program administration			
	Funding	HOME: \$50,000			
	Description	2025 HOME Administration and Planning.			
	Target Date	6/30/2026			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A			
	Location Description	Citywide			
	Planned Activities	2025 HOME Administration and Planning.			
2	Project Name	HOME CHDO Project – Rancho Colegio			
	Target Area	Citywide			
	Goals Supported	Increase affordable housing			
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing			
	Funding	HOME: \$290,000			
	Description	Construction of an 80-unit multi-family rental complex, of which 11 units will be HOME funded.			
	Target Date	6/30/2027			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	11 extremely low-to-low-income households are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.			
	Location Description	3520 N. Court St., Visalia, CA 93291			
	Planned Activities	The City will provide funding for Self-Enterprises, Inc. (SHE), to build 11 of the 80 new low-income multi-family rental units.			
3	Project Name	HOME CHDO Project – Senior Housing			
	Target Area	Citywide			
	Goals Supported	Increase affordable housing			
	Needs Addressed	Affordable housing			
	Funding	\$226,943.86			
	Description	Construction of an 80-unit senior housing rental complex, of which 11-units will be HOME funded.			
	Target Date	6/30/28			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	11 extremely low-to-low-income senior households are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.			

	Location Description	2439 N. Dinuba Blvd. Visalia, CA 93291	
	Planned Activities	The City will provide funding for Self-Enterprises, Inc. (SHE), to develop 11 of the 80 new senior housing rental units.	
4	Project Name	2025 CDBG Administration	
	Target Area	Citywide	
	Goals Supported	Program and planning administration.	
	Needs Addressed	Program administration	
	Funding	CDBG: \$237,960	
	Description	2025 CDBG Administration and Planning.	
	Target Date	6/30/2026	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A	
	Location Description	Citywide	
	Planned Activities	2025 CDBG Administration and Planning.	
5	Project Name	CDBG Public Services	
	Target Area	Citywide	
	Goals Supported	Address Special Service Needs	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services	
	Funding	CDBG: \$180,000	
	Description	Continuum of Care Point in Time survey and LINC services; Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) voucher match; housing flex funds, and fair housing services.	
	Target Date	6/30/2026	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	485 extremely low-income households, including people experiencing homelessness.	
	Location Description	Citywide	
	Planned Activities	Point in Time survey and LINC services; PSH match; housing flex funds, youth services, job training, and fair housing.	
6	Project Name	Single-Family Home Repair Program	
	Target Area	Citywide	
	Goals Supported	Preserve homeownership	
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Preservation	
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000	
	Description	Single-family home repair program including roof repairs, ADA improvements for LMI senior and/or disabled owner occupants.	
	Target Date	6/30/2026	

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 low-moderate income seniors and/or disabled persons.	
	Location Description	City wide. Sites to be determined.	
	Planned Activities	Single-family minor home repairs including emergency and ADA improvements.	
7	Project Name	Senior Mobile Home Repair Program	
	Target Area	Citywide	
	Goals Supported	Preserve homeownership	
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Preservation	
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000	
	Description	Senior Mobile Home Repair Program to owner occupied low-income seniors and/or disabled persons.	
	Target Date	6/30/2026	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 low-moderate income seniors and/or disabled persons.	
	Location Description	Citywide. Sites are to be determined.	
	Planned Activities	Senior Mobile Home Repair Program to owner occupied low-income seniors and/or disabled persons.	
8	Project Name	Code Enforcement	
	Target Area	LMI Tracts	
	Goals Supported	Create a suitable living environment	
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Preservation	
	Funding	CDBG: \$170,000	
	Description	2025 Code Enforcement services in deteriorating or deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.	
	Description  Target Date	deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the	
		deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.	
	Target Date  Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the	deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  6/30/2026  200 LMI households are expected to benefit from the	
	Target Date  Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  6/30/2026  200 LMI households are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.	
9	Target Date  Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities  Location Description	deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  6/30/2026  200 LMI households are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.  LMI target areas.  Code Enforcement services in deteriorating or deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the	
9	Target Date  Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities  Location Description  Planned Activities	deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  6/30/2026  200 LMI households are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.  LMI target areas.  Code Enforcement services in deteriorating or deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.	
9	Target Date  Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities  Location Description  Planned Activities  Project Name	deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  6/30/2026  200 LMI households are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.  LMI target areas.  Code Enforcement services in deteriorating or deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  Emergency Shelter Development	
9	Target Date  Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities  Location Description  Planned Activities  Project Name  Target Area	deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  6/30/2026  200 LMI households are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.  LMI target areas.  Code Enforcement services in deteriorating or deteriorated low-moderate-income areas to arrest the decline of the area.  Emergency Shelter Development  LMI Tracts	

	Description	Acquisition, development and/or rehabilitation of a low-barrier emergency shelter.
	Target Date	6/30/28
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	100 extremely low-income individuals experiencing homelessness.
	Location Description	To be determined.
	Planned Activities	Development of a low-barrier emergency shelter.

### **AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)**

#### Description of the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of lowincome and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

A majority of the CDBG activities funded in 2025 are offered citywide to low- and moderate-income households. However, certain CDBG programs, such as public infrastructure improvements and code enforcement are directed to neighborhoods that qualify for CDBG funds on an "area benefit" basis. An area benefit activity is one that is available to benefit all the residents of an area which is:

- Primarily residential and
- Where 51% of the population is low- and moderate-income

In program year 2025, Code enforcement activities will be directed at LMI Census Tracts; other projects will be targeted at LMI populations citywide.

#### **Geographic Distribution**

Table 75: Geographic Distribution		
Target Area	Percentage of Funds	
Citywide	90%	
LMI Tracts	10%	

#### Rationale for the priorities in allocating investments geographically.

Generally, CDBG and HOME funds will be distributed citywide as eligible to benefit LMI populations. However, CDBG funds will be utilized in CDBG Target areas for Code Enforcement and Park Improvements. A presumed Benefit project, such as an ADA walkway within a park or low mod residential areas in need of access, would be applicable. CDBG funding directed toward public services is a citywide public service benefit. Public Facilities are based upon CDBG requirements, such as the area benefit noted above, limited clientele or income qualifications; Affordable housing will be citywide, which encompasses CDBG Target Areas. Other programs may benefit within the CDBG Target areas as well, even though allowed citywide.

#### **Discussion**

The Low-and Moderate-Income Concentration Census Tract Map is being utilized for the 2025 Action Plan and is based on the Low-and Moderate-Income Summary Data (LMISD) provided on the HUD Exchange website.

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

The Annual Action Plan must specify goals for the number of homeless, non-homeless, and special needs households to be provided affordable housing within the program year. The Annual Action Plan must also indicate the number of affordable housing units that will be provided by program type, including rental assistance, production of new units, rehabilitation of existing units, or acquisition of existing units. For the purpose of this section, the term "affordable housing" is defined in the HOME regulations at 24 CFR 92.252 for rental housing and 24 CFR 92.254 for homeownership.

In partnership with Self-Help Enterprises, the City's HOME Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) plans to develop 11 HOME assisted units at Rancho Colegio, an 80-unit affordable rental housing complex for households 50% of the area median income or lower, which includes 20-units for farm working households. In addition, the city plans to develop an additional 11 HOME assisted units at a senior affordable rental housing project for seniors 62 and older at 60% of the area median income or lower. The tables below represent HOME funded activities.

Table 76: One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported		
Homeless	0	
Non-Homeless	22	
Special-Needs	0	
Total	22	

Table 77: One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported By Support Type		
Rental Assistance	0	
The Production of New Units	22	
Rehab of Existing Units	0	
Acquisition of Existing Units	0	
Total	22	

#### **Discussion**

The 2025 HOME funded activities include the development of 22 HOME assisted units with 11 units at Rancho Colegio and 11 senior housing units. The 2025 CDBG affordable housing activities include 3 single-family and 3 mobile home repairs to senior and/or disabled low-income owner occupants.

Findings in the MA-15 show that there is not an adequate amount of housing affordable to LMI households, especially for extremely low- and very low-income households. According to the HUD data reports, there is not sufficient housing units for the various income categories. After analysis, the only income category that truly does have enough housing is the 50-80% AMI. This explains the City's focus on funding for the 0-30% (extremely low) and 30-50% (low) income housing categories.

The following data (CHAS 2017-2021) shows:

- 0-30% AMI: There are 3,995 households living in this income category, yet there are only 1,265 rental units available that are affordable to these households in the City
- 30-50% AMI: There are 4,720 households living in this income category yet there are only

- 2,630 units available
- 50-80% AMI: there are 7,335 households in this income category and there are 9,460 units

#### **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

#### Introduction

The Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC) works closely with the City, the Continuum of Care "Alliance", and the Tulare County Homeless Taskforce. Actions planned by HATC this year are referenced below.

# Actions planned during the next year to address the needs of public housing residents

HATC is currently developing the Demaree Apartments that will serve households at 80% of the area median income (AMI) and lower. The Demaree Apartments is a new construction, family, mixed-income project. There will be 222 total units, 220 of which will be restricted between 30% and 80% of the AMI. There will be 90 one-bedroom units, 75 two-bedroom units, and 57 three-bedroom units. Two of the three-bedroom units will serve as unrestricted manager's units. The Demaree Apartments are expected to be completed by June 2026.

The HATC participates in a Moving to Work (MTW) Program, which offers housing for 5-years at a flat rate, based on unit bedroom size instead of being income-based. The MTW program is designed to give rental assistance to families who are working to achieve self-sufficiency from all types of governmental assistance while they are in the process of achieving that goal. Successful applicants are encouraged to seek higher paying employment and/or further their education. An increase in family income does not increase the monthly rent. Families can continue the MTW program for a maximum of 5 years, or until their income reaches 120% of the AMI, at which time assistance will be terminated or they will be given 6-months to move out. Many of the MTW participants transferred to MTW from HATC's conventional low rent and Section 8 programs. Others were referred to the MTW program by HATC's partner agencies, such as Tulare County Health and Human Services and CSET.

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

HATC created a Resident Council composed of 5 residents from HUD funded programs (Multifamily Housing, LIHTC, HOME, Section 8, and public housing). The Resident Council works with HATC staff on evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of existing rental assistance programs. This structure was put into place to give public housing residents the opportunity to provide input on program modifications. HATC is proactive in the inclusion of public-housing residents in the policy making process. As required, two public housing tenants sit on the HATC Commission board. Between the Resident Council and tenant representation on the Board an equitable and transparent policy-making process has been put into place.

A vital driving factor that continues to influence HATC programs is the goal of tenant self-sufficiency. HATC views homeownership as a long-term goal for most participants. HATC staff works with tenants to effectively provide them with the necessary resources to achieve homeownership. HATC's annual re-examination notice provides participants with an extensive referral list that aids homeownership. Effective collaboration between their agency and other public and nonprofit agencies is imperative to help promote homeownership among all HATC's tenants. Lastly, HATC created "RentTrack Payment, an online payment system which allows residents to utilize their rental payments made on time to raise or build individual credit scores. RentTrack has increased credit scores an average of 132 points over a 2-year period.

# If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial or other assistance will be provided

Not Applicable

### Discussion

See discussion above

### AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.220(i)

#### Introduction

This section describes the City's one-year goals and the specific action steps it will undertake in the program year to carry out the homeless strategy outlined in the ConPlan's SP-60 Homelessness Strategy. This section will also describe the jurisdiction's one-year goals and specify the activities it will undertake to serve the emergency, transitional, and permanent housing as well as supportive service needs of homeless and special needs populations.

# Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including:

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

The City's one-year goals for reducing and ending homelessness include allocating CDBG funds for the development of a low-barrier emergency shelter to provide immediate shelter and an entry point to permanent housing for those experiencing homelessness.

The City's annual goal also includes allocating PLHA, RDA Successor Housing, and Encampment Resolution Funding to support the recently developed Visalia Navigation Center, a 100-bed public facility with on-site wrap around supportive services, intensive case management, and rapid rehousing to quickly place individuals into permanent housing.

Through partnership with the development organization, Self-Help Enterprises, the city's goal is to continue to provide 42 permanent supportive housing units at the Lofts at Fort Visalia and develop an additional 160 multifamily affordable housing units including senior housing for those experiencing and at-risk of homelessness. Through partnership with the development organization RH Community Builders, the City's annual goal also includes providing 92 permanent supportive housing units through the city's two Homekey sites Majestic Gardens and Sequoia Village.

The Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance serving as the local Continuum of Care (CoC) conducts a weekly Local Initiatives Navigation Center (LINC) at the Visalia Rescue Mission to provide various resources and access to service providers for those experiencing homelessness to assess their individual needs. LINC brings together social service providers, faith-based organizations, and government agencies to help families locate affordable housing, employment and mental health and substance abuse treatment along with other needed services. Services include ID vouchers, free cell phones, housing assessments, enrollments to mainstream benefits, employment assistance, health/mental health services, legal assistance, and free meals.

# Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Visalia Warming Center provides seasonal emergency overnight shelter. Annually, the City provides funding through State PLHA funds to the Visalia Warming Center. The Visalia Warming Center serves on average of 100 individuals overnight on a daily basis. The Warming Center also serves as an entry point into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and permanent housing placement.

The Visalia Navigation Center developed in 2024, provides 100-beds of transitional housing and essential supportive services to people experiencing homelessness. The Visalia Navigation Center is the first of its kind in Tulare County and provides overnight shelter, daily meals, showers, case management, resources, mental health services, substance abuse services, job training/placement, and permanent housing placement.

Eden House was developed in 2020 and serves as a 22-bed bridge transitional housing project that provides on-site case management and supportive services for individuals that need additional on-site services as they transition from homelessness to permanent housing.

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

The City will begin work on the development of an emergency shelter project to be funded with CDBG dollars in FY 2025-26. This project will provide at least 100 beds and will serve as a low-barrier emergency shelter for chronically homeless individuals and families, veterans, and unaccompanied youth. The Emergency Shelter will follow a Housing First model, therefore, eliminating barriers to entry including sobriety or program participation.

The Visalia Navigation Center also services chronically homeless individuals and families, veterans and their families, unaccompanied youth, and families with children. The Visalia Navigation Center has individual private family rooms for families with children to safely transition from homelessness to permanent housing. The Visalia Navigation Center is administered by CSET, which leverages a variety of rapid rehousing funding sources to quickly and permanently house individuals and families and prevent recidivism. Rapid rehousing services include security deposits, rental application fees, landlord mitigation, credit repair, and/or rental subsidies.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The Visalia Navigation Center offers private medical rooms dedicated for homeless individuals being discharged from systems of care such as health care facilities and mental health facilities to prevent them from becoming homeless and works to quickly provide permanent housing placement. In partnership with RH Community Builders, our Homekey sites within 1-mile of the College of Sequoias, Sequoia Village and Majestic Gardens, provide permanent supportive housing units for aged out foster youth exiting foster care and other youth facilities to prevent these individuals from entering into homelessness. In the previous 5-Year Consolidated Plan, 132 permanent supportive housing units were developed in the City of Visalia which include 40-units at the Lofts at Fort Visalia, 50-units at Sequoia Village, and 42-units at Majestic Gardens that provide permanent supportive housing units for extremely low-income individuals and families including those being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care.

### **Discussion**

The City provides housing flex funds under CDBG public services to pay security deposits and rental applications fees as well as emergency rental and utility assistance to assist those experiencing homelessness and provide homeless prevention services. The City also leverages state funding sources to provide additional rapid rehousing services, credit repair, and rental subsidies to provide additional resources for people experiencing homelessness and at-risk of homelessness in the City of Visalia.

# AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing - 91.220(j)

#### Introduction

Visalia's 2025/26-2029/30 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice identified the following impediments to affordable housing:

- Lack of affordable housing
- Residents vulnerable to displacement
- Lack of housing opportunities for special needs populations (residents living with disabilities, seniors, large households, and residents experiencing homelessness)

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

The City has taken actions in recent years to support residential development through changes in zoning, further streamlining permitting processes, and reducing impact fees. Visalia has made changes to residential zone districts following the City's Housing Element update. The City increased the highest allowed multi-family density permitted by right to 15 to 35 units per acre, provided that the development does not exceed 80 units. The City implemented an Affordable Housing Infill Incentive Program, which reduces Transportation Impact Fees for qualifying projects that meet the infill criteria outlined in the City's Development Fee Schedule. In the downtown area, waivers for parking requirements have been given based on past use of the building spaces. There are multiple policies and programs in the 2023 Housing Element Update that address promoting incentives for affordable housing that include priority permit processing and modified zoning provisions. New programs in the Housing Element update propose removing conditional use requirements for housing in certain commercial zone designations. These Housing Element Programs are organized into nine Goal categories, as follows:

- 1. New Construction To provide a broad range of housing types and densities to meet the needs of all Visalia residents.
- 2. Mixed Use, Infill, and Downtown Development To promote mixed use, infill, and Downtown development in Visalia.
- 3. Encourage Affordable Housing To encourage construction and maintenance of affordable housing in Visalia.
- 4. Foreclosures To prevent foreclosures, protect affected families, and stabilize neighborhoods impacted by foreclosures.
- 5. Special Needs/Homeless- To provide a range of housing types and services to meet the needs of households with special needs within the city.
- 6. Housing Rehabilitation Program To maintain healthy neighborhoods by improving the condition of the existing housing stock and providing for a variety of housing types, sizes, price ranges, and densities compatible with the existing residential neighborhoods.
- 7. Equal Opportunity Housing and Discrimination Prevention To provide decent housing and a quality of living environment for all Visalia residents regardless of age, religion, race, creed, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, ancestry, national origin, disability, economic level, and other arbitrary factors.
- 8. Energy Conservation To encourage energy efficiency in all new and existing housing.

9. Implementation Monitoring - To ensure that Housing Element programs are implemented on a timely basis and the progress of each program is monitored and evaluated annually.

# **Discussion:**

See above

# **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

#### Introduction:

The following section provides HUD with other activities, projects, and actions the City is undertaking to reduce homelessness and improve housing affordability. Examples include the completion of the AI and identifying the barriers and impediments to affordable housing, supporting homeless programs, public and private solutions for affordable, annual administration of CDBG and HOME funds and attendance of city meetings and CoC meetings.

## Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City's 2025/26-2029/30 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice includes the following identified actions which will begin to be undertaken in FY2025-26 to meet underserved needs:

- Conduct landlord education and outreach on source of income discrimination and voucher programs with the goal of increasing landlord participation in the voucher program. (HE Program 3.6)
- Expand and prioritize affordable housing development in high and highest resource areas and near public transit. (HE Program 7.2)
- Prioritize capital improvement projects, including renovation of parks and amenities, in low-resource areas (central and northeastern parts of Visalia).
- Budget for and implement plans and strategies for communities, prioritizing neighborhoods designated for low-income and mixed-income housing opportunities in the sites inventory. (HE Program 7.2)
- Promote the development of ADUs, prioritizing the high and highest resource areas of the city. (HE Program 3.15)
- Implement small-scale placemaking projects/events in central and northeastern parts of Visalia. (HE Program 7.3)
- Work with local nonprofit organizations, including Self-Help Enterprises and Habitat for Humanity of Tulare County, to expand and spread awareness on home and accessibility rehabilitation programs. (HE Program 7.3)
- Collaborate with TCAG to prepare a study on transit needs for Visalia residents and identify actions to address those needs, focusing on connecting residents to job centers.
   Work with TCAG to expand transit services that connect Visalia to other cities in the County. (HE Program 7.3)
- Coordinate with the Public Works Department to review the City's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) to ensure public facilities and infrastructure are supportive of the needs of underserved communities.
- Implement plans and strategies to decrease pollution burden in northern and central
  parts of Visalia. Strategies should include improving air, reducing lead risk from housing,
  as well as addressing proper remediation plans for cleanup sites and hazardous waste
  sites.
- Facilitate the development of housing for persons with disabilities (including developmental disabilities) through incentives for affordable housing development with services, resources, and assistance. (HE Program 5.9)
- Partner with qualified housing developers to identify affordable housing development opportunities with emphasis on promoting housing choices that serve the needs of

- special needs populations, including seniors, homeless, female-headed households, large families, low-income, and/or persons with disabilities in RCAA's. (HE Program 5.9)
- Work with the local nonprofit organizations to implement an outreach program informing residents of the housing and services available for persons with disabilities. The City shall make information available on the City website. (HE Program 5.9)
- Prioritize public health, education, economic, and safety programs in lower-resource areas as defined by TCAC in coordination with area public health entities (e.g., Kaweah Health), Visalia Transit, the City's Community Development Department, local school districts, workforce development groups, and the City's Police Department. (HE Program 7.3)
- Monitor and support the development of housing for farmworkers through coordination non-profit organizations. (HE Program 5.9)
- Identify addresses and compile a mailing list with email addresses to focus outreach to neighborhoods in lower resource areas of the city to prioritize services in these areas. (HE Program 7.3)
- Encourage the development of both large rental units (for large family needs) and small
  units. In consultation with developers, identify and provide incentives for developers to
  include three and four-bedroom apartments in affordable, multi-family, and/or mixed-use
  projects to expand rental opportunities for large households, and incentives for
  developers to construct or rehabilitate housing for single-use occupancy or micro-units.
- Support the development of missing middle housing by identifying and eliminating development constraints and amending the Zoning Code to be consistent with SB 9.
- Develop and publicize financial and regulatory incentive opportunities to developers.
- Provide informational seminars to area residential real estate agents and brokers on fair housing laws and regulations
- Provide informational workshops for residents to provide education and awareness to tenants, of fair housing federal and State fair housing laws and support prospective and existing tenants who are experiencing discrimination
- Provide trainings for property owners/managers on the requirements of federal and State fair housing laws to prevent discrimination (HE Program 7.1)
- Hold (at minimum) annual program workshops for local lenders to promote affordable housing programs.
- Identify lenders/realtors that have not been certified through the CalHome Reuse Program; conduct outreach to this group to promote certification.
- Continue and if feasible expand funding for information and referral services that direct families and individuals with financial resources for housing rental or purchase, locating suitable housing, and obtaining housing with special needs facilities such as disabledaccessible units. (HE Program 7.1)
- Post brochures on the City website for resident access.
- Partner and contract with fair housing service providers for outreach, education, testing, and enforcement. Facilitate bi-annual workshops (at minimum).
- Expand awareness of predatory lending practices, fair housing requirements, regulations, and services by distributing educational materials to property owners, realtors, apartment managers, and tenants. (HE Program 7.1)
- Increase participation in homeownership education and assistance programs for historically underrepresented residents in the homeownership market by identifying

- sources of funding to support homeownership assistance programs and establish non-profit partnerships to for outreach campaigns to spread awareness of available assistance programs. (HE Program 4.1)
- Annually, review the City's outreach methods, using feedback from resident surveys and focused discussions with community organizations to inform online, mail, and in-person outreach methods.
- Increase participation of historically underrepresented residents in all City housing programs and community planning activities.
- Collaborate with stakeholders from all sectors and geographic areas to engage in the public participation process. (HE Program 1.4)
- Host fair housing workshops annually (at minimum) in partnership with fair housing advocates to educate citizens about fair housing rights.
- Annually (at minimum) track income and demographic data of affordable housing participants to evaluate additional strategies to increase affordable housing knowledge.
- Develop an outreach strategy to reduce community opposition to affordable housing development in Visalia. The strategy should include partnerships with local community organizations to identify and implement methods for spreading awareness on the need for affordable housing and the positive impact it has on individuals, families, and the community. (HE Program 1.4)
- Reevaluate contract with CCFHC; conduct a desk audit/review of program operations and service delivery (focus on feedback and City-observed experiences with lack of/delay in response to callers/individuals making inquiries).
- Expand existing online resources by developing a web-based Housing Development Toolkit that outlines a step-by-step process for residential development, including identifying steps in the entitlement and building permit process, detailed information on development incentives, and funding programs and resources for affordable housing development. (HE Program 3.2)
- In response to current constraints identified by stakeholders related to multi-family development on large lots, the City shall amend the zoning code to establish objective design standards and increase the maximum unit threshold for by-right processing from 80 units to 200 units. Transitional and supportive housing is allowed by-right in multi-family residential. (HE Program 1.3)
- Monitor complaints regarding unfair/predatory lending and assess lending patterns by working with non-profit agencies that specialize in fair housing to provide data. Require the Central CA Fair Housing Council (CCFHC) to provide quarterly reports to the City on complaints received.
- Require CCFHC to provide reports to the City biannually (at minimum) of support provided to local nonprofits in applying for FHIP.
- Require CCFHC to regularly report to the City on outcomes/outputs.
- Promote landlord mitigation program that provides financial benefits to landlords of housing units to mitigate damages caused by Section 8 tenants.
- Conduct (at minimum) annual outreach to local lenders to encourage them to provide financing information to low- and moderate-income residents.

## Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The single-family and senior mobile home repair programs being undertaken with CDBG funds are focused on maintaining affordable housing and keeping seniors and disabled individuals in their homes, avoiding displacement that would result in increased housing costs. The City will also undertake several multi-family housing projects using HOME funding, one of which will be targeted at seniors, contributing to the increased availability of affordable housing options in the jurisdiction.

## Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Currently the City's housing rehabilitation or home improvement programs and down payment assistance programs require lead-based paint inspections and/or abatement. Applicants of these programs are provided brochures informing of the health risks of lead-based paint as part of the application process. In addition, City building inspectors and Code Enforcement staff are alerted to signs of this hazard as they perform their substandard housing inspections. The City requires its Subrecipients, Developer partners and rehabilitation contractors of federally funded programs to utilize safe practices and obtain certification through a HUD certified lead testing agency.

# Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City's emergency shelter development project is intended to provide needed supports for homeless populations, with a goal of improving their situation and ultimately fostering financial independence.

The City works with its non-profit partners to reduce the number of poverty-level families. The City will also continue to provide its non-profit partners with funding to acquire, rehabilitate, and sell and rent homes or multi-family units to income-qualifying households at or below 80% AMI.

Additionally, the City has made a commitment to improve the communication and service delivery capabilities of agencies and organizations that provide programs to assist the homeless. Specifically, Staff participates in the monthly Continuum of Care (Alliance) meeting, and various homeless task groups to identify funding and opportunities to provide Visalia's homeless population with housing and service opportunities.

The City will also continue to partner with organizations to provide services and address the full range of needs of LMI families. Although there are coordinated programs and services to reduce poverty, it is recognized that many unmet needs will remain. The City will continue to work with its partners to identify and work toward meeting those needs by strategically focusing its resources and efforts.

## Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City is a charter city and is managed under a Council-manager form of government. The City Council provides policy direction to the City Manager who is responsible for administering City operations. City Council members are the leaders and policymakers elected to represent the community and concentrate on policy that addresses the citizens' needs and wishes. The City Manager is appointed by the City Council to carry out policy and ensure that the entire community is served. The legislative body is the City Council and City Councilmembers are the community's decision makers. Visalia voters elect a 5-member Council to serve as the City's legislative and governing body. The members represent the City and their respective Districts, serve four-year terms and they select one member to serve as mayor and one to serve as vice- mayor. A general

municipal election is held every two years in November, alternating between two and three positions each cycle.

The Finance Department, Housing Division, oversees and administers the day-to-day activities of the CDBG, HOME, and other state and federal funded programs. Housing staff works with various City departments to develop programs and activities that improve low-and moderate-income neighborhoods throughout the City. The administration of program activities includes housing, public services, public facilities, park and infrastructure improvements, and affordable housing.

The City has no additional actions planned to develop its institutional structure. The City will continue to work closely with the County of Tulare Housing Authority, as well as adjacent units of government and Tulare County.

# Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

The City will continue to work with its partners to identify funding opportunities for providing affordable housing and public services. The City will continue its partnerships with non-profit organizations in the community. Additionally, the City will continue to work with the Alliance for the ongoing partnering with housing, service, and faith-based organizations to discover and address gaps in service.

#### **Discussion**

See above

# AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

#### Introduction:

In the event that ultimate CDBG or HOME grant allocations do not match the expected totals listed in the AAP, the City may add, subtract or transfer amounts among identified projects, as noted without publishing a substantial amendment, if the amount is below a 75% change, as per the approved Citizens Participation Plan. Any difference in CDBG funding will be reflected in the emergency shelter public infrastructure line item and, if needed, Public services to maintain compliance with the 15% cap and Administration to maintain the 20% cap. Any difference in HOME funding will be reflected in the SHE CHDO senior housing project, and if needed, Administration to maintain the 10% cap. The three-year period (2023, 2024, & 2025) will be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income.

## **Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG),**

## Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	\$50,000
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan	\$0.00
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	\$0.00
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan.	\$0.00
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	\$0.00
Total Program Income	\$50,000

### **Other CDBG Requirements**

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0%
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low- and moderate-income	100%
3. Overall benefit: A consecutive period of 1, 2, or 3 years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low-and-moderate income- Specify the years covered that include the action plan	3-year period 2023, 2024, and 2025

## **HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)**

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

No other form of investment shall be used beyond those identified in Section 92.205. 2.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

No HOME funds will be used for homebuyer activities in Program Year 2025.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds (See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4)) are as follows:

Not Applicable.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

Not applicable.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

A HOME TBRA program is not planned in the Program Year 2025 Annual Action Plan.

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

A HOME TBRA program is not planned in the Program Year 2025 Annual Action Plan.

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a). Not applicable.

#### Discussion

See above.

# **Appendices**

# Appendix "A" - 2025 Summary Detail

# FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan Summary Detail

City of Visalia - FY 2025/26 CDBG and HOME Annual Action Plan							
Resources:		CDBG		HOME			
2025 Annual Grant Allocation	\$	1,139,838.00	\$	426,943.86			
2025 Estimated Program Income		50,000.00		100,000.00			
Prior Year Resources		450,000.00		40,000.00			
Total FY 2025/26 CDBG and HOME Resources	\$ '	1,639,838.00	\$	566,943.86			
Expenditures:							
Administration and Planning:							
Grant Administration	\$	237,960.00	\$	50,000.00			
Total Administration	\$	237,960.00	\$	50,000.00			
Public Services:							
Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance - Continuum of Care/Point-In-Time Count/LINC	\$	20,000.00	\$	-			
Family Services of Tulare County - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Match		50,000.00		-			
Kings View - Housing Flex Funds		45,000.00		-			
Kings View - Eden House		45,000.00		-			
CSET - Fair Housing Services		20,000.00		-			
Total Public Services	\$	180,000.00	\$				
Affordable Housing:							
Single-Family Home Repair Program (SFHRP)	\$	100,000.00	\$	-			
Senior Mobile Home Repair Program (SMHRP)		100,000.00		-			
Code Enforcement Services - In Low-Moderate Income Target Areas		170,000.00		-			
HOME-CHDO Project - Rancho Colegio CP0624*		-		290,000.00			
HOME-CHDO Project - Senior Housing Project				226,943.86			
Total Affordable Housing	\$	370,000.00	\$	516,943.86			
Public Facility Improvements:							
Emergency Shelter Development**	\$	851,878.00					
Total Public Facility Improvements	\$	851,878.00	\$	-			
Total FY 2025/26 CDBG and HOME Expenditures	\$	1,639,838.00	\$	566,943.86			

<sup>\*</sup>Any increase or decrease of FY 2025/26 HOME annual allocation, program income, and/or prior year resources will be directed to HOME-CHDO Senior Housing Project. \*\*Any increase or decrease of FY 2025/26 CDBG annual allocation and/or program income will be directed to the CDBG emergency shelter development.

# Appendix "B" - Citizen Participation

## 30-day Public Comment Period

## **English Public Notice**





# City of Visalia

Public Notice of the Draft FY 2025/26 – FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Annual Action Plan Amendment

# Public Comment Period: March 21, 2025 – April 21, 2025

The City of Visalia is seeking public comment on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 – 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds. The 30-day public comment period is March 21, 2025 – April 21, 2025. The draft plans are available for public review on the City's website at <a href="https://www.visalia.city">www.visalia.city</a>.

You are invited to attend a community meeting and/or public hearing:

- Community Meeting April 2, 2025, at 5:30pm
  - 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia, CA 93292
- Public Hearing Review April 7, 2025, at 7:00pm
  - 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291
- Public Hearing Adoption April 21, 2025, at 7:00pm
  - 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

If you are unable to attend a meeting, you may submit your comments in writing to the City of Visalia Housing Division at <a href="mailto:housing@visalia.city">housing@visalia.city</a>.

In Compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in meetings call (559) 713-4512 48-hours in advance of the meeting. For Hearing Impaired call (559) 713-4900 (TTY) 48-hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time to request services.

Published: 3/18/25, 3/21/25, and 4/1/25

## **English Public Notice Proof of Publication**



GANNETT

PO Box 631437 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1437

#### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

City Of Visalia-Finance Dept 707 W Acequia Ave Visalia CA 93291-6127

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Tulare Advance-Register and Visalia Times-Delta newspaper published in the city of Visalia, Tulare County, State of California, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the

10-25-26

# of Copies:

03/18/2025, 03/21/2025, 04/01/2025

and that the fees charged are legal. Sworn to and subscribed before on 04/01/2025

Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

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RYAN SPELLER Notary Public State of Wisconsin City of Visalia Public Notice of the Draft FY 2025/26 – FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment

Public Comment Period: March 21, 2025 - April 21, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Visalia is seeking input on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 – 2029/30 Consolidated Plan (ConPlan), Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment for the use of Community Development Black Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds. The 30-day public comment period is March 21, 2025 – April 21, 2025. The draft plans are available for public review on the City's website at www.visalia.city.

Staff invites you to attend a community meeting and/or

- Community Meeting April 2, 2025, at 5:30pm at 220 N.
   Santa Fe St., Visalia
   Public Hearing April 7, 2025, at 7:00pm at 707 W. Acequia
- Ave., Visalia Public Hearing April 21, 2025, at 7:00pm at 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia

If you are unable to attend a meeting, you may submit your comments in writing to the City of Visalia Housing Division at <a href="mailto:housing@visalia.city">housing@visalia.city</a>.

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Published: 3/18/25, 3/21/25, and 4/1/25 11117322

City of Visalia Public Notice of the Draft FY 2025/26 — FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment

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Staff invites you to attend a community meeting and/or public hearing:

- Community Meeting April 2, 2025, at 5:30pm at 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia
   Public Hearing April 7, 2025, at 7:00pm at 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia
   Public Hearing April 21, 2025, at 7:00pm at 707 W. Acequia Ave.
- Ave., Visalia
- If you are unable to attend a meeting, you may submit your comments in writing to the City of Visalia Housing Division at <a href="mailto:housing@visalia.city">housing@visalia.city</a>.
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  Published: 3/18/25, 3/21/25, and 4/1/25 11117322

## **Spanish Public Notice**





# la Ciudad de Visalia

Aviso Publico de la sobre el Borrador del Plan Consolidado, Analisis de Impedimientos a la Eleccion de Vivienda Justa, Plan de Participacion Ciudadana 2025/26 - 2029/30, Plan De Accion Anual 2025/26, y Enmienda al Plan de Acción 2024/25

# Periodo de Comentarios Publicos: 21 de Marzo, 2025 – 21 de Abril, 2025

la ciudad de Visalia está solicitando comentarios sobre el Borrador del Plan Consolidado (ConPlan por sus siglas en Ingles), Analisis de Impedimientos a la Eleccion de Vivienda Justa, Plan de Participacion Ciudadana 2025/26 - 2029/30 y el Plan de Acción Anual 2025/26, y Enmienda al Plan de Acción Anual 2024/25 para el uso de los fondos de la Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG por sus siglas en Ingles) y del Programa de Asociación de Inversión HOME (HOME por sus siglas en Ingles). El período de comentarios públicos de 30 días es del 21 de marzo de 2025 al 21 de abril de 2025. Los borradores de los planes están disponibles para revisión pública en el sitio web de la Ciudad en www.visalia.city.

#### El personal lo invita a asistir a una reunión y/o audiencia pública:

- Reunión comunitaria: 2 de abril de 2025, a las 5:30pm
  - 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia, CA 93292
- Audiencia pública: 7 de abril de 2025, a las 7:00pm
  - 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291
- Audiencia pública: 21 de abril de 2025, a las 7:00pm
  - 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

Si no puede asistir a la reunión, puede enviar sus comentarios por escrito a la División de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Visalia a <a href="mailto:housing@visalia.city">housing@visalia.city</a>.

En cumplimiento de la Ley Estadounidense de Discapacidades, si necesita asistencia especial para participar en las reuniones, llame al (559) 713-4512 48 horas antes de la reunión. Para personas con problemas de audición, llame al (559) 713-4900 (TTY) 48 horas antes de la hora programada de la reunión para solicitar servicios.

Publicación: 18/03/25, 21/03/25, y 1/04/25

### **Spanish Public Notice Proof of Publication**



California GANNETT

PO Box 631437 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1437

### **AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

City Of Visalia- Finance Dept 707 W Acequia Ave Visalia CA 93291-6127

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Tulare Advance-Register and Visalia Times-Delta newspaper published in the city of Visalia, Tulare County, State of California, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the

03/18/2025, 03/21/2025, 04/01/2025

and that the fees charged are legal. Sworn to and subscribed before on 04/01/2025

Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

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RYAN SPELLER Notary Public State of Wisconsin Aviso Publico de la Ciudad de Visalia sobre el Borrador del Plan Consolidado, Analisis de Impedimientos a la Eleccion de Vivienda Justa, Plan de Participacion Ciudadana 2025/26 - 2029/30, Plan De Accion Anual 2025/26, y Enmienda al Plan de Acción Anual 2024 Periodo de Comentarios Publicos: 21 de Marzo, 2025 - 21 de Abril, 2025

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El personal la invita a asistir a una reunión comunitaria v/o audiencia publica:

- Reunión comunitaria: 2 de abril de 2025, a las 5:30 p. m. en 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia
  Audiencia pública: 7 de abril de 2025, a las 7:00 p. m. en 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia
  Audiencia pública: 21 de abril de 2025, a las 7:00 p. m. en 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia

Si no puede asistir a la reunión, puede enviar sus comentarios por escrito a la División de Viviendo de la Ciudad de Visalia a <u>housing@visalia.city.</u>

En cumplimiento de la Ley Estadounidense de Discapacidades, si necesita asistencia especial para participar en las reuniones, Ilame al (559) 713-4512 48 haras antes de la reunión. Para personas con problemas de audición, Ilame al (559) 713-4900 (TTY) 48 haras antes de la hara programada de la reunión para solicitar servicios. Published: 3/18/25, 3/21/25, and 4/1/25 11117376

Aviso Publico de la Ciudad de Visalia sobre el Borrador del Plan Consolidado, Analisis de Impedimientos a la Eleccion de Vivienda Justa, Plan de Participacion Ciudadana 2025/26 - 2029/30, Plan De Accion Anual 2025/26, y Enmienda al Plan de Acción Anual 2024 Periodo de Comentarios Publicos: 21 de Marzo, 2025 – 21 de Abril, 2025

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El personal lo invita a asistir a una reunión comunitaria y/o

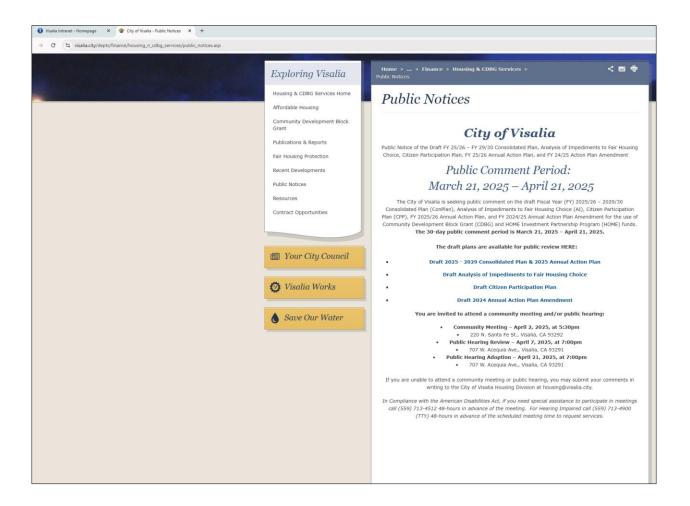
- Reunión comunitaria: 2 de abril de 2025, a las 5:30 p. m. en
- 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia Audiencia pública: 7 de abril de 2025, a las 7:00 p. m. en 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia
- Audiencia pública: 21 de abril de 2025, a las 7:00 p. m. en 1707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia

Si no puede asistir a la reunión, puede enviar sus comentarios por escrito a la División de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Visalia a <u>housing@visalia.city.</u>

En cumplimiento de la Ley Estadounidense de Discapacidades, si necesita asistencia especial para participar en las reuniones, ilame al (559) 713-4512 48 horas antes de la reunion. Para personas con problemas de audición, ilame al (559) 713-4900 (TTY) 48 horas antes de la hora programada de la reunión para solicitar servicios.

Published: 3/18/25, 3/21/25, and 4/1/25 11117376

## **City Website Post**



## **City Newsletter Post**

# News

#### Share Your Input on Housing Funding Plans



3.21.25

We need your input, Visalia!

The City of Visalia invites residents to provide input on the draft plans for how federal dollars can benefit low and moderate income Visalians by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities.

Specifically, we're seeking feedback on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 - 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Annual Action Plan Amendment. These documents outline how the City will utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds to address community needs.

#### English Flyer | Folleto en espanol

Input from residents is a vital piece of addressing community needs and the application of these federal funds. The 30-day public comment period is open now, running from March 21, 2025, to April 21, 2025. The draft plans are available for public review on the City's website at www.visalia.city, and comments can be emailed to housing@visalia.city.

#### Provide Your Feedback at an Upcoming Public Meeting

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the following meetings:

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

- Date: April 2, 2025
- Time: 5:30 p.m.
- Location: 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia, CA 93292

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

- Date: April 7, 2025
- Time: 7 p.m.
- Location: 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

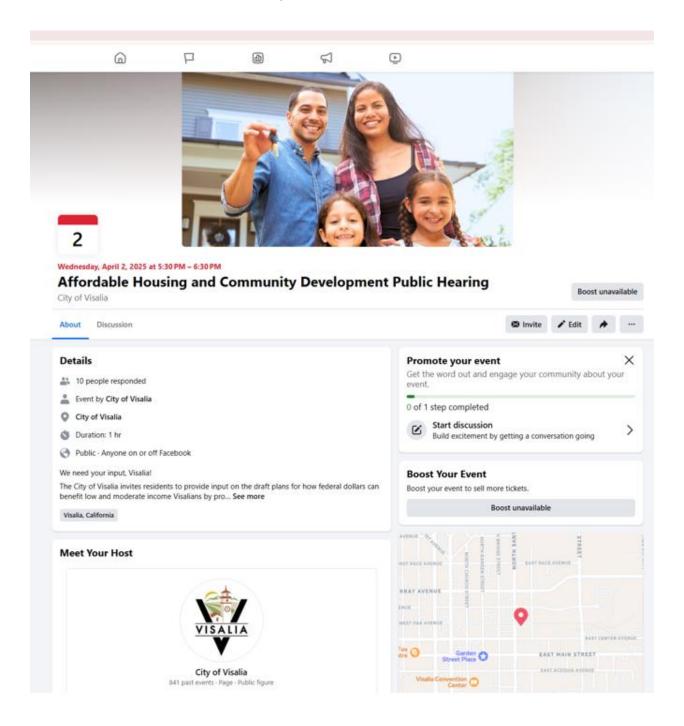
- Date: April 21, 2025
- Time: 7 p.m.
- Location: 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

If you are unable to attend a meeting, written comments may be submitted to the City of Visalia Housing Division via email at housing@visalia.city.

Accessibility In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special assistance to participate in these meetings are encouraged to call (559) 713-4512 at least 48 hours in advance. For hearing-impaired individuals, please call (559) 713-4900 (TTY) to request services.

We value your input and look forward to your participation in shaping the future of our community.

# **City Social Media Posts**



#### **Details**

10 people responded

Event by City of Visalia

City of Visalia

Duration: 1 hr

Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

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Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

o Date: April 2, 2025

o Time: 5:30 p.m.

o Location: City of Visalia Administration Office, 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia, CA 93292

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

o Date: April 7, 2025

o Time: 7 p.m.

o Location: City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

o Date: April 21, 2025

o Time: 7 p.m.

o Location: City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

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We value your input and look forward to your participation in shaping the future of our community!

See less

Visalia, California

## Calendar Events April 2, 2025

# Affordable Housing and Community Development Public Hearing

We need your input, Visalia!

The City of Visalia invites residents to provide input on the draft plans for how federal dollars can benefit low and moderate income Visalians by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities.

Specifically, we're seeking feedback on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 – 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Annual Action Plan Amendment. These documents outline how the City will utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds to address community needs.

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#### Provide Your Feedback at an Upcoming Public Meeting!

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the following meetings:

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

o Date: April 2, 2025 o Time: 5:30 p.m.

o Location: City of Visalia Administration Office, 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia, CA 93292

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

o Date: April 7, 2025 o Time: 7 p.m.

o Location: City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

o Date: April 21, 2025 o Time: 7 p.m.

o Location: City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

If you are unable to attend a meeting, written comments may be submitted to the City of Visalia Housing Division via email at housing@visalia.city.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special assistance to participate in these meetings are encouraged to call (559) 713-4512 at least 48 hours in advance. For hearing-impaired individuals, please call (559) 713-4900 (TTY) to request services.

We value your input and look forward to your participation in shaping the future of our community!

When: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 Time: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Where: City of Visalia Administration Building, 220 N. Santa Fe St., Visalia, CA, 93292

Event Type: Community Development, CD Calendar

Contact: Margie Perez - (559) 713-4460

## Calendar Events April 7, 2025

# Affordable Housing and Community Development Public Hearing

We need your input, Visalia!

The City of Visalia invites residents to provide input on the draft plans for how federal dollars can benefit low and moderate income Visalians by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities.

Specifically, we're seeking feedback on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 – 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Annual Action Plan Amendment. These documents outline how the City will utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds to address community needs.

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#### Provide Your Feedback at an Upcoming Public Meeting!

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the following meetings:

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

o Date: April 7, 2025 o Time: 7 p.m.

o Location: City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

o Date: April 21, 2025 o Time: 7 p.m.

o Location: City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

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We value your input and look forward to your participation in shaping the future of our community!

When: Monday, April 7, 2025 Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Where: City Hall West - City Council Chambers, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA, 93291

Event Type: Community Development, CD Calendar

Contact: Margie Perez - (559) 713-4460

## Calendar Events April 21, 2025

# Affordable Housing and Community Development Public Hearing

We need your input, Visalia!

The City of Visalia invites residents to provide input on the draft plans for how federal dollars can benefit low and moderate income Visalians by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities.

Specifically, we're seeking feedback on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 – 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Annual Action Plan Amendment. These documents outline how the City will utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds to address community needs.

Input from residents is a vital piece of addressing community needs and the application of these federal funds. The 30-day public comment period is open now, running from March 21, 2025, to April 21, 2025. The draft plans are available for public review on the City's website at www.visalia.city, and comments can be emailed to housing@visalia.city.

#### Provide Your Feedback at an Upcoming Public Meeting!

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the following meetings:

Public Hearing During a Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting

o Date: April 21, 2025

o Time: 7 p.m.

o Location: City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

If you are unable to attend a meeting, written comments may be submitted to the City of Visalia Housing Division via email at housing@visalia.city.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special assistance to participate in these meetings are encouraged to call (559) 713-4512 at least 48 hours in advance. For hearing-impaired individuals, please call (559) 713-4900 (TTY) to request services.

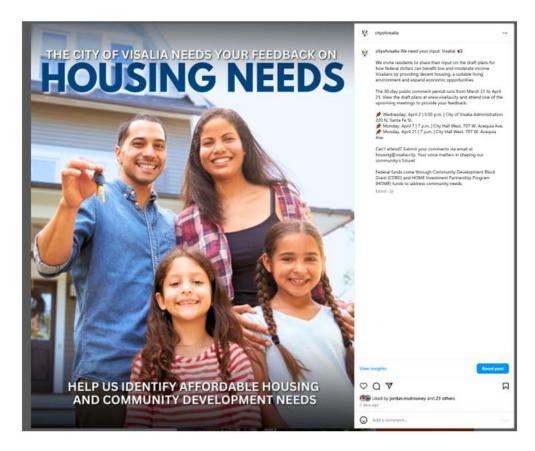
We value your input and look forward to your participation in shaping the future of our community!

When: Monday, April 21, 2025 Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Where: City Hall West - City Council Chambers, 707 W. Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA, 93291

Event Type: Community Development, CD Calendar

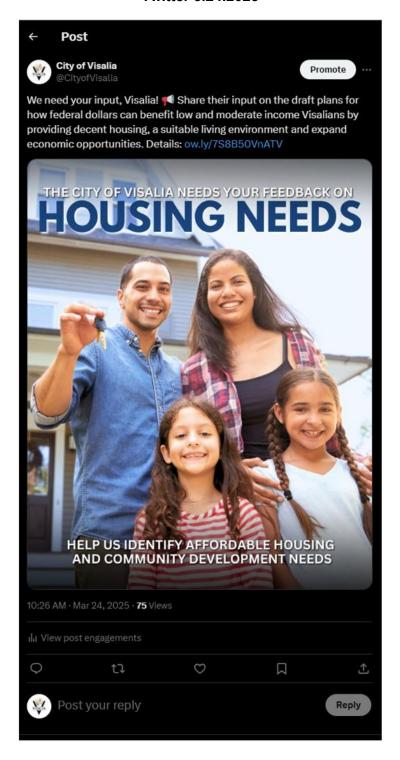
Contact: Margie Perez - (559) 713-4460



Facebook 3.21.2025



Twitter 3.24.2025



#### LinkedIn 3.24.2025



We need your input, Visalia!

We invite residents to share their feedback on the draft plans for how federal dollars can benefit low and moderate income Visalians by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities.

The 30-day public comment period runs from March 21 to April 21. View the draft plans at <a href="www.visalia.city">www.visalia.city</a> and attend one of the upcoming meetings to provide your feedback:

Monday, April 7 | 7 p.m. | City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave.

Monday, April 21 | 7 p.m. | City Hall West, 707 W. Acequia Ave.

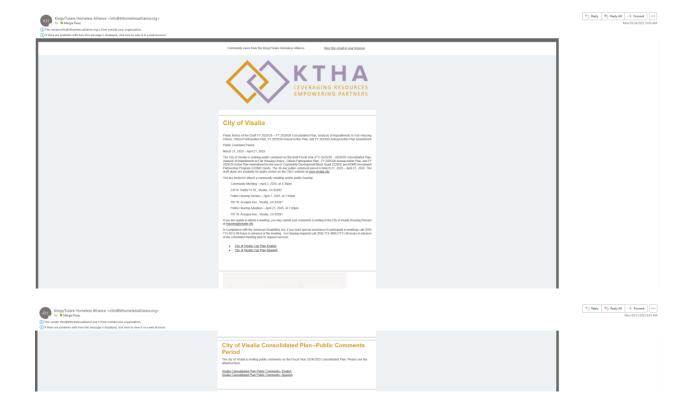
Can't attend? Submit your comments via email at housing@visalia.city. Your voice matters in shaping our community's future!

These federal funds come through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds to address community needs.

#CDBG #HOME #BlockGrant #HousingServices #Visalia



### **KTHA Listserv Post**



### Staff Report - April 21, 2025



# Visalia City Council Staff Report

Visalia City Council 707 W. Acequia Visalia, CA 93291

File #: 25-0039

Agenda Date: 4/21/2025

Agenda #: 1.

#### Agenda Item Wording:

Adopt FY 2025/26 -2029/30 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025/26 Action Plan - Public Hearing to adopt 1) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan (ConPlan), Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), Citizens Participation Plan (CPP), and FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Funds; and 2) FY 2024/25 CDBG Action Plan Amendment.

Deadline for Action: 4/21/2025

Submitting Department: Finance and Technology Services

#### Contact Name and Phone Number:

Margie Perez, Housing Specialist, margie.perez@visalia.city, (559) 713-4460; Melody Murch, Assistant Finance Director, melody.murch@visalia.city, (559) 713-4379; Renee Nagel, Finance Director, renee.nagel@visalia.city, (559) 713-4375

#### Department Recommendation:

Staff recommends that Council:

- 1) Conduct a second public hearing, allowing a final opportunity for citizen input; and
- 2) Approve and adopt the FY 2025/26 FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan for the use of CDBG and HOME funds inclusive of the AI, CPP; and
- 3) Adopt and appropriate the FY 2025/26 Action Plan proposed CDBG and HOME activities; and
- 4) Authorize City Manager or their designee to enter into all contracts as listed in FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan; and
- 5) Approve and appropriate FY 2024/25 CDBG Action Plan Amendment; and
- 6) Authorize City Manager or their designee to submit the FY 2025/26 FY 2029/30 ConPlan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment to HUD.

#### Background Discussion:

As required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City must develop a Consolidated Plan (ConPlan) every 5-years to guide the use of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funding. The 5-year ConPlan is the framework for CDBG and HOME resources to support projects benefiting low-and moderate-Income households by providing affordable housing, a suitable living environment, economic opportunities, public services, and providing for infrastructure improvements.

The Con Plan process which began in February of 2024 is drawing to a close, and staff is seeking final public comment on the priorities and activity allocations proposed for the FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 ConPlan, first year FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment. Tonight's public hearing will complete the citizen participation process which has been conducted to obtain community input for the development of the proposed FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30

Visalia City Council

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ConPlan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment. This is the second public hearing to be held during the 30-day public comment period with the first having been held on April 7, 2025. Council is asked to consider the comments, recommendations, and requests for funding as provided in further detail below and provide final approval.

The City is an entitlement jurisdiction and receives HUD annual allocations through:

- · Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. The first year FY 2025/26 annual allocation is estimated to be \$1,200,000 with an estimated \$50,000 in program income, and \$450,000 in prior year resources.
- . HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds affordable housing activities including homeownership, rehabilitation of housing, development of affordable housing, and tenant-based rental assistance to low-income households. The first year FY 2025/26 annual allocation is estimated to be \$500,000 with an estimated \$100,000 in program income, and \$40,000 in prior year resources.

Consolidated Plan: The Consolidated Plan (ConPlan) establishes a comprehensive strategy that identifies community priority needs, and details how they will be addressed. The ConPlan strategy also includes the City's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), which governs how the City will conduct outreach and encourage citizen participation in development of the ConPlan, Action Plan, Amendments, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the next 5year term. Also included in the ConPlan is the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), which assists in identifying any barriers to affordable housing, as well as examines policies and fair housing practices.

Community Needs Assessment: The City has completed a comprehensive Community Needs Assessment through engaging citizens and stakeholders to assess community development and housing needs to identify the highest priority needs related to the use of both CDBG and HOME funding over the next 5-years. Through public notice of community meetings and surveys, opportunities were provided for the community to give feedback on spending priorities for the next 5years. This feedback serves as the framework for a community-wide dialogue to identify housing and community development priorities for FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30. Full citizen participation is shown in Attachment "F" - Citizen Participation Plan. In addition to receiving community priorities, staff received City Council priorities and direction on September 3, 2024, and December 3, 2024, for the 5 -year (FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30) ConPlan.

The overall top 5 gaps identified by the Community Needs Assessment include:

- 1) Affordable Housing
- 2) Homeless/Homeless Prevention
- 3) Emergency Drop-In Shelter
- 4) Home Repair Assistance
- 5) Job Training

#### FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan (See Attachment "A):

#### Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

CDBG Allowable Activities: The purpose of the CDBG program is to enhance and maintain viable communities through the provision of decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income persons. HUD allows up to 20% of CDBG funds to be used towards administration and up to 15% to Public Service activities. The remaining 65% is available for other community development projects such as public facilities improvements, economic development, and housing.

CDBG eligible activities include but are not limited to (\*indicates activities limited to the 15% public services cap):

- 1. Public services\* (limited to 15%)
  - Homeless, homeless prevention, domestic violence, job training, senior, disabled, youth, mental health, substance abuse, and fair housing.
- 2. Acquisition & Disposition
  - a. Acquisition & disposition of real property, cleanup of contaminated sites.
- 3. Public Facilities & Improvements
  - Homeless facilities, senior centers, youth centers, and infrastructure including water, sewer, street, sidewalk, parks, and ADA improvements.
- 4. Economic Development
  - Acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, small business assistance, job creation/retention, technical assistance, and job training\*.
- Housing
  - Homeowner assistance, housing counseling\*, rehabilitation of single/multi-family, emergency repairs, code enforcement, and historical preservation.

CDBG Recommended Activities: HUD allows up to 20% of CDBG to be spent on administration. HUD also allows up to 15% of CDBG funds to be spent on public service activities. Staff recommend the maximum amounts to be programmed for administration and public services, with public service activities to be determined on an annual basis by the Annual Action Plan process, based upon an annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). HUD encourages the use of these funds to include fair housing and partnering with the Continuum of Care, both of which are funded as part of the 15% public service funding activities.

Based upon the community needs assessment and Council's priorities, staff recommends CDBG funding for the development of a year-round overnight emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness. A year-round overnight emergency shelter is a vital part of the process of bringing individuals out of homelessness and will support the Police Department in providing immediate shelter, including for those residing in parks, commercial, and residential areas.

Staff also recommends beginning a Senior Single-Family Home Repair Program for senior/disabled low-to-moderate-income owner occupants of single-family homes to assist with essential home repairs such as roof repairs/replacement, plumping repairs, ADA improvements, and efficiency

improvements etc. to assist seniors/disabled residents to remain in their homes.

Staff recommends continued funding for:

- · Code Enforcement in low-income deteriorating areas,
- · Senior Mobile Home Repair Program,
- · Park improvements for low-income areas, and
- Public improvements to address the continued need for ADA accessible sidewalks.

A summary of the proposed CDBG funded activities for the next 5-year Consolidated Plan is shown below in <u>Table 1: FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Proposed CDBG Activities</u> and included as Attachment "B".

Table 1:	FY 2025/26 - I	FY 2029/30 Pr	oposed CDB	G Activities	AND SHIELD	
Resources:	FY 25/26	FY 26/27	FY 27/28	FY 28/29	FY 29/30	Total
Annual CDBG Allocation	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	31,200,000	\$6,000,000
Program Income	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250.000
Prior Year Resources	450,000					450.000
Total CDBG Resources	\$1,700,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$6,700,000
Expenditures:		The second second			1.0	421.331.33
Administration (20%)	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$1,250,000
Public Services (15%)	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	900,000
Single-Family Home Repair Program	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500.000
Senior Mobile Home Repair Program	100,000	100,000	100,000	100.000	100.000	500.000
Code Enforcement Low-Mod Areas	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000	850,000
Emergency Shelter Development	900,000	450,000				1,350,000
Sidewalk ADA Improvements	-		450,000	300,000	450,000	1,200,000
Park Youth Improvements		+	-	150,000		150,000
Total CDBG Expenditures	\$1,700,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$6,700,000

## HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

**HOME Allowable Activities:** The purpose of HOME funding is to create and/or retain affordable housing. HUD defines affordable housing as housing where a household pays no more than 30% of their gross income for housing costs, including utilities. Most HOME affordability housing developments are for households with incomes at 60% of the area median income (AMI) or less. For example, a qualifying family of four at 60% AMI in FY 2024/25 has an income of \$52,740 or lower and should not be spending more than \$15,822 per year on housing.

HOME funding requires that at least 15% of the annual HOME grant be provided to a certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) for the development of affordable housing (rental and/or ownership).

HOME funds can be used for housing within four basic programs:

1. Development of affordable housing

- 2. Homebuyer assistance
- 3. Rehabilitation for owner-occupants
- 4. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance

HOME Recommended Activities: HOME funding requires that at least 15% of the annual grant be provided to a certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) for the development of affordable housing. Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) is currently the only local organization which meets the HOME CHDO certification requirements. SHE submitted a request for a conditional commitment for the use of their reserved 2025 HOME CHDO set aside, for use toward Crescent Meadows, a senior affordable housing project. Staff will perform preliminary underwriting for the project and will present a formal request for a "conditional commitment" of funds to Council at a future council meeting. Also, future 2026-2029 funding may be directed to SHE or another qualified CHDO developer for the development of affordable housing (single and multi-family). In addition, there is a shortage of rental subsidies in our region to support permanent supportive housing (PSH) units for people experiencing homelessness. HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) can assist in providing much needed rental subsidies for PSH units within the City of Visalia.

Based on the community needs assessment and Council priorities, staff recommends utilizing HOME funds for:

- Development of a senior affordable housing,
- · Affordable housing for low-income families, and
- TBRA to support PSH units for people experiencing homelessness.

A summary of the proposed HOME funded activities for the next 5-year Consolidated Plan is shown below in Table 2: FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Proposed HOME Activities and included as Attachment "B".

Table 2	: FY 2	2025/26 - F	Y 2	2029/30 Pr	opc	sed HOM	EA	ctivities				
Resources:	F	Y 25/26	1	FY 26/27	F	Y 27/28	F	Y 28/29	F	Y 29/30		Total
Annual HOME Allocation	S	500,000	5	500,000	\$	500,000	\$	500,000	\$	500,000	\$2	,500,000
Program Income		100,000		100,000		100,000		100,000		100,000		500,000
Prior Year Resources		40,000										40,000
Total HOME Resources	\$	640,000	\$	600,000	\$	600,000	\$	600,000	\$	600,000	\$3	,040,000
Expenditures:												
HOME Administration (10%)	S	50,000	\$	50,000	\$	50,000	\$	50,000	5	50,000	\$	250,000
Rancho Colegio Project		290,000		-						-		290,000
Senior Housing Project		300,000		450,000		450,000		-		-	1	,200,000
Affordable Rental Housing Project								450,000		450,000		900,000
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance		-		100,000		100,000		100,000		100,000		400,000
Total HOME Expenditures	\$	640,000	\$	600,000	\$	600,000	\$	600,000	\$	600,000	\$3	,040,000

#### First Year FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan (See Attachment "A"):

The FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan is the first year of the next 5-year ConPlan, and the plan objectives are based upon the City's 5-year Strategic Plan. The proposed programs for the FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan were formulated based upon applications received in response to a

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) released by the City to seek applications for the available funding. The FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan consists of an estimated \$1.7 million in CDBG projected resources and \$0.64 million in HOME projected resources. The FY 2025/26 proposed CDBG and HOME resources, activities, and funding allocations are explained in further detail below.

# FY 2025/26 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan:

Estimated 2025 CDBG Resources and Expenses: The FY 2025/26 CDBG resources consists of \$1.2 million in estimated annual grant allocation, \$0.05 million in estimated program income, and \$0.45 million in estimated prior year resources for a total of \$1.7 million in 2025 estimated CDBG resources as identified in Table 3: FY 2025/26 CDBG Estimated Resources. CDBG program income is generated from repayments of CDBG funded first-time homebuyer and owner-occupied rehabilitation loans.

Table 3: FY 2025/26 CDBG Estimated Resources					
Resources		Amount			
2025 Annual Allocation	\$	1,200,000			
2025 Program Income		50,000			
Prior Year Resources		450,000			
Total	\$	1,700,000			

# CDBG Administration and Public Service Activities:

The proposed PY 2025 Annual Action Plan administration and public service activities are listed below.

#### CDBG Admin & Planning: At \$250,000

o The 2025 CDBG administration and planning budget is \$250,000, which is 20% of the 2025 grant allocation and program income. The administration budget will pay for staff and operations to oversee the CDBG program.

#### CDBG Public Services: At \$180,000

o CDBG federal regulations restrict public services to 15%. Therefore, \$180,000 is the total available from the 2025 grant allocation and prior year program income. The FY 2025 Proposed CDBG Public Services are listed below in Table 4: FY 2025/26 CDBG Public Services.

Table 4: FY 2025/26 CDBG Public Services				
Activity	1	Amount		
Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance - CoC/Point-In-Time Count/LINC	\$	20,000		
Family Services - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Match		50,000		
Kings View PATH - Housing Flex Funds		45,000		
Kings View - Eden House Transitional Bridge Housing		45,000		
CSET - Fair Housing Services		20,000		
Total	\$	180,000		

#### Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance (KTHA): At \$20,000

KTHA is the designated Continuum of Care (CoC) for our region. The CoC is recommended by HUD as a comprehensive approach to promote communitywide cooperation to end homelessness. As the designated CoC, KTHA oversees the Point in Time (PIT) Count. KTHA oversees the administration of HUD funded Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Coordinated Entry System (CES), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) which begins the process of housing placement. KTHA also operates the Visalia weekly Local Initiatives Navigation Center (LINC) at the Visalia Rescue Mission to promote services including housing placement assistance, mainstream benefit enrollment, social security advocacy, substance abuse program enrollments, clothing, and food assistance.

#### Family Services of Tulare County (FSTC): At \$50,000

FSTC administers a HUD CoC Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) rental voucher program that requires a 25% match to secure funding. These CDBG funds will be used as a required match to secure rental vouchers for Visalia chronically homeless individuals. FSTC also provides case management and support services to chronically homeless persons already housed who are currently receiving a rental voucher. If match is not secured, these currently housed chronically homeless individuals could return to living on the streets in Visalia.

#### Kings View - Housing Flex Funds: At \$45,000

Kings View will provide housing flex funds as direct client assistance which includes security deposits, rental application fees, utility deposits, motel vouchers, legal fees, and emergency rental assistance to prevent evictions. Direct outreach services also include case management, transportation assistance, legal document assistance, and completion of the VI-SPDAT (Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool) assessment to begin housing placement. In addition, 75% of Kings View CDBG funds go directly to client assistance. Kings View does an excellent job in leveraging other funding to cover salaries and administrative costs.

#### Kings View - Eden House: At \$45,000

Kings View is the new operating provider for Eden House, a transitional - bridge housing project for people experiencing homelessness awaiting a permanent housing unit. Kings View is requesting client meal assistance for 15 Visalia-designated beds. Eden House as a transitional bridge housing project is unable to charge rents to collect ongoing revenue, such as permanent housing projects. As a result, Eden House is dependent on grant funding for ongoing operating costs. If insufficient grant funding is secured each year, the project is at risk of closing. Eden House also serves as an additional level of support in transitioning from homelessness to independent permanent housing. Eden House provides 24/7 on-site staffing and provides three meals a day. Eden House will also serve as a next level of housing for those exiting the Navigation Center that require additional services prior to entering permanent housing.

#### CDBG Affordable Housing Projects:

The FY 2025 CDBG Proposed Affordable Housing Projects are listed below and included in <u>Table 5:</u> FY 2025/26 CDBG Affordable Housing Projects.

File #: 25-0039	Agenda Date: 4/21/2025	Agenda #: 1.

Table 5: FY 2025/26 CDBG Affordable Housing Projects					
Activity	1	Amount			
Self-Help Enterprises - Single Family Home Repair Program	\$	100,000			
Self-Help Enterprises - Senior Mobile Home Repair Program		100,000			
Code Enforcement in Low-Mod Income Target Areas		170,000			
Total	\$	370,000			

# Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) - Single-Family Home Repair Program: At \$100,000

- SHE will administer a Single-Family Home Repair Program (SFHRP) to provide at least 3 low-income senior and/or disabled owner-occupied homeowners with necessary repairs including roof repair/replacement, accessibility improvements, and energy efficient improvements.
- The SFHRP will provide up to \$25,000 in assistance per household to allow for additional home repairs including roof repairs. The most sought-after repairs are roof repairs ranging from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per home.

## Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) - Senior Mobile Home Repair Program: At \$100,000

- SHE will administer a Senior Mobile Home Repair Program (SMHRP) to provide at least 3 low-income senior and/or disabled owner-occupied mobile homeowners with necessary repairs including roof repair/ replacement, accessibility improvements, and floor repair/replacement.
- The SMHRP will provide up to \$25,000 in assistance per mobile home, to allow for additional repairs including roof repairs. The most sought-after repairs are roof repairs ranging from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per mobile home.

#### Code-Enforcement: At \$170,000

CDBG code enforcement will provide inspections in CDBG eligible low-moderate income deteriorating and/or deteriorated target areas to address substandard housing. This funding pays the full cost of one staff position which is responsible for code enforcement in CDBG Target Areas. Code Enforcement activities were identified as an objective during the development of the 5-year Consolidated Plan. HUD requires consistent CDBG drawdowns to prevent becoming an at-risk grantee. Code Enforcement allows for consistent monthly CDBG drawdowns to remain in compliance with CDBG regulations. Code enforcement also generates CDBG program income that is returned to the program.

#### CDBG Facility Improvement Projects:

The FY 2025 CDBG proposed facility improvement projects are listed below and included in <u>Table 6</u>: FY 2025/26 CDBG Facility Improvements.

Table 6: FY 2025/26 CDBG Facility Improvements					
Emergency Shelter Development*	\$	900,000			
Total	\$	900,000			

#### Emergency Shelter Development: At \$900,000

Development of a drop-in overnight emergency shelter. During the development of the Consolidated Plan Community Needs Assessment, the need for an overnight drop-in emergency shelter was identified as a high priority need. Council also requested that the development of a drop-in emergency shelter be included in the next 5-year ConPlan during the September 3, 2024, City Council meeting. The location of the emergency shelter is unknown at this time. If approved by Council, an RFP process will be conducted to determine a developer, administrator, and project site. \*Any increase or decrease of 2025 CDBG annual allocation, program income, and/or prior year resources will be an adjustment to the Emergency Shelter Development Project.

### FY 2025/26 HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Annual Action Plan:

Estimated FY 2025/26 HOME Resources and Expenses: The PY 2025 HOME projected resources include \$500,000 in HOME estimated annual grant allocation, \$100,000\* in estimated program income, and \$40,000 in prior year resources for a total of \$640,000 as identified in Table 7: FY 2025/26 HOME Estimated Resources. \*HOME program income is normally generated from repayment of HOME funded first-time homebuyer or owner-occupied rehabilitation loans.

Table 7: FY 2025/26 HOME Estimated Resources				
Resources		Amount		
2025 Annual Allocation	\$	500,000		
2025 Program Income		100,000		
Prior Year Resources		40,000		
Total	\$	640,000		

The 2025 Proposed HOME funding is listed below and included in <u>Table 8: FY 2025/26 HOME Funding Summary</u>.

Table 8: FY 2025/26 HOME Funding Summary				
HOME Administration	\$	50,000		
HOME CHDO Multi-Family Rancho Colegio (CP0624)		290,000		
HOME Senior Affordable Housing Project**		300,000		
Total	\$	640,000		

#### HOME Administration: At \$50,000

 FY 2025/26 HOME Admin and Planning. This amount is within the 10% allowed for administration of the HOME program by HUD.

# HOME CHDO Multi-Family Project Rancho Colegio: At \$290,000

Towards construction of Rancho Colegio the current HOME CHDO Multi-Family development project, an 80-unit affordable rental housing complex for low-income working households. This final piece of funding will complete the City's HOME commitment of \$1.29 million to the Rancho Colegio Project, which was approved by Council on 8/7/2023. As a HOME Participating Jurisdiction, the City is required to provide at least 15% of the annual HOME funds awarded to a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) to develop affordable housing. Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) is currently the only certified CHDO for the City of Visalia. The 15% CHDO set-aside has been combined with additional available HOME funds from FY 2023/24 and FY 2024/25 to provide for a CHDO multi-family project as specified in the current 5-year ConPlan.

# HOME Senior Affordable Housing Project: At \$300,000

To a Senior Affordable Housing project within the City of Visalia for low-income seniors aged 62 years and over in conjunction with the next 5-year ConPlan. SHE submitted a request for a conditional commitment for the use of the reserved 2025 HOME CHDO set aside, for use toward Crescent Meadows, a senior affordable housing project. Staff will perform preliminary underwriting for the project and will present a formal request for a "conditional commitment" of funds to Council at a future council meeting. \*Any increase or decrease of PY 2025 HOME annual allocation, program income, and/or prior year resources will be an adjustment to the HOME Senior Affordable Housing project amount.

# FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment (see Attachment "C"):

The FY 2024/26 CDBG Action Plan Amendment includes reappropriating \$450,000 of unspent CDBG ADA tree well funds (CP0624). The project was delayed to allow an application for additional grant funds to complete the downtown ADA improvements. Funding for the ADA tree well project will now be provided in the next 5-year ConPlan in years three and four. As a result, the FY 2024/25 unspent \$450,000 from the ADA tree well funds (CP0618) will be reprogrammed into the next FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, as shown below in Table 9: FY 2024/25 CDBG Action Plan Amendment. These funds are now reflected in the FY 2025/26 CDBG resources shown above in Table 3: FY 2025/26 CDBG Estimated Resources.

Table 9: FY 2024/25 CDBG Action Plan Amendment						
Activity ADA Compliance Project - Tree Wells (CP0618)	Approved		Adjustments		Proposed	
	\$	450,000	5	(450,000)	77	
Total	\$	450,000	\$	(450,000)	\$	

Additional Information on Housing Conditions and Fair Housing related to the development of the FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan:

## Housing Windshield Survey (Attachment "D"):

File #: 25-0039 Agenda Date: 4/21/2025 Agenda #: 1.

Included with the consulting services from Baker Tilly was a Housing Windshield Survey which gives insight to existing conditions of single-family and multi-family dwellings within the City. City staff identified areas of Visalia to be included in the windshield survey as part of the ConPlan analysis. Baker Tilly and City staff conducted these surveys on Fall of 2024. Baker Tilly and City staff identified neighborhoods and randomly selected homes to profile to ensure impartiality and provide a better reflection of the neighborhood being surveyed. A copy of the Housing Windshield Survey can be found as Attachment "D".

#### Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (Attachment "E"):

As noted above, the ConPlan includes the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), which assesses the extent of housing needs among specific income groups, evaluates housing choices, and analyzes conditions in the private and public sector that could impede a person's access to such housing. The AI highlights meaningful actions that the City will implement to address patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, reduce disparities in opportunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination. A copy of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice can be found in Attachment "E". Through the completion of the AI, the goals below were developed to address fair housing choice barriers within the City of Visalia.

- 1) Goal #1 Development of Affordable Housing
  - a. Homeless Permanent Supportive Housing
  - b. Senior Housing
  - c. Farmworker Housing
  - d. Veteran Housing
- 2) Goal #2 Development of an Emergency Shelter
- 3) Goal #3 Tenant Based Rental Assistance
- 4) Goal #4 Fair Housing Services

#### Citizen Participation Plan (Attachment "F"):

As a recipient of HUD funding, the City is also required to prepare a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) every five years, in conjunction with the 5-Year Consolidated Plan. The primary goal of the CPP is to encourage citizen's participation, especially low- and moderate-income citizens of the community where CDBG and HOME funded activities will take place. It is an opportunity to provide input on the planning, and implementation of the programs activities through the ConPlan, Annual Action Plan, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CPP includes guidelines for how citizen participation will be conducted. A copy of the FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Citizen Participation Plan can be found in Attachment "F".

**Public Hearing for Adoption:** The 30-day public comment period for the review of the Draft FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan, first year FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Citizen Participation Plan, and FY 2024/25 Annual Action Plan Amendment began on March 21<sup>st</sup> through April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025. During the 30-day public comment period

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the draft plans were available for public review on the City's website at <a href="www.visalia.city">www.visalia.city</a> <a href="http://www.visalia.city">http://www.visalia.city</a>. Public notices were published on City's social media outlets, and in the Visalia Times Delta on March 18<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup>, and April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Public notices were also included in Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance email listsery to over 450 stakeholders. A public hearing was conducted on April 7, 2025, to allow public comment and input. The proposed plans were also presented at the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) on April 2, 2025, to receive additional public input. Tonight's public hearing is the final step in the public comment period. The adopted FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan is due to HUD by May 15, 2025.

#### Fiscal Impact:

Approval of this item will appropriate \$1,200,000 of FY 2025/26 annual CDBG grant funds, \$500,000 of FY 2025/26 annual HOME grant funds which are to be received on a reimbursement basis. This will require submission of the 2025 Annual Action Plan and to HUD in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) to properly track and report on separate activities.

#### Prior Council Action:

- April 20, 2020: Adoption of the current 5-year FY 2020/21 FY 2024/25 Consolidated Plan (ConPlan).
- September 3, 2024: Public Hearing to allow City Council and citizens to provide input on identifying high priority needs for development of the next 5-year FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 ConPlan.
- December 3, 2024: Work session to receive an update and have Council provide direction on the development of the next 5-year FY 2025/26 - FY 2029/30 ConPlan. Review of draft Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI).
- April 7, 2025: Review and comment on Draft FY 2025/26 ConPlan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, AI, CCP, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment.

Other: None.

Alternatives: None.

# Recommended Motion (and Alternative Motions if expected):

I move to:

- Approve and adopt the FY 2025/26 FY 2029/30 Consolidated Plan for the use of CDBG and HOME funds inclusive of the AI, CPP; and
- 2) Adopt and appropriate the FY 2025/26 Action Plan proposed CDBG and HOME activities; and
- Authorize City Manager or their designee to enter into all contracts as listed in FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan; and
- 4) Approve and appropriate FY 2024/25 CDBG Action Plan Amendment; and
- Authorize City Manager or their designee to submit the FY 2025/26 FY 2029/30 ConPlan, FY 2025/26 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2024/25 Action Plan Amendment to HUD.

Environmental Assessment Status: N/A

CEQA Review: N/A

Attachments:

File #: 25-0039 Agenda Date: 4/21/2025 Agenda #: 1.

- Attachment A: 2025/26 2029/30 ConPlan & 2025/26 Action Plan
- Attachment B: 2025/26 2029/30 ConPlan & 2025/26 Action Plan Tables
- Attachment C: 2024/25 Annual Action Plan Amendment
- · Attachment D: Windshield Survey Report
- · Attachment E: Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
- · Attachment F: Citizen Participation Plan
- · Attachment G: Draft Subrecipient Agreement
- Attachment H: 2025/26 2029/30 ConPlan PowerPoint

## 30-day Citizen Participation

#### Public Comment Period: March 21, 2025 - April 21, 2025

The City of Visalia held a 30-day public comment period seeking community input on the draft Program Year (PY) 2025 through 2029 Consolidated Plan (ConPlan), including the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), and PY 2025 Annual Action Plan from March 21, 2025, through April 21, 2025. The City took several steps to seek community input on the draft 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan. An English and Spanish public notice was published in the Visalia Times Delta on March 18, March 21, and April 1, 2025. The draft 2025 – 2029 Consolidated Plan, AI, CPP, and 2025 Annual Action Plan were available for public review on the city's website at www.visalia.city. Public notices of the draft plans were included in the City social media outlets, the City's News Page, and the City Hall Newsletter. Public notices were also posted at the following City locations City Hall at 707 West Acequia Avenue, Community Development Department at 315 East Acequia Avenue, Administrative Office at 220 North Santa Fe Street, the Visalia Transit at 425 East Oak Avenue, the Visalia Branch Library at 200 W. Oak Ave., and two community centers—Anthony Community Center at 345 N. Jacob St., and Visalia Senior Center at 310 N. Locust St. Public notices were also included in the Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance listsery to over 450 community stakeholders.

## The following public meetings were conducted during the 30-day public comment period:

- Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Community Meeting April 2, 2025, at 5:30pm
  - Comments received: Attendees were pleased that additional affordable housing and ADA improvements were included in the next 5-year ConPlan.
- City Council Public Hearing April 7, 2025, at 7:00pm
  - Comments received: City Council noted they were pleased that the Council's and the Citizen's community needs were aligned. No public comments were received.
- City Council Public Hearing April 21, 2025, at 7:00pm
  - o Comments received: No public comments were received.

#### The following public comments were received during the 30-day public comment period:

• No additional public comments were received during the 30-day public comment period.

## **Survey Results and Public Feedback**

## **Community Organization Survey Results**

The Community Organization and Resident Surveys were used to gather feedback and information from organizations and residents within the community for the 2025/26-2029/30 Consolidated Plan. Both surveys were open for responses from July 12-August 2, 2024 (the Community Organization Survey reopened between August 12-16, 2024, and from September 25-October 4, 2024, to collect additional responses from selected organizations and solicit feedback from organizations that attended virtual focus groups; the Community Resident Survey reopened between September 6-13, 2024, in anticipation of a virtual community meeting). The Community Organization Survey had 23 respondents, and 122 individuals responded to the Resident Survey. No responses were logged for the Spanish Resident Survey.

Table 1: Community Organization Survey Respondents				
No.	Organization Name	Respondent's Role	Туре	
1	Self-Help Enterprises	Vice President	Community development corporation	
2	Lindsay Healthy Start Family Resource Center	Director	Social service organization	
3	Proteus, Inc.	Planner Associate	Community development corporation	
4	RH Community Builders LP	Affordable Housing Development Director	Social service organization	
5	Visalia Rescue Mission	Director of Development	Social service organization	
6	Central CA Legal Services	Chief Program Officer	Legal aid services	
7	Tulare County Library-Visalia Branch	County Librarian	Other public entity	
8	Kaweah Health	Foundation Director	Health agency	
9	Tulare County HHSA	Deputy Director – Integrated Services	Regional government unit	
10	Kings View	Case Manager/Housing Navigator	Housing counseling agency	
11	Tulare County Office of Education Foster and Homeless Youth Services	Foster and Homeless Youth Services Coordinator	Other public entity	
12	Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency	Homeless Initiatives Program Coordinator	Social service organization	
13	The Source LGBT+ Center	Executive Director	Civil rights organization	
14	Visalia Senior Housing	CEO	Community development corporation	
15-16	Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance (2)	Executive Directors (2) of Programs and Operations	Continuum of Care	

17	Community Services Employment Training	Executive Director	Social service organization
18	Housing Authority of the County of Tulare	Deputy Executive Director – Housing Management	Public housing agency
19	Champions Recovery Alternative Programs, Inc.	Executive Director	Social service organization
20	TC Hope	Board Member	Other public entity
21-23	Anonymous (3)*		
	Total	23	

\*Three respondents did not include any identifying information.

Of the three, only two provided responses to the questions within the Organization Survey.

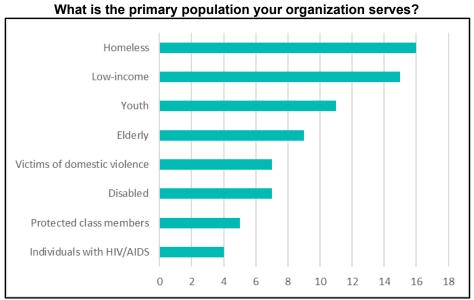


Figure 10 - The organizations primarily serve homeless and low-income populations, followed by the youth and elderly.

#### **Gaps**

When asked to choose the most effective existing programs and services in Visalia, respondents overwhelmingly selected affordable housing services (15) and mental health services (12), followed by job training/education/job search services (8) and substance abuse/recovery services (7). The respondents were also able to make suggestions on how existing programs and services can be improved, as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Organization Comments on Improving Existing Programs/Services				
Organization Name	How can existing programs and services be improved to better serve the City of Visalia?			
Self-Help Enterprises	Enhance case management and supportive services programs; recruit new providers to the area; invest a higher ratio of CDBG in housing supports.			
Lindsay Healthy Start Family Resource Center	Create more affordable housing, along with addressing homelessness that doesn't split up families or require 12-year-old boys not to be with their parents. Re-evaluate rules and are they poverty-informed?			

Creating, initiating, and facilitating affordable housing for community members who are single parents with only one income.
The City of Visalia has been extremely supportive of supportive housing and affordable housing development. Additional funding for rental subsidies is necessary to support the continued development of projects.
There is a need to expand existing services, and to mobilize services into underserved areas.
Increased funding to support legal aid services.
Designated low barrier areas for homeless to congregate and get services.
More funding.
We need a housing navigator that walks someone experiencing homelessness through the steps of accessing the available resources. The young adults I see experiencing homelessness need to be helped at every step of the way, from applying for programs to finding housing options.
Visalia is a beautiful city with challenges faced by communities all across the state. We want to see economic growth and vitality but are constrained by resources. Developing a plethora of housing options (low/mid/high), educational pathways, and job training are all essential but hollow without economic development to help create the jobs these individuals will need to sustain themselves. Offering mental health, substance abuse recovery, and other social support helps people who have stumbled or fallen get back up and on a path to stability.
General lack of awareness of what exists. Better marketing and outreach. Also how to access, not just what is available.
Improved communications between support services, agencies caring for seniors. When reaching out to provide help for residents, they often go unanswered.
I think the city needs more affordable housing and more housing choice vouchers. There also needs to be a rent cap. Currently, many renters pay more than 30% of their income toward rent.
Continue to work and partner with non-profits to seek solutions that address the safety net needs of marginalized members of our community. Also, support for case management services is important.
Continued collaboration with community partners to work together.
Youth need gang intervention programs. None exist in the city.  Transitional housing options are lacking, making it difficult for people transitioning out of drug treatment, hospital, and institutions to avoid homelessness.
We need a "drop-in" center for those experiencing homelessness. More than a warming center, and more than a cooling center. Place police (the Hope Team) can bring those on the street for shelter.

Perhaps reflecting the nature of the populations served by the responding organizations, most organizations noted a shortage of affordable housing options (20) and insufficient homeless prevention programs (17) as the largest gaps in programs and services, but respondents also called out the limited availability of mental health services (15) as a major gap.

# Shortage of affordable housing options Insufficient homeless prevention programs Limited availability of mental health services Limited access to comprehensive substance abuse treatment/rehab programs Insufficient affordable childcare options Lack of job training programs, specifically for high-demand fields Lack of free and/or low-cost legal assistance Limited elder care services Lack of comprehensive disability services for individuals with disabilities Lack of cultural service programs Limited financial literacy programs Lack of affordable/reliable public transportation Lack of domestic violence support services Limited free and/or low-cost healthcare services and access Limited veteran services and programs Limited youth mentorship/after school programs 0 15 25

#### What gaps do you see in the current programs and services in the City?

Figure 11

A similar question regarding missing programs and services in the City indicates a need for mental health, economic development, senior and youth services, and job training/education/job search services.

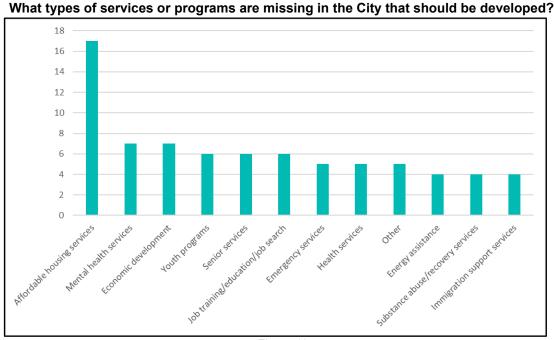


Figure 12

Underserved populations in the City were identified via a ranking scale by organization respondents. Populations identified by respondents as having above average or very high degrees of underservice include socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals/families, the elderly, individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, and people with limited English proficiency.

## Housing

Several questions dug deeper into the nature of the housing gap in the City. Similar to responses in the previous section, roughly 80% of respondents rated the availability of affordable housing as below average or low. Specific housing types needed in the community were identified as affordable housing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and shelters, evidencing a need to support the underserved populations identified in the previous section via housing services.

Organizations rated the top housing needs in the City of Visalia. As shown below in Figure 5, the five highest housing priorities in the City were:

- 1. Affordable rental housing
- 2. Permanent Supportive Housing
- 3. Transitional Housing
- 4. Shelters
- 5. Senior Housing

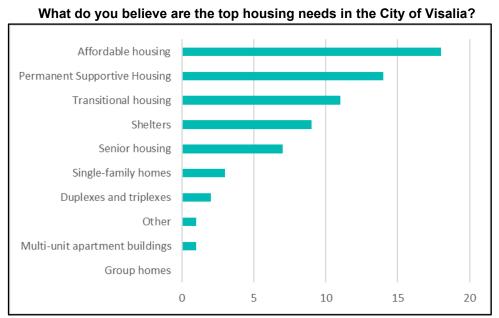


Figure 13

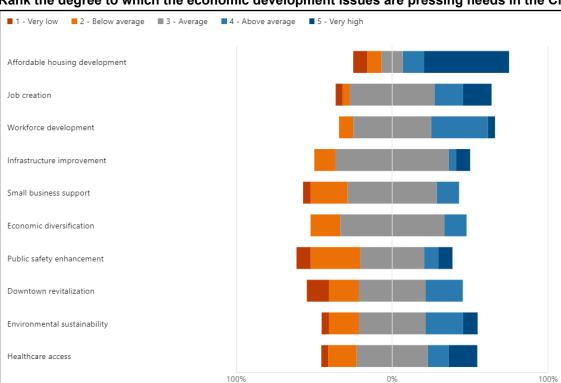
On the topic of affordable housing, the biggest barriers to access were largely a limited availability, high rental costs, and homelessness and housing instability, underscoring the affordability and homelessness issues in the community. To address these issues, respondents recommended the strategies of affordable housing development, preservation, and comprehensive homeless prevention and support services.

#### **Economic Development**

Respondents were also asked about economic development needs in the City. Specific questions about the quality of public infrastructure (e.g. roads, parks, utilities) and the availability of jobs and employment opportunities showed that respondents generally found these to be at an average level of acceptability, with slightly more respondents finding access to public transportation, health and social services, and jobs and

employment opportunities to be poor versus good. Respondents found the quality of public infrastructure like roads, parks, and utilities to be acceptable or good overall.

However, several economic development issues were identified as pressing, including affordable housing development and workforce development. These results track the gaps previously identified in affordable housing and job training/education/job search services.

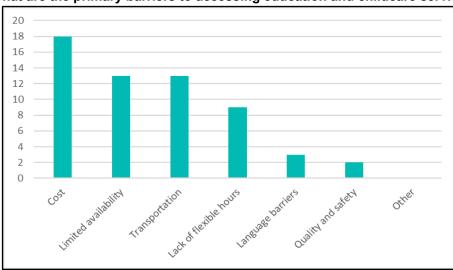


#### Rank the degree to which the economic development issues are pressing needs in the City.

Figure 14

#### **Community Services**

Access to health and social services for low-income residents was generally found to be moderate. However, when asked to select the primary barriers to accessing services like education and childcare, respondents noted issues with cost, transportation, limited availability of services, and a lack of flexible hours. A public transportation-specific question underscored a perceived issue with public transportation access, with most respondents identifying access as very poor to acceptable.



# What are the primary barriers to accessing education and childcare services?

Figure 15

### **Organizational Collaboration and Partnerships**

Collaboration among community organizations was generally identified as good, with the primary barriers to effective collaboration being competition for funding, resource constraints, organizational silos, and communication. Respondents felt that regular communications and meetings, as well as resource sharing, would enhance organizational partnerships.

In free-text responses, organizations further highlighted the need for partnerships, including the City working with schools, organizations, churches, and organizations partnering to address homelessness and other issues. One respondent noted they are unaware of planning sessions involving developers, builders, and city planners, and another said they would like to see new participants at the table.

#### **Funding and Resource Allocation**

Organizations identified unpredictable grant funding cycles and insufficient funding allocations as their most significant funding challenges, followed by matching fund requirements and complex grant requirements. The types of funding needed were operating grants and program/project-specific grants; organizations generally prioritized partnerships and collaboration as a way to improve the allocation of resources.

# **Community Residents Survey Results**

The Community Residents Survey gathered feedback from residents across the City to support efforts in understanding residents' funding priorities. The survey collected information on topics including demographics, housing, supportive services, economic and community development, and social and recreational services.

## **Demographics**

Almost 95% of respondents lived in the City limits, with the vast majority of respondents (85%) residing in Northwest Visalia (33), Southeast Visalia (27), Southwest Visalia (23), and Northeast Visalia (12). About 70% of respondents worked in Visalia. Respondents were generally equally distributed across council districts, with slightly more respondents residing in Districts 1 and 2.

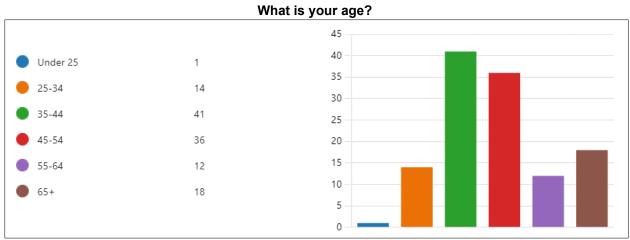


Figure 16

Most respondents were between the ages of 35-54 and can generally be described as higher income earners. About two-thirds of respondents lived in a dual income household. About 65% of respondents have a Bachelor's degree or higher; the remainder of respondents have between a high school diploma and Associate's degree, with only one respondent having no high school diploma. Most respondents (about 75%) were currently employed; about 65% of employed respondents work full-time for an employer, while about 10% were self-employed, and the remainder worked part-time for an employer or are retired.

The average household size is 3.23; about 45% of respondents lived in a two-parent household with minor children, while 23% lived as a couple without children, 13% were single-person households, and the remainder were senior households, related adults living together, single-parent households, unrelated adults living together, or homeless. The racial makeup of respondents was 60% White, 7% Multiracial, 4% Asian-American, 3% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 2% Black/African-American, and 1% Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander, with the remainder choosing not to respond or selecting "Other." About 32% of respondents identified as Hispanic.

#### What is your total household income?

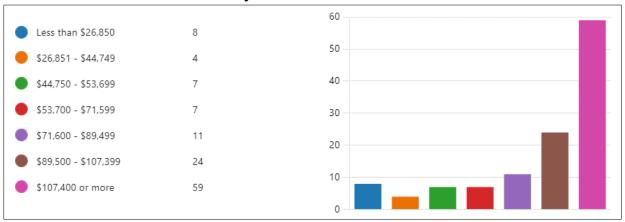


Figure 17

Homeowners made up 80% of respondents, with an additional 15% being renters. Four respondents lived with someone else, and one respondent lived on the street, in a car, or in a homeless encampment.

## Housing

Several questions asked respondents about housing needs in the City. Residents were roughly split on the question of whether there are areas of the City where low- to moderate-income households can afford rent, demonstrating a lack of consensus among residents on the topic of housing affordability in the City. If residents felt there were areas of the City where housing is affordable, about 63% of respondents said they would fear for their safety in those areas.

As evidenced below, there was no clear consensus on priority housing needs among residents, with several needs receiving high priority. The highest priority need appeared to be affordable rental housing for older adults. Similarly, there was a slight preference shown for affordable rental housing and permanent supportive housing for unhoused individuals with behavioral/mental health needs.

Citizens rated the greatest housing needs in the City of Visalia. As shown below in Figure 9, the five highest housing needs in the City are:

- 1. Senior Housing
- 2. Emergency Shelter
- 3. Permanent Supportive Housing
- 4. Construction of Affordable Housing
- 5. Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing

# ■ 1 - Not important ■ 2 - Slightly important ■ 3 - Moderately important ■ 4 - Important ■ 5 - Absolutely essential Emergency drop-in shelter Rental assistance Construction of affordable rental housing Homeownership assistance and housing counseling Rehabilitation of single-family homes Rehabilitation of affordable apartment complexes Energy efficiency improvements in single-family homes Energy efficiency improvements in affordable apartment complexes Lead-based paint/lead hazards testing abatement Preservation of historic homes Operations and repair of foreclosed property Short-term transitional housing Permanent supportive housing for unhoused individuals with behavioral/mental health needs Group homes/apartment complexes for people with disabilities impacting mobility Affordable rental housing for older adults Affordable rental housing for people exiting justice Accessibility improvements in homes and apartments 100% 096 100%

# What are the greatest housing needs in the City of Visalia?

Figure 18

Citizens rated the level of priority should be give to the follow types of affordable housing development in the next 5-years. As shown below in Figure 10, the five types of affordable housing development solutions in the City are:

- 1. Senior Housing
- 2. Affordable Rental
- 3. Emergency Shelter
- 4. Affordable for Sale Housing
- 5. Permanent Supportive Housing

# What priority level should be given to the following types of affordable housing development solutions if implemented during the next 5 years?

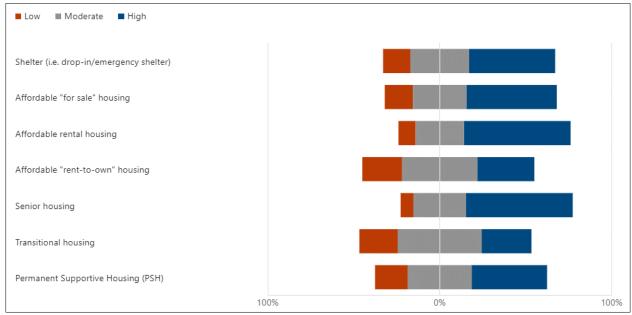


Figure 19

Residents appeared to favor down payment assistance, home repair assistance for owners, rental assistance, and energy efficiency improvements. However, residents indicated no clear preference for specific homeless solutions, with multiple types of solutions receiving roughly equal preference; generally, all homeless solutions included in the survey received a moderate to high need ranking.

# What priority level should be given to the following types of affordable housing programs if implemented during the next 5 years?

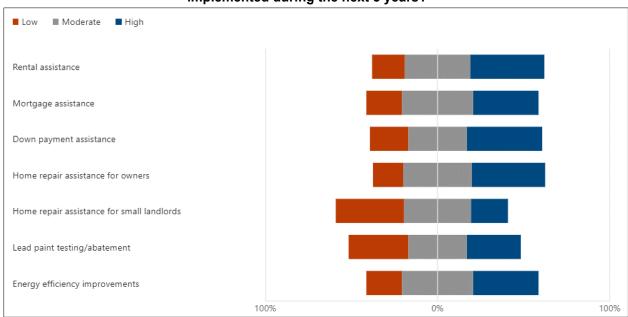


Figure 20

## **Community Services**

Resident respondents also demonstrated a lack of consensus on priority support service needs, with potential standouts being mental health services, domestic violence services, and Homeless services.

# ■ Low ■ Moderate ■ High Substance abuse services Domestic violence services Fair housing services Homeless services Legal services Transportation services Anti-crime programs Health services Mental health services Senior services/activities Homeless prevention services Youth services Job training/placement Tenant/landlord counseling Childcare services

#### What priority level should be given to the following services during the next 5 years?

Figure 21

100%

Residents generally felt neutral about the availability of public transportation routes connecting all areas of the City. Citizens rated the level of need for community services. The five highest priorities were:

100%

- 1. Mental Health Services
- 2. Domestic Violence Services
- 3. Homeless Services
- 4. Youth Services
- 5. Job Training/Placement

## **Economic and Community Development**

Respondents were asked about priority economic development initiatives and demonstrated a preference for job creation/retention and job training programs.

# What priority level should be given to the following types of economic development initiatives or projects if implemented during the next 5 years?

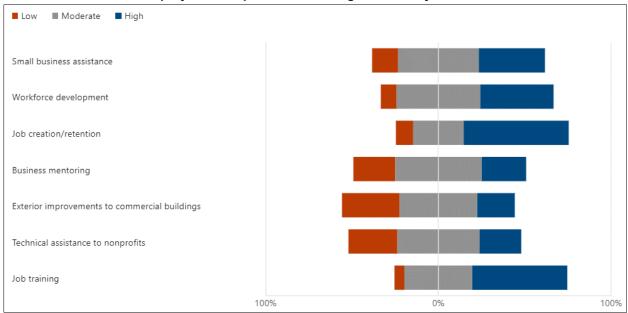


Figure 22

On the topic of challenges preventing individuals from getting jobs, residents selected lack of childcare, skills gap, educational barriers, lack of stable housing, and criminal background as top barriers.

# What priority level should be given to the following types of community development/revitalization initiatives or projects if implemented during the next 5 years?

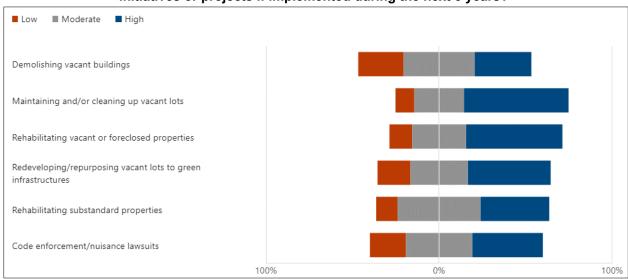
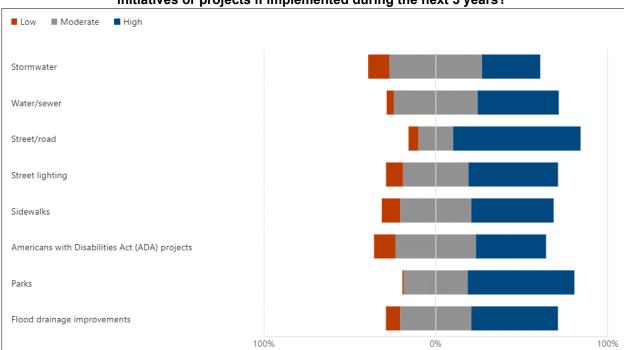


Figure 23

When asked about infrastructure improvements, resident respondents appeared to favor street/road improvements most strongly, followed by parks.



# What priority level should be given to the following types of public infrastructure improvement initiatives or projects if implemented during the next 5 years?

Figure 24

#### Social and Recreational Services

There was a wide range of responses on questions regarding the availability of programs like sports leagues and summer camps, and organized group activities and enrichment programs for youth in low- to moderate-income households, as well as the availability of recreational facilities in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, with respondents skewing toward agreement that these opportunities and amenities are available.

There was generally equal priority given to programs that respondents felt were lacking for low- to moderate-income persons, but the top answers were:

- Childcare assistance (69)
- Workforce development/job training (56)
- Home repair and improvement grants/low interest loans (47)
- Down payment assistance (43)
- Health and wellness (e.g. affordable healthcare, mental, and behavioral health) (43)

#### **Farmworker Women's Conference Survey Results**

On November 16, 2023, the City of Visalia Housing Division surveyed 107 individuals attending the 2023 Farmworker Women's Conference held at the Visalia Convention Center on housing and community development needs in the City. Nearly 65% of respondents were residents of Visalia, and an additional 28% worked or owned a business in the City. 93% of respondents were low-income households and eligible populations for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and/or HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds. Just over 30% of respondents completed the Spanish language survey, and nearly 85% were Hispanic or Latino. Respondents were equally split between homeowners and renters, with one respondent being homeless.

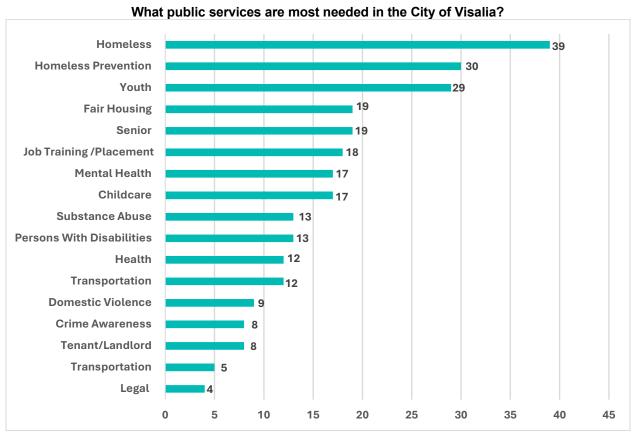
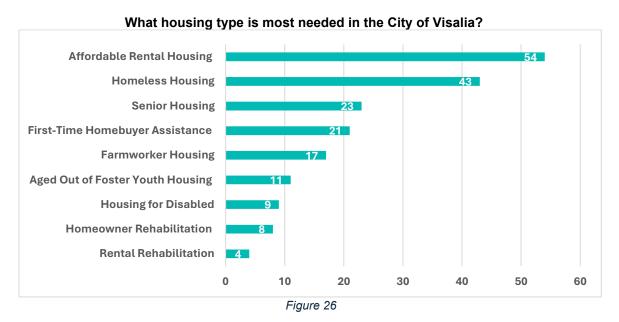


Figure 25

Respondents prioritized homeless and homeless prevention services as well as youth services. Respondents also indicated a strong preference for homeless housing when asked specifically about types of housing needed in the City but selected affordable rental housing and the most needed housing type.



Similar to the Community Organization and Resident surveys, respondents indicated a need for job training/placement as well as job creation.

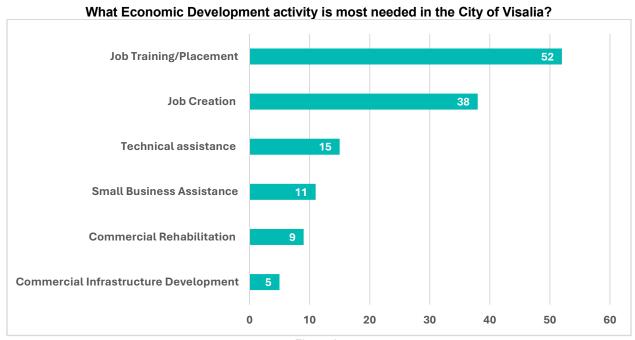


Figure 27

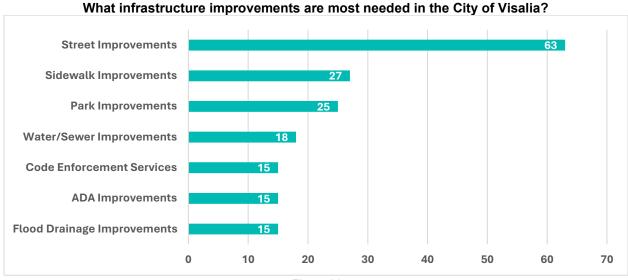


Figure 28

Street improvements were identified as the most needed infrastructure improvement. When asked about community facility needs, respondents again identified homeless facilities as a high priority, followed by youth centers, which underscores respondents' desire for homeless and youth services.

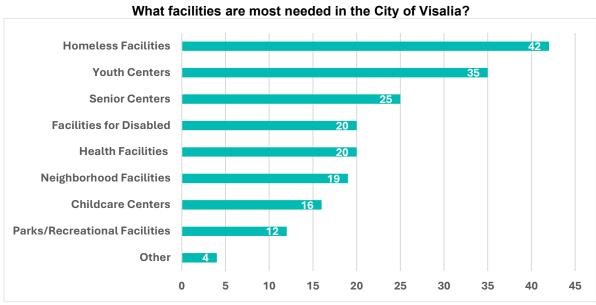


Figure 20

Survey results also indicate that senior services and housing are a fairly high need, but respondents appear to view homeless and youth as higher-need populations in the City.

# **Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Survey Results**

On September 4, 2024, the City of Visalia Housing Division surveyed 21 individuals during the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting, which included the 2025 Consolidated Plan in-person community meeting. The meeting covered housing and community development needs in the City. Nearly 76% of respondents were Visalia residents, and the remaining 24% worked or owned a business in the City. Only 10% of respondents were low-income, and most were Caucasian (62%) while 20% were Hispanic. About 75% of respondents were homeowners, with the rest being renters.

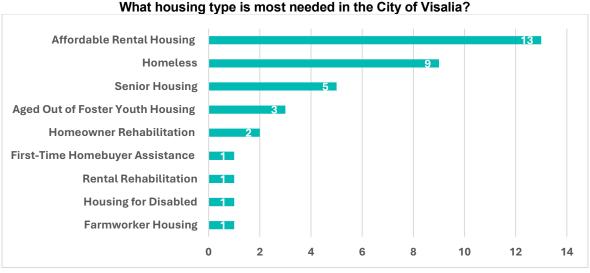
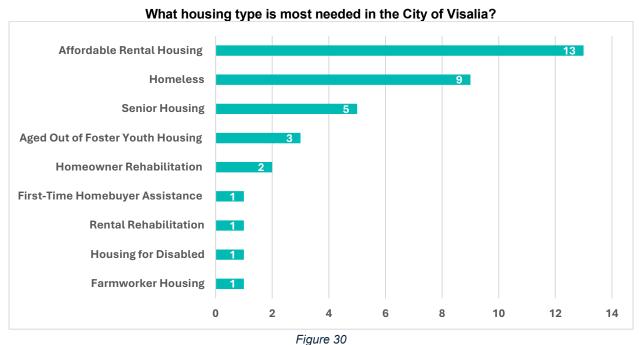


Figure 29

Housing needs identified in this survey mirror those from the Farmworker Women's Conference; respondents believe affordable rental housing, homeless housing, and senior housing are top priorities.



3. . . .

Housing needs identified in this survey mirror those from the Farmworker Women's Conference; respondents believe affordable rental housing, homeless housing, and senior housing are top priorities.

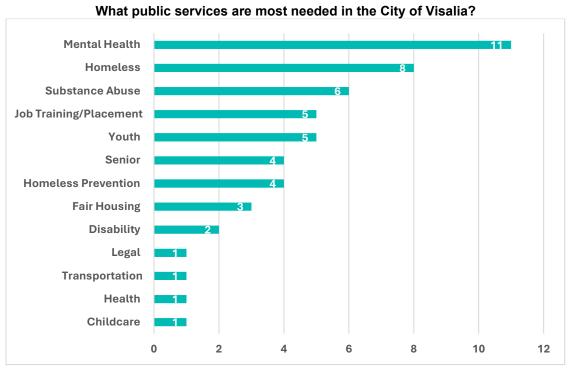


Figure 31

The CAC community meeting respondents identified a slightly different mix of service needs than the Farmworker Women's Conference respondents, identifying mental health services as a top need in addition to homeless services, and substance. However, facility needs identified by the CAC meeting were the same (homeless facilities and youth centers).

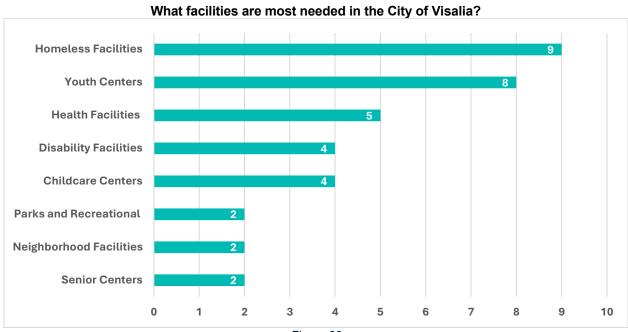
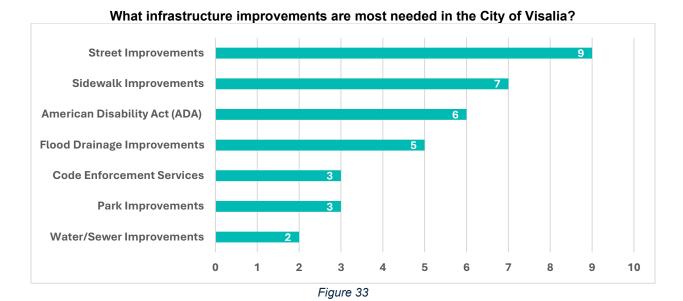


Figure 32



Street, sidewalk, ADA, and flood drainage improvements were the most needed infrastructure improvements in the City of Visalia identified for the CAC community meeting respondents.

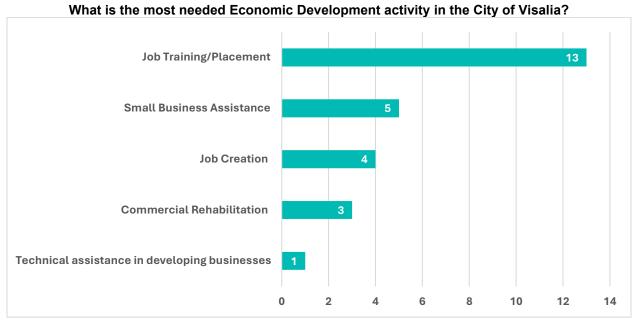


Figure 34

Job training and placement was identified as the most needed Economic Development activity in the City of Visalia, followed by small business assistance, job creation, commercial rehabilitation, and technical assistance in developing businesses for the CAC community meeting respondents.

## **Community Forum Results**

During the development of the Consolidated Plan, the City held one public hearing on September 3, 2024, two community forums on September 4<sup>th</sup>, and September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In addition, the City held two focus groups 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 and what was needed. 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 multiple times throughout all four community forums). Below is a brief summary of the feedback received at the community forums during the dialogue breakout groups.

The needs listed below are findings from both the Community Outreach and the Housing surveys. Each point was cross-referenced with the top-rated needs from both surveys. Following the list of needs identified, is a more detailed list of other findings that scored lower but are important as well because a lower percentage of Visalia's population experience the highest need.

#### **Top Housing Needs**

- 1. Senior affordable housing development and senior home repairs
- 2. Permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness
- 3. Development of affordable rental housing, including for aged out foster youth.
- 4. Rehabilitation of single-family homes and apartments
- 5. Tenant-based rental assistance

# **Top Service Needs**

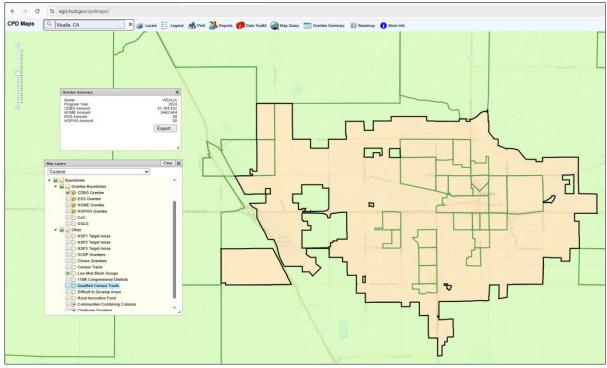
- 1. Homeless services
- 2. Mental health services
- 3. Youth services
- 4. Job training/placement
- 5. Domestic violence services

### **Top Homeless Needs**

- 1. Emergency shelter
- 2. Permanent supportive housing
- 3. Case management before and after housing placement
- 4. Tenant-based rental assistance
- 5. Mental health services

# Appendix "C" - City of Visalia Maps

# Visalia 2025 Low/Moderate-Income Areas (LMA) Map



CDBG Low-Mod Census Tracts, via HUD Mapping Tool at <a href="https://egis.hud.gov/cpdmaps/">https://egis.hud.gov/cpdmaps/</a>.

