

48th Year (PY 2022-2023) Action Plan
TAB 4 - Executive Summary

| Name | Page Number |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Introduction -AP-05 Executive Summary | 1 |
| 2. Summarized Objectives and Outcomes Identified in the Plan | 6 |
| 3. Evaluation of Past Performance | 8 |
| 4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and Consultation Process | 10 |
| 5. Summary of Public Comments | 12 |
| 6. Summary of Comments or Views Not Accepted | 14 |
| 7. Overall Summary | 14 |

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The 2022-23 Annual Action Plan (Program Year 48) is the fifth year installment of the Five Year 2018-22 Consolidated Plan (Con Plan), directing federal grant dollars to investments that provide affordable and decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents of Los Angeles. The Con Plan is the City of Los Angeles' (City) strategic plan for leveraging the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) annual entitlement allocations of four federal grant programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

The Con Plan, while a relatively small portion of the City's overall strategy in raising low-income Angelenos to a better future, is nonetheless an important part of the City's efforts in building affordable housing, reducing homelessness, and increasing the livability of the city, in ways that are sustainable, compassionate, fiscally sound and equitable. The City has proven that the proper way to deal with issues is not to ignore the situation or entrench itself further in policies that do not work, but to meet challenges head-on and listen to stakeholders for their invaluable perspectives.

An Unconscionable Plague and a New Start

In the United States, Los Angeles is home to the busiest port, the second-busiest airport, as well as a host of international businesses and tourism. Los Angeles welcomes tens of millions of travelers a year, and as such, it has become a heavily-burdened center for the COVID-19 pandemic.

The years of 2020 and 2021 were challenging, as the SARS-CoV-2 virus, the pathogen behind the COVID-19 Pandemic, laid bare the great valley between the haves and the have-nots, now with an even greater number of people finding themselves in the latter camp. With vaccines and other measures to hinder the viral spread, things are improving slowly in the City of Los Angeles, however, for many Angelenos, the pace is not nearly fast enough. Before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, Angelenos faced a host of maladies, including stagnating wages, a devastated economy, a burdened social system, a strained healthcare system, lost livelihoods, drained savings, and increased debt. Moreover, the pandemic has also drawn to light the digital divide between those who can afford the internet, and those who cannot; without the internet or the tools to fully utilize, many Angelenos were at a further disadvantage.

Before the pandemic, homelessness was growing in LA, and with the high inflation rate further raising the cost of living in the area, intense pressure was placed upon low-income Angelenos, many of whom have inched closer to the risk of losing their housing. The City has continually extended the eviction moratorium, so while many people remain housed, the issue of back rent continues to be a looming specter for tenants and property owners. Other people, despite the moratorium, still fell into homelessness.

In March 2020, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and granted the City over \$250,000,000 in CDBG, ESG and HOPWA funds to use in fighting the pandemic and its effects. In March 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan which awarded the City nearly \$100,000,000 in HOME funds to address the housing needs of people facing homelessness.

A Growing Problem

Prior to COVID-19, housing affordability has eluded renters and homeowners alike, and the past two years has only made the situation worse. Cost-burdened residents struggle to meet basic obligations, including paying for housing, transportation, education and health care—integral components of healthy living. Especially worrying is that nearly two-thirds, 64%, of cost-burdened renters have reported cutting down on food to be able to meet rent. The majority of city residents are renters, with 48% of all renters being severely rent-burdened, paying over 50% of their income for housing alone, and 73% of all renters being rent-burdened, paying more than 30% of their gross monthly income for housing costs. The longstanding mismatch of incomes and housing costs continues, as rents and home prices rise. In Los Angeles, since 2000, median wages have only risen by 8%, while median rents have gone up 37%. Similarly, in Los Angeles, the Case-Shiller Price Index, which tracks single-family home prices, has tripled since 2000.

With the cost of housing far outpacing wages, the fight to stay housed is an unequal one. Even more families are at risk of being displaced and losing their homes as a disproportionate amount of their income is devoted to housing, which leaves them very vulnerable to unforeseen circumstances like illness, injury, job loss, or some other form of disaster. In support of preventing displacement as a result of being severely rent-burdened, in 2019 California Governor Newsom signed a bill that limited rises in rent to 5% plus current inflation per year.

City leaders have recognized that there is no cut-rate, instant-fix to solve the homelessness crisis and approved record levels of funding to address the issue. Though the work is difficult, it continues toward achieving ambitious goals. The Comprehensive Homeless Strategy, a countywide multi-sector effort to prevent and reduce homelessness, was established in 2016, and is largely funded by Measure H, and the concerted efforts to help Angelenos experiencing homelessness get into housing are having an impact. As of December 2021, over 78,000 people have been permanently housed, and nearly 105,000 people were sheltered in interim housing funded by Measure H. Additionally, over 20,000 people were prevented from falling into homelessness.

Building Housing

The construction of additional affordable housing and preservation of existing affordable housing is necessary to both prevent and reduce homelessness. Programs currently underway include Measure HHH, a local measure to fund supportive housing, and State legislation to fund affordable housing, housing programs for veterans, and supportive housing for Californians with mental illnesses. Since

Measure HHH was passed in late 2016, the City has completed nearly 7200 units of housing, and helped as many individuals and families find housing.

Los Angeles is the first city in California to take advantage of a State law enacted in October 2017 that allows cities to expedite ground-up construction of new shelter housing on publicly owned property. City leaders established the \$20 million Crisis and Bridge Housing Fund.

Known as the A Bridge Home (ABH) initiative, this fund has supported construction of interim housing on City-owned land; up to 30 sites are planned with up to 1,500 beds. Using public-owned land for homeless and affordable housing is a component of the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy. By providing beds, storage space and supportive services, ABH will get people off the streets, indoors, and on the road to stable housing. The first completed site of bridge housing with 60 beds is in the parking lot of El Pueblo, the celebrated birthplace of Los Angeles. Twenty-two (22) ABH sites have been completed and are operational, and are located across Los Angeles in all of the City's 15 districts. These sites offer a total of nearly 1,200 beds and currently serve nearly 1,100 clients.

Additional local legislation recently enacted includes the Interim Motel Conversion ordinance, allowing motels to be used as transitional and supportive housing for persons experiencing homelessness. There are over 300 eligible motels, with thousands of potential units available. Also, the City is allowing more single-family homeowners to build accessory dwelling units (ADU), also known as granny flats or in-law units. From 2016 to September 2018, there was an increase of over 1500% in the number of applications received by the Dept. of City Planning for construction of ADUs. Since 2018, Los Angeles has consistently received between 1,200 to 1,400 permit applications for ADUs per quarter, and 2020 was no exception. The pandemic had little impact on the number of applications. On January 1, 2020, California legislators passed five bills to streamline and expedite ADU constructions, which is expected to support the trend and increase the number of affordable ADU units.

Providing Services

While supportive and affordable housing is being planned and under construction, people without a place to live need assistance now. With the highest number of unsheltered homeless individuals in the nation, the City has taken steps to lessen the suffering of Angelenos experiencing homelessness with various programs. These efforts have been bolstered by an influx of funding from local Measure H and State funding. In 2020, providing services became even more important to the residents of Los Angeles.

The FamilySource Center system has been an integral piece of delivering services to the community. Since the centers have already established themselves among a number of low-income communities, they are very effective in getting information, services, and resources to people who need the assistance.

The City is also helping people to stay housed. The Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program was originally funded with \$100M provided by the CARES Act in 2020, which helped 50,000 families with rent payments. The program continues with funding from American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which was enacted on March 11, 2021, provided through the State of California, to pay rent for residents with income below 50% of the Area Median Income, ensuring that the City targets the most vulnerable populations with this limited resource. With their savings depleted and back rent owed as a result of the COVID-19 recession, many tenants will need legal assistance to contest evictions and avoid homelessness. The City is dedicating some CARES Act funding to providing legal counsel to tenants

threatened with eviction. Oftentimes, although there are many legitimate reasons for eviction, there is a large legal-power imbalance between property-owner and tenants. The Eviction Defense Program (EDP) will ensure that tenants have adequate legal representation and their rights are not ignored during complicated eviction proceedings.

Together, the ERA and the EDP form a two-pronged effort to keep people housed. The first by ensuring tenants don't fall too far behind on rent, and the other to ensure they have legal aid should the need arise.

Income Source Discrimination

In order to remove the barrier of having property owners not accepting housing vouchers, a new local law took effect January 1, 2020, providing protections against income-source discrimination, to help prevent housing discrimination based upon an individual's source of income. The local legislation also sets up additional resources to make acceptance of Section 8 vouchers easier for everyone involved, including property owners.

Other anti-poverty efforts supported by CDBG will continue, including supporting self-sufficiency through employment, educational achievement, and making neighborhoods where people with low-income reside more livable, safe, vibrant and healthy.

Increasing Employment & Job Readiness

With the nation debating the feasibility of a \$15 minimum wage, Los Angeles has surpassed it. A living wage job is one of the most lasting ways to prevent and end homelessness. City leaders voted in 2015 to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour incrementally from 2016 to 2021. And now, due to the Consumer Price Index, the minimum wage in Los Angeles is again rising to \$16.04 per hour.

In January 2022, the Los Angeles metro area had a 6.2% unemployment rate, less than half it was last year. The City, County, and State fully expect the unemployment rate to drop to ordinary levels as the economy continues to heal. The City has planned actions to both assist people to return to the workforce and help young adults train for and find decent jobs.

Every year the City's YouthSource Centers put hundreds of opportunity youth back into school to get high school diplomas, and into job skills training and other supportive services to promote economic stability.

Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA RISE) was launched in partnership with the City and County of Los Angeles in 2015 to benefit people with high employment barriers such as a history of homelessness, incarceration, and other challenges. Participants are placed in entry-level jobs with potential for growth, such as food service, janitorial, street maintenance, and office work. Participants also receive personal specialized support to stabilize their lives to help them maintain employment, such as financial literacy training and healthcare, along with career training services. Successes to date include over 800 individuals in transitional employment and more than 200 individuals in competitive employment.

The City encouraged entrepreneurship by recently approving an ordinance that develops a well-regulated program to enliven the City's streetscape with sidewalk vending. The Sidewalk Vending

Ordinance regulates the sale of food and merchandise in the public right-of-way and parks to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. Sidewalk vendors will be required to acquire licenses and permits to vend on sidewalks and parks that will benefit the health and safety of the public. The ordinance will help to enfranchise micro-entrepreneurs and promote economic stability. The City hopes to see this program flourish once the pandemic gets under control. Funding is proposed in 2021-22 to financially support these micro-enterprises to obtain the appropriate licenses.

A major part of the City's commitment to entrepreneurship and local business is its ongoing support for the various business incubators and assistance programs around the city; from the Cleantech Incubator, which focuses on green technology and sustainability-focused businesses, to the Healthy Neighborhood Markets program, which assists local stores in securing supplies of fresh foods, to encourage healthy-eating and reduce the presence of "food deserts".

Supporting Education

The City of Los Angeles also recognizes the importance of educating high school students to prepare them for the workforce. As Los Angeles is a central hub of entertainment and creativity, it is imperative that the creative future workforce be developed in an equitable way. To this end, the City will fund the Building the City's Creative Workforce program, which will provide low-income youth with basic creative skills, including visual arts, animation, videography, clay-making, music, etc.

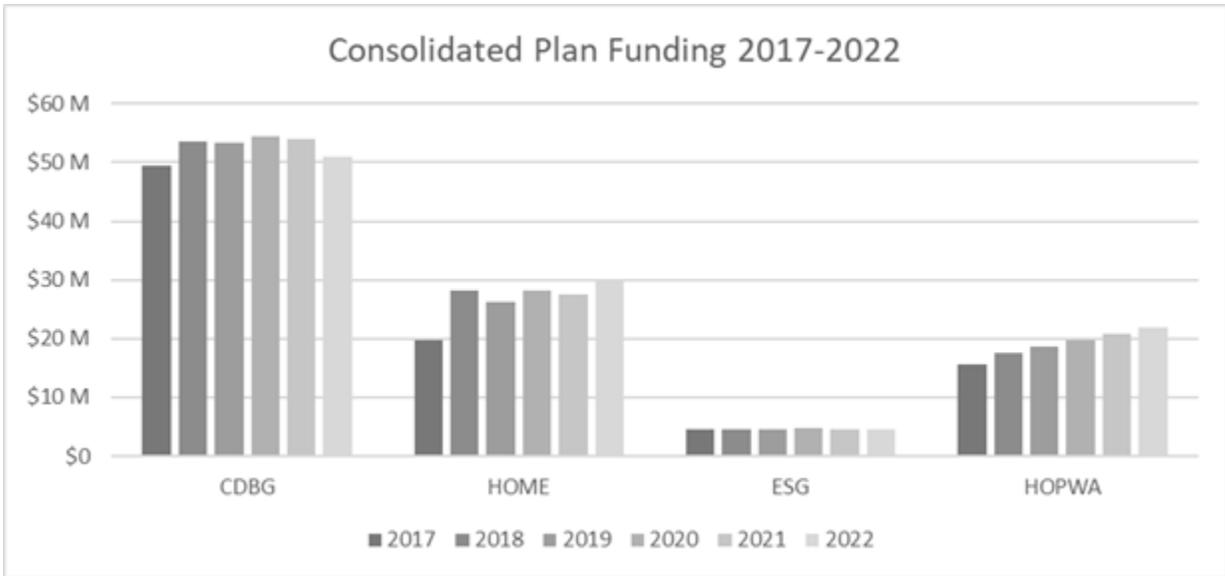
Additionally, there are a number of private endeavors in the region to alleviate poverty and support educational achievement. For example, Long Beach City College and the University of Southern California (USC) will receive nearly \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Education to collaborate on an innovative program that seeks to improve higher educational attainment for gang-affiliated youth. Long Beach is the County's second most populous city, located a few miles from the Los Angeles border.

Improving Neighborhoods

The City is committed to providing vibrant spaces to play, learn and thrive for its residents with lower incomes. With upgrades planned to preschools, senior centers, community centers, sidewalks, street lights, parks, and theaters, residents will be able to enjoy arts, culture, fun, exercise, and improved access to a variety of supportive services, to support their well-being.

Grant Amounts

The chart below shows the federal entitlement allocations from 2017 to 2022. ESG funding amounts have not changed much during this period, while the HOME and HOPWA programs have significantly increased, and CDBG saw some fluctuations. The City will address the housing, economic and other community needs by leveraging the Con Plan grants with a number of other resources, which is discussed in detail in Section AP-15, Expected Resources.



2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The shortage of affordable housing, the needs of the large number of homeless persons, and the need for living wage jobs and business growth in LA drive the goals of the five-year strategic plan for 2018-2022, and this annual action plan. The overarching priorities to reduce and prevent homelessness and to provide opportunities for low-income families to prosper guide the goals and outcomes, as stated below.

| Goal and Description | Estimated 5-Year Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Develop affordable housing for homeless and low-income | CDBG: \$27,783,000 HOPWA: \$18,070,000 HOME: \$187,958,000 | Rental units constructed: 4,000 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 410 Households Assisted |
| <p>Support development of and equal access to affordable, sustainable, accessible, and resilient housing for homeless residents, persons living with a disability, and other low-income residents. Create new housing opportunities for low-income households and homeless persons by financing new affordable rental housing and permanent supportive housing. Provide first time homebuyers with financial assistance. Increase the supply of affordable and accessible housing units for people living with disabilities, including HIV/AIDS.</p> | | |
| 2. Preserve existing affordable housing | CDBG: \$16,981,000 | Rental units rehabilitated: 410 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 1,270 Household Housing Unit |
| <p>Prevent displacement of low- and moderate-income residents by preserving existing affordable and rent-stabilized housing. Preserve existing stock of affordable rental housing and rent-stabilized housing, and support seismic retrofits and other hazard remediation. Provide lead-based paint remediation and other housing interventions and partnerships to make existing housing healthier, more resilient, sustainable, and accessible. Ensure equal access to housing for persons with protected characteristics, lower income and an experience being homeless. Increase community integration and independent living opportunities for persons living with disabilities.</p> | | |
| 3. Stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods | CDBG: \$164,678,000 | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Mod Housing: 4,695,850 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Mod Housing: 1,490 Households Assisted |
| <p>Stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods where people with low income reside. Create new and improve existing public facilities and infrastructure to increase public access to opportunities for education, employment, recreation, and social services. Improve access to public facilities and infrastructure for persons with disabilities. Identify deteriorating properties and code violations for enforcement of safety standards in neighborhoods where people with low income reside.</p> | | |
| 4. Prevent and reduce homelessness and domestic violence | CDBG: \$14,604,000 HOPWA: \$95,591,000 ESG: \$20,575,000 | Public service activities other than Low/Mod Housing Benefit: 10,690 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Mod Housing Benefit: 13,450 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 22,800 Persons Assisted |
| <p>Work in partnership with community-based, not-for-profit and government agencies to prevent and reduce homelessness and domestic violence. Support efforts to reach out to and provide emergency shelters, transitional housing, case management, supportive services, and rental assistance to persons who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless and survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking. Provide housing-related supportive services and rental assistance to residents with low incomes, including at-risk homeless persons living with HIV/AIDS.</p> | | |
| 5. Improve local economy for low income residents | CDBG: \$55,658,000 | Jobs created/retained: 3,970 Jobs Businesses assisted: 110 Businesses Assisted |
| <p>Improve local economic conditions and expand access to opportunity for low income residents and other protected classes by supporting efforts to create and retain jobs and provide essential goods and services to neighborhoods lacking them. Produce new jobs and retain employees in existing jobs for low to moderate-income residents by helping businesses to thrive and succeed, through economic development, business loans, business assistance, and entrepreneurial assistance. Support businesses' efforts to provide goods and services needed in neighborhoods where people with low income reside.</p> | | |
| 6. Help low-income families to stabilize economically | CDBG: \$31,581,000 | Public service activities other than Low/Mod Housing Benefit: 205,950 Persons Assisted |
| <p>Help households with low incomes to stabilize economically and avoid displacement. Support family economic stabilization by providing services to improve employment, income, financial literacy, asset development, and academic achievement. Support seniors to maintain their physical and mental health and independence, and prevent loss of housing and premature institutionalization.</p> | | |

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

Evaluation of Homeless Services/Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

LAHSA's evaluation of performance is reflected in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Written Standards (attached). Developed collaboratively with recipients, the written standards cover all aspects of ESG-funded activities, including reporting requirements. All ESG recipients have incorporated the CoC ESG Standards, or an analogous version, in their Annual Action Plans. Phone meetings with recipients, organized by the CoC, cover evaluation and reporting performance under the ESG Program. Additionally, LAHSA solicits input and feedback from its providers, stakeholders, and the community as to the quality and utility of its performance standards. Lastly, as the HMIS Administrator, LAHSA provides program data to recipients to facilitate performance evaluation reviews of subrecipients and to support ESG Program reporting. Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis and need for targeted homeless prevention, preparation, and response, additional standards and reporting elements for ESG programs funded by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act will be added to the LA CoC's ESG Written Standards in 2022.

Overall, LAHSA continues to review, adjust, and improve the various programs to end homelessness under LAHSA's purview. This is reflected through multiple reviews and in partnership with system partners, including but not limited to Coordinated Entry System (CES) refinement processes across all target populations, annual review and adoption of the CoC Program performance and evaluation methodology, and continuing refinements to LAHSA's Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

Evaluation of HOPWA Providers

LAHD serves as the administering agency for the HOPWA grant for Los Angeles County and conducts remote and on-site monitoring of all HOPWA-contracted agencies. HOPWA-funded contractors are required to use a HOPWA-funded client-centered database. The database captures client demographic, tracks client progress, and agency performance outcomes and goals. In addition, all HOPWA-contracted agencies are required to submit monthly invoices for personnel, program, operations and administrative costs. Ongoing assessments are conducted for all HOPWA-contracted agencies assessing their performance in regards to expenditure rate and client service amounts. At the end of each program year, in conjunction with the ongoing assessments, LAHD completes an annual evaluation of each agency.

Evaluation of Family Source Centers

An annual performance evaluation of its individual Domestic Violence Shelter Operations and FamilySource Center contractors is conducted. The annual evaluation and scorecard are derived from the Malcolm Baldrige criteria for performance excellence, which measures business results in the

categories of Products and Services, Customer Satisfaction, Financial and Market Outcomes and Process Effectiveness. The evaluation:

- Focuses on recognizing outstanding, rather than average, performance uses simple and transparent measures that are broadly understood and recognized as equitable
- Makes performance information public to create accountability
- Makes performance a requirement for continued funding

Additionally, in evaluating FamilySource performance for tenant/landlord mediation, eviction protection and housing assistance referrals. CIFD incorporated into the FamilySource 2021- 22 goals eviction and homelessness prevention strategies that focus on stabilizing housing and building a more financially secure future.

Evaluation of Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking Shelters

The Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking Shelter Operations (DVHTSO) program is in its fifth year of implementing trauma-informed and client-centered service delivery. Program outcomes emphasize long-term stability and independence of the client and their family during their stay. Service providers work with clients on their safety planning and stable housing and are expected to increase clients' knowledge of available resources and provide services and activities that encourage their clients and their children to decrease their isolation as part of the healing process. In the case of shelters with a transitional housing component, agencies are additionally required to have clients maintain or increase their income during their stay. These outcomes are tracked through Bitfocus Clarity data system. Service outcomes now available via Bitfocus will continually inform the program of best practices and of areas for improvement.

Evaluation of City Departments

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) have been executed between CIFD and other City departments implementing projects to memorialize the purpose for the use of the CDBG funds. Departments include Aging, Building and Safety, City Attorney, Economic and Workforce Development, Library, Public Works and each of its bureaus, and Recreation and Parks. Additionally, an MOU was executed, with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA). HACLA, which is a quasi-City department, has grown to become one of the nation's largest and leading public housing authorities, providing the largest supply of quality affordable housing to residents of the City of Los Angeles.

These MOUs describe the scope of work that each entity commits to, including roles and responsibilities to meet a specific activity. Monitoring is performed to track and evaluate performance based on the agreement and to determine the continuance of funding for a department.

Evaluation of Evidence Based Programs & EARS - Department of Aging

Evidence Based Programs

Evidence Based Programs (EBP) provide older adults with programs that enhance wellness skills in the areas of self-management/healthier living, physical activity, and caregiver support. There were over 400 unduplicated Evidence Based Programs (EBP) clients in FY 2020-2021. This is a decrease from FY 2019-2020 when over 1,100 unduplicated older Angelenos participated in the EBPs. The decrease was the result of senior center closings in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In response to the senior center closings, the LA Department of Aging's (LADOA) EBP service providers successfully modified their existing service delivery models by developing and implementing virtual and telephonic EBP classes. LADOA expects the number of participants to increase significantly in FY 2022-2023 as more virtual programming comes online and senior centers begin opening in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. EBPs are needed now more than ever as many older Angelenos continue to deal with social isolation and other lingering health consequences resulting from COVID-19.

Emergency Alert Response System (EARS)

The EARS program is designed to monitor the client's safety and provide client access to emergency crisis intervention for medical or personal safety/security needs through the provision of a digital, two-way, voice communication system. It enables an isolated senior to establish contact and obtain assistance in a medical or other emergency situation by means of an electronic communicator/transmitter. This device links the senior with a central call monitoring center that will arrange for emergency response services and monitor the senior until the emergency situation has been resolved.

In FY 2020-2021, over 800 unduplicated older Angelenos were enrolled in the EARS program and over 7,750 client contacts were made during the year. This represents an increase of over 80 unduplicated older adult clients from FY 2019-2020. LADOA is on track to have over 800 unduplicated clients consistently enrolled in the EARS program for both FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Virtual Public Meetings—Fall 2021

Before the Fourth-Year Annual Action Plan was developed, and to continue compliance with the Mayor of Los Angeles mandate of no public face-to-face meetings due to COVID-19, two virtual meetings were held in the evenings of October 19 and 20, 2021 to receive input from the City's diverse population on program-related issues, past and current projects, and funding priorities for the future. The October 20th meeting included a Spanish language simulcast to allow for greater participation by non- and limited-English speaking persons. There were 67 attendees for both virtual meetings.

Utilizing Zoom, the virtual public meetings participants heard a description of the Con Plan and what it funds, the current year's budget, available additional Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding, proposed uses of CARES Act funding to assist Angelenos during the COVID-19 pandemic; and the estimated grant funding for 2022-23 (PY 48). Additionally, presentations on Affordable Housing, and Homeless Programs and Services were made to inform the public on how the City of Los Angeles is addressing these concerns. Throughout the presentation, feedback on various topics were provided via poll questions to the audience, as well as taking comments and questions. At the close of the meetings, a survey with 11 questions was distributed to identify respondents' most valuable locations and services, improvements to businesses and jobs that would be most beneficial, funding goals for a proposed \$130 million budget, awareness of these meetings, zip code area, age, financial impacts felt as result of the COVID-19 pandemic, household size, household income, and current employment status. Public input was compiled, analyzed, and submitted to the Mayor and City Council.

Virtual Consultations – Fall 2021

In addition to the virtual public meetings and to further community input, there were two virtual consultation meetings provided through a business resource webinar and a commission hearing to provide valuable insight and input on community needs and recommendations for effective uses of the Con Plan. CIFD and EWDD collaborated with the Office of Council District 4 on two Business Resource webinars to provide information for business owners and gather input on the Con Plan relating to economic development. The two webinars were held in October 2021, and were attended by 18 members of the public. The Commission on Community and Family Services (CCFS) is a body of community leaders that advises on matters related to the Con Plan. During a CCFS meeting in October 2021, the public had an opportunity to hear about and comment on the development of the Con Plan. The meeting included an overview of the Con Plan; including goals; examples of funded programs and projects; the Con Plan public input process; the Mayor's focus for the next program year; and the estimated grant funding for PY 48. CCFS members commented on the amount and use of the subject grant funds. There were no comments made by the public during this meeting.

The public was able to submit additional comments from the meetings and the virtual hearings by email to the City Council. There were six public comments received by email. These comments predominantly discussed the development of affordable housing being needed in different areas of the City.

Virtual Public Meetings—Spring 2022

Utilizing Zoom, the public was invited to participate and give feedback on the presentations related to the Consolidated Plan, and the Mayor's proposed Plan budget. There were two virtual public meetings held in the evenings in May 2022. The meetings were available for both English and the Spanish language, through live interpretation, to allow for greater participation by non- and limited-English speaking persons. There were a total of 59 participants from both virtual meetings.

Prevention, and Business Assistance to learn more about how the City of Los Angeles is addressing these concerns. Throughout the presentation, feedback on various topics was provided via poll questions, comments, and questions. The audience was also given opportunities for continued comments and questions via email to CIFD. At the close of the meetings, a survey question identified the respondents' zip code area. Public input was compiled, analyzed, and submitted to the Mayor and City Council.

Fall Survey

A survey was made available to the public to learn about community needs and priorities. The survey was completed by 41 respondents. The same outreach methods were used for this survey as for the public meeting. Registrants were sent a survey link upon registering for the public meeting. The survey asked participants 11 questions.

What locations or services in your neighborhood are most valuable to you? Please list up to three.

This was an open-ended question that elicited many distinctive responses. The most frequent response (80%) dealt with sidewalks and streets, such as the maintenance, improvements, cleaning, and tree planting and care along these public rights of way, as the most valuable neighborhood locations or services. The second most frequent response concerned parks, community centers, and greenspace (49%), and the third most frequent response was homeless services (27%).

It should be noted that 44 percent of the responses identified police, schools, or public transportation, and although these are all important services, they are not eligible for the subject federal grants.

What kind of improvements to businesses and jobs would be most beneficial in your neighborhood?

Of the varying responses submitted, the top response (27 percent) focused on more jobs and living wages. There was a tie for the second most popular response (22 percent each) between restaurants, local grocery and retail stores and street/sidewalk maintenance, cleaning and improvements. It was notable that respondents once again mentioned that street and sidewalk maintenance and improvements are a top priority, particularly as they affect businesses.

If you were in charge of \$130 million in federal grant funds for the needs in your community, how would you spend it? Below is a list of 20 common requests by the community. Please divide the money in millions of dollars, where 20 means \$20 million. (Please use whole numbers and note that your answer must add up to 130.)

Although all 20 categories plus five additional categories submitted received some voting, the items below were prioritized in the order below by respondents:

- 1) Building more affordable housing
- 2) Sidewalk improvements
- 3) Building supportive housing (for homeless persons)
- 4) More homeless shelters and homeless services
- 5) Job training

In matters of income and/or housing, I have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic...

Of the 31 who answered this question, ten, or nearly a third, reported “Not at all (I've experienced no negative changes in housing or income due to COVID-19)”. Another nine stated “Somewhat (I've had to make some significant lifestyle changes to maintain housing and/or income)”, and eight claimed “A little (I've had to make small changes to maintain housing and/or income)”.

The survey also included demographics questions, such as age, household income, family size and zip code.

Virtual Public Meetings—Spring 2021

Utilizing Zoom, the public was invited to participate and give feedback on presentations related to the Consolidated Plan, and the Mayor’s proposed Plan budget. There were two virtual public meetings held in the evenings in May 2022. The meetings were available in English and included Spanish language interpretation to allow for greater participation by non- and limited-English speaking persons, and there were 59 attendees for both virtual meetings.

The Mayor’s Office presentation highlighted the proposed budget with 56% of federal grant funds invested towards combating homelessness and increasing access to affordable housing, a primary concern. The proposed budget also included 19% towards neighborhood improvements to public facilities and infrastructure, 8% towards social services, 7% towards economic development, and 13% towards planning and administration. Additional resources were presented with website information for how to access and apply for affordable housing; low-cost internet services and free access to computers and digital literacy services; and the 311 Request for City Services hotline and app.

Throughout this public engagement process, the top three categories of need repeatedly identified were: prevent and reduce homelessness/domestic violence; parks and green space; and develop affordable housing. Also, investing in public safety in the upcoming program year, through domestic violence survivor programs and street lighting, was an important concern. Throughout the presentation the audience participated through answering interactive poll questions and by submitting comments and questions. Questions and comments were addressed during the meeting, and opportunities for continued comments and questions were made available via email to CIFD.

Emails

There were 12 public comments received by email that primarily discussed access to affordable housing.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

The City received comments about issues not funded by the Con Plan, including crime, police resources, and zoning enforcement.

7. Summary

With the continuing need to address the impact of COVID-19, on programs, on public participation, and other aspects, the City of Los Angeles is meeting the challenge with alternative methods to connect and

work toward goals. The City is continuing its chief efforts to address homelessness and other major challenges affecting its residents with lower incomes, and the Con Plan grants are a critical component of this work.