

**The City of Rochester, N.H.**

**DUNS # 099446879**

**Consolidated Action Plan (FY 2015-2020)**

Submitted May 14, 2015



Prepared for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

#### *Introduction*

This Five Year Consolidated Action Plan provides the City of Rochester's plan for community development for FY 2015-2020. The City of Rochester has developed this Consolidated Plan to provide a strategy for the use of federal funds granted to the City by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This Consolidated Plan begins July 1, 2015 and continues through June 30, 2020 and is comprised of five Annual Action Plans (or program years). The Annual Action Plan for FY 2015-2016 will be submitted concurrently with this Consolidated Plan.

This Consolidated Plan is the result of an intensive eighteen-month-long collaborative process that included extensive public outreach; multiple public hearings and neighborhood meetings; consultations with dozens of public service agencies, government entities, and other related organizations; and the use of the internet and social media to publicize meetings and solicit public feedback. The needs assessments and comprehensive plans of over a dozen regional entities (including regional planning commissions, health care providers, public service agencies, and others) were also consulted during the process of creating this Consolidated Plan. The goals and objectives of these assessments and plans were incorporated into the Consolidated Plan as applicable.

Programs and activities described in this Consolidated Plan are intended primarily to benefit low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Rochester as well as City neighborhoods with high concentration of low- and moderate-income residents, with "low- and moderate-income" defined as household incomes below 80% of the area median income. According to 2014 data from HUD, the median income for the City of Rochester is \$84,300.<sup>1</sup>

#### ***Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment***

These objectives are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry. The City of Rochester commits to prioritizing activities and projects that meet a combination of the most important basic needs and longer-term important needs of the City's marginalized individuals and families, primarily through strategic partnerships with other government entities and with public service agencies.

The programs and activities that are planned to meet the identified objectives and outcomes are grouped into three primary categories: basic needs, safety net, and investment. *Basic needs* programming includes food, shelter, and clothing. *Safety net* programming provides direct services to the community's low-income children, elderly persons, people with disabilities, and persons in crisis and augments the City's services, such as the police force and Welfare office. *Investment* programming helps to reduce the funding needed in the future through addressing poverty and homelessness at their core roots.

Further, these programs and activities are aimed at meeting one or more of HUD's outcomes for CDBG funding: to provide decent housing, to provide a suitable living environment, and to expand economic opportunities. The individual activities were established to meet HUD

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<sup>1</sup>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,  
<http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il/il2014/2014summary.odn>.

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outcomes and are those seen to meet the needs of the City's low to moderate income population as identified at present and projected over the next five years.

### Program Goal: To Provide Decent Housing

<b>HUD Outcome Performance Measure</b>	<b>Proposed Activities</b>
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness	Support of shelters, including transitional shelters and permanent supportive housing, for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups, including funding for building upgrades and rehabilitation
	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses)
	Exploration of resources and support for resources available for long-term supportive housing for the chronically homeless population
Retention of Affordable Housing Stock	Support of weatherization and other energy efficiency efforts to provide long-term and sustainable affordability to low-income homeowners
	Exploration of future housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing efforts
	Exploration and support for the creation of workforce housing opportunities
Increasing the Supply of Supportive Housing Which Includes Structural Features and Services to Enable Persons with Special Needs (Including Persons Living with HIV/AIDS) to Live in Dignity and Independence	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses)
	Exploration of resources and support for resources available for long-term supportive housing for the chronically homeless population
	Funding allocations for accessibility microgrants for building upgrades and new installations of accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.), including in residential buildings

### Program Goal: To Provide a Suitable Living Environment

<b>HUD Outcome Performance Measure</b>	<b>Proposed Activities</b>
Reducing the Incidence of Increasing Substance Abuse (Especially Heroin and Other Opioids) and Addressing Root	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with

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Causation	substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses)
	Support for organizations and programs addressing mental illness (due to the high coincidence of substance abuse and mental illness)
Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	Ongoing coordination with the Department of Public Works for enhancements to major infrastructure improvement projects in low-income neighborhoods
	Ongoing coordination with the Recreation Department for improvements and expansions to youth recreational facilities to provide pro-social activity opportunities and to reduce youth vandalism and other misconduct
	Continued review of neighborhood conditions and exploration of projects that can address deficiencies that negatively impact the health, safety, and quality of life in low-income neighborhood
Increase Access to Quality Public and Private Facilities and Services	Support for public service agencies providing programs and support to low-income populations of greatest need
	Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (e.g., Balance of State Continuum of Care, regional Continuum of Care, and Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness)
	Encourage and support regional transportation groups to provide greater access to community resources for low-income population as well as senior citizens and people with disabilities
	Renovations to public buildings to increase access and accessibility for all citizens, with particular focus on people with disabilities
Increase Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents	Funding allocations for fair housing education programs to provide education to tenants, landlords, community-based organizations, and general citizenry
	Exploration of future housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing efforts
	Encourage thoughtful exploration of appropriate locations for low-income housing and workforce housing placement

Program Goal: To Expand Economic Opportunities

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HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	Explore development and funding resources for an in-city small business development center
	Continue to maintain revolving loan fund for small business financing in exchange for low-income job creation/retention agreements
	Continue to explore the development and support of a revolving loan fund for code improvements to downtown business owners
Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment	Support for vocational education programs and workforce training programs for low-income residents, including people with disabilities and other disadvantaged populations
	Encourage partnership responses to addressing specific employment accessibility gaps in populations identified as in need, such as the newly unemployed, veterans, and minors

### ***Evaluation of Past Performance***

The FY 2015-2020 Five Year Consolidated Action Plan identified a number of housing, public service, and economic development needs within the City of Rochester. A significant portion of the previous Consolidated Plan and its five associated Annual Action Plans focused on the needs of the City's homeless population, and funding was provided to the three primary homeless shelters in the region (providing seasonal, transitional, and year-round services). All three shelters have consistently met or exceeded the projected numbers for City residents to be served. Further, during this five-year period, the City of Rochester and the region's homeless shelters have transitioned to the regional Coordinated Access system for provision of a range of services to the City's homeless population. Coordinated Access provides a single point of contact for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and referrals are provided to regional homeless shelters, organizations providing rent assistance, general health care and mental health care resources, and other related services. The Coordinated Access transition is still in progress, but the transition has been a success thus far and has streamlined the timely provision of shelter and other resources to the City's homeless individuals and families.

Evaluation of past performance has uncovered concerns relating to the New Hampshire Small Business Development Center, which has received funding over the past five years. The Center has reported that it is not on target to meet the projected number of businesses served for the FY 2014-2015 period. The Center is also located in a neighboring city, and the Consolidated Plan public input consultation process has revealed that residents would prefer business services located within the City of Rochester. Consultations with the City of Rochester's Office of Economic Development have indicated a lack of effective provision of services by the Center, as well. Due to these serious and persistent issues, alternative small business development resources are being researched and planned to replace the services of the New Hampshire Small Business Development Center.

Community needs analyses and consultations also have indicated a gap in programming as relates to fair housing issues and lead-based paint abatement issues in the implementation of

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the FY 2010-2015 Consolidated Action Plan. This gap is being addressed in the FY 2015-2020 Five Year Consolidated Action Plan and its first year implementation, the FY 2015-2016 Annual Action Plan, through the exploration of lead-based poisoning prevention program options and funding for fair housing education programming in the City.

Further, the recent and unexpected rise in substance abuse in the City of Rochester, particularly the abuse of heroin and other opioids, was not anticipated or addressed in the FY 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan. This substance abuse impacts housing stability, homelessness, employment, health care needs, neighborhood safety, and many other areas. Consequently, support for persons with substance abuse issues are addressed in several places in the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan.

## ***Citizen Participation and Consultation Process in the FY 2015-2020 Five Year Consolidated Action Plan***

The purpose of the Citizen Participation Plan developed for the FY 2015-2020 Five Year Consolidated Action Plan is to make the process of investing in the City of Rochester's community as inclusive as possible. It is the desire of the Community Development Division to have the objectives and activities undertaken with received CDBG funds reflect the needs and desires of the people of the City of Rochester.

This process is an ongoing activity and includes both formal and informal outreach to the area community. Staff works actively to communicate with its citizens, neighborhood coalitions, City departments and law enforcement, nonprofit agencies, and local business interests. The Community Development Division provides technical and other assistance to citizens, public agencies, and any interested parties in the development of projects or activities to address priority needs in Rochester. Copies and summaries of the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan drafts are available in the Office of Economic & Community Department and on the Community Development Division web page, located at <http://www.rochesternh.net/community-development-division>. These documents are also via electronic attachments upon request. Applications and comments will be available for public inspection throughout the application evaluation period.

As part of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan processes, staff make efforts to bring the developing plan concepts to the community via available community gatherings and forums. This includes public service networking groups, neighborhood coalition meetings, presentations to community group and associations, and postings to the Office of Economic & Community Development's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter). Creativity in receiving input from the public and the effective use of modern communicative technology are the goals of the Community Development Division.

The City of Rochester's citizen involvement plan includes the following:

**Public Hearing (First):** Public is gathered at a formal public hearing, held prior to the City Council workshop on December 16, 2014. This meeting is intended to solicit the public's feedback on current CDBG projects and performance, perceived needs for future projects, and general opinions and concerns regarding community development in the City of Rochester.

This meeting is held in a location that is accessible to people with physical disabilities. Accommodations for people with visual or hearing impairments are made upon request. This hearing is advertised in one or more local newspapers within ten to fourteen days of the hearing. Public notice also is provided at strategic sites of public interest, including the public



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library, community center, and City Hall. Notice is provided via electronic means, as well, including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Community Development Division's website, and postings to the Office of Economic & Community Development's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter).

Following this hearing, minutes are made available on the City of Rochester's website, and interested parties can view the hearing in its entirety on the local government channel as well as online. The online "On Demand" video for the first public hearing is available online at <http://rochesternh.pegcentral.com/player.php?video=7055a81448541f30916f011a4198b567>.

Funding Notice: The Economic & Community Development Office annually announces the Community Development Block Grant funds anticipated from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the procedures and deadlines for making application to the City of Rochester. Notices of application availability are sent via U.S. postal mail and/or electronic means to current public service partners and groups with projects in development, as well as to other identified public service agencies that engage in work that is eligible for CDBG funding. Notice also is provided via electronic means, including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Community Development Division webpage, and postings to the Economic & Community Development Office's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter). The application will include a timetable for application evaluation, public hearing, and public comment period.

Application Period: Applications for project funding are due in mid January.

Application Evaluation Process: All applications are reviewed by staff, and recommendations are relayed to the City's Community Development Committee. The Community Development Committee scores each application according to predetermined objectives that have been aligned with the City's identified priorities and needs. Once the applications have been scored, recommendations from the Community Development Committee are presented to the City Council at the City Council's next regular meeting (generally April) in the form of the recommended Annual Action Plan.

Public Hearing (Second): The draft Annual Action Plan is subject to a public hearing (preceding the April City Council workshop or May City Council meeting). This meeting is held in a location that is accessible to people with physical disabilities. Accommodations for people with visual or hearing impairments are made upon request.

Notification of this public hearing and draft plan availability are published in one or more local newspapers within ten to fourteen days of the public hearing. Public notice is provided at strategic sites of public interest, including the public library, community center, and City Hall. Notice also is provided via electronic means, including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Economic & Community Development Office's website, and postings to the Economic & Community Development Office's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter).

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Following this hearing, minutes are made available on the City of Rochester's website, and interested parties can view the hearing in its entirety on the local government channel as well as online.

Public Comment: Comments are accepted throughout the Consolidated Plan and first-year Annual Action Plan preparation process via in-person meetings, postal mail, telephone, and electronic means of communication; however, a formal 30-day public comments period is also announced via publishing in one or more general newspapers of local circulation. Comments received are summarized and included in the Annual Action Plan and Five Year Consolidated Plan. The Community Development Division responds to concerns and directives through appropriate programming allocations or refers concerns and directives to the proper City department for follow-up. These comments are forwarded to HUD as part of the completed Consolidated Plan and first-year Annual Action Plan.

It should be noted that the second public hearing and all City Council discussions and actions taken regarding the Community Development Block Grant are held in the City Council Chambers and are televised via the Government Channel carried by the local cable television company. These meetings are also replayed several times in the week following the meeting.

Substantial Amendments: The City's Consolidated Plan may be amended if substantial changes in planned or actual activities must occur due to new information about the make-up, needs, or growth of the City of Rochester's communities. Creation of new goals and/or changes to the strategic directions requiring funding in excess of \$10,000 triggers review by the Community Development Committee. The Community Development Committee evaluates changes to the Consolidated Plan, and their recommendations are forwarded to the City Council for further input as needed. Amendments to the Consolidated Plan that in no way fall under the general priorities described herein are subject to the public participation process, outlined above, as well as to full City Council approval.

Annual reallocation of unspent project funds (such as administration and planning) under the \$10,000 threshold will not be subject to this requirement.

### ***Summary of Public Comments***

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<b>Mode of Outreach</b>	<b>Target of Outreach</b>	<b>Summary of response/attendance</b>	<b>Summary of comments received</b>	<b>Summary of comments not accepted and reasons</b>
In-Person Meeting	Citizens of Ward 4 District	Approximately 15 individuals in attendance, including the Ward district police officer	Comments were offered on a number of public service agencies' performances, street and sidewalk issues, and the needs for homeless resources	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate
Public Notice of Public Hearing, News Article about Public Hearing	General citizenry	Four email responses	One comment requested thinning out of bushes at Hanson Pines Park; one comment suggested a community garden; one comment received from a public service agency requested funding; one comment received from a skateboard park company offered to help with a proposed project at Hanson Pines Park	The first two comments were referred to other City departments for follow-up; the third commenter was sent a grant application; the fourth comment was not accepted because the proposed help was not in alignment with planned renovations to the park
Public Hearing	General citizenry	Representatives from Community Action Partnership of Strafford County; general citizenry	Recommendation for funding of weatherization program, Head Start, and summer meals program; criticism of previously funded projects	Comment criticizing acceptance of federal funding due to federal control of local decision-making was not accepted. This comment was not accepted because it was decided that

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			such as rehabilitation of historic buildings; support for programs aimed at supporting marriage and “traditional families;” criticism of accepting federal funding due to federal control of local decision-making	it is in the City of Rochester’s best interest to continue to receive CDBG funding.
In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 3 District	Approximately 30 in attendance, including the Ward district police officer	Comments were offered requesting more business development downtown, funding for a business development center located in the city, more transportation access for elderly persons and people with disabilities, desire for new industry, desire for job development resources for both the general public and certain special populations, and request for reduction in absentee landlords	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate
In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 2 District	Approximately 12 in attendance, including the Ward district police officer	Comments were offered on need for services for homeless population,	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as

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			funding requests for three specific public service agencies, issues with trash pile-ups in certain locations, concerns regarding a currently-funded housing rehabilitation program, request for playground equipment for a Ward-located school, and need for a drug treatment facility located in the city	appropriate
In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 1	Approximately 6 in attendance, including the Ward district police officers and City councilor	Comments were offered funding be spent on programs that promote self-reliance and do not reward individuals merely seeking “hand-outs,” work incentive programs were suggested	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate
In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 6	Approximately 10 in attendance, including the Ward district police officers and City councilor	Comments were offered on the rise in heroin abuse and the sidewalks outside School St. School are badly cracked and damaged	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate

### ***Summary of Comments or Views Not Accepted and the Reasons for Not Accepting***

Please see the “Summary of Public Comments” section above.

### ***Summary***

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The FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan focuses on the community needs identified during the Consolidated Plan community needs assessment process, the consultation process, and the citizen participation process. This includes needs that continue to exist from previous Consolidated Plans, such as permanent and supportive housing for homeless populations; needs that have not been fully addressed in the implementation of previous Consolidated Plans, such as fair housing; and needs that have been newly identified, such as substance abuse treatment and prevention. This Consolidated Plan will be used to evaluate new funding and project opportunities to determine whether they meet the objectives of this Consolidated Plan and should be incorporated into FY 2015-2020 Annual Action Plans. Community needs analyses and public input sessions will continue through the implementation of the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan, and this information will be incorporated into the Consolidated Plan implementation and FY 2015-2020 Annual Action Plans as applicable.

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## 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.

<b>Agency Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Department/Agency</b>
Lead Agency	The City of Rochester	The Office of Economic and Community Development/Community Development Division
Public Service	Homeless Center for Strafford County	N/A
Public Service	SHARE Fund	N/A
Public Service	My Friend's Place	N/A
Public Service	Cross Roads House	N/A
Public Service	Tri-City Co-Op	N/A
Public Service	Dover Adult Learning Center	N/A
Public Service	Project Pride	N/A
Public Service	Dover Adult Learning Center	N/A
Public Service	New Hampshire Legal Assistance	Housing Justice Project
Economic Development	The City of Rochester	The Office of Economic and Community Development/Economic Development Division
Public Service Carrying Out Housing Activities Under Weatherization Assistance Program	Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	Weatherization Program

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

### ***Narrative***

The City of Rochester is the lead agency providing oversight and direction for the use of CDBG funds. Although the City partially distributes CDBG funds to subrecipients and delegates certain reporting duties to public service agencies, the City maintains full responsibility for appropriate oversight and expenditure of funds.

***Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information***

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## CONSULTATION

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

#### *Introduction*

The City of Rochester is one of the five designated entitlement communities in New Hampshire eligible to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds are invested in housing, economic development, and facility/infrastructure projects, as well as public service organizations that directly benefit Rochester residents whose income falls below 80% of the regional median income. The Community Development Coordinator engaged in an extensive consultation process prior to the drafting of this Consolidated Plan, which involved meetings with dozens of public service agencies, governmental officials, and others as well as researching and incorporating the information of over a dozen regional community needs assessments and master plans.

#### ***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)).***

The Community Development Coordinator is committed to outreach and networking with regional public service agencies, government entities, and others to maximize the impact and reach of CDGB funds. The City of Rochester has participated fully in the regional Coordinated Access system for provision of a range of services, including health and mental health services, to the City's homeless population. The Community Development Coordinator attends the meetings organized by the relevant regional public service agencies, such as the Rochester Area Family Support Team and the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness meetings. Also, whenever possible, the Community Development Coordinator encourages collaborations between organizations to facilitate the most efficient and effective provision of services to overlapping constituencies.

In November 2014, the Community Development Coordinator met with agency representatives of the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (Strafford CAP), which provides a number of basic needs services to low and moderate income residents; Cross Roads House, a local homeless shelter; and Cornerstone VNA, which provides health care services to the region on a non-profit basis. Both organizations received CDBG funds from the City of Rochester in the FY 2010-2015 period. Strafford CAP is the initial access point for the region's coordinated services, and the current Community Development Coordinator discussed the coordinated access of food, housing, and other services during the meeting with Strafford CAP. Such services include emergency support for those who are homeless, preventive assistance for those at imminent risk of homelessness, and referrals to other appropriate non-profit and governmental agencies.

#### ***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 Community Development Coordinator is committed to outreach and networking with regional public service agencies, government entities, and others to maximize the impact and reach of CDGB funds. The City of Rochester has participated fully in the regional Coordinated Access system for provision of a range of services, including health and mental health services, to the City's homeless population. The Community Development Coordinator attends the

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meetings organized by the relevant regional public service agencies, such as the Rochester Area Family Support Team and the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness meetings. Also, whenever possible, the Community Development Coordinator encourages collaborations between organizations to facilitate the most efficient and effective provision of services to overlapping constituencies.

The City of Rochester has played an active and participatory role in both the Balance of State Continuum of Care and the informal, regional Continuum of Care. The City has maintained contact with the Balance of State Continuum of Care's organizer, Martha Young, and the regional Continuum of Care's most recent organizer, Susan Turner of Families First Health and Support Center. The City's Community Development Coordinator has regularly attended Continuum of Care meetings. In November 2014, the Community Development Coordinator held a one-on-one meeting with the most recent coordinator for the Continuum of Care to discuss the Continuum of Care, the current homelessness situation in the region, and ways to further enhance communication between the various non-profit and government agencies addressing homeless-related issues. The Community Development Coordinator also attends the meetings organized by the relevant regional public service agencies, such as the Rochester Area Family Support Team.

In addition, the Community Development Coordinator is a member of the Steering Committee of the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness. The Steering Committee includes representatives from the regional homeless shelters, public housing authorities, other local governments, and public service agencies concerned with addressing homelessness.

***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 of Rochester has participated fully in the regional Coordinated Access system, which manages the provision of services and shelter to the region's homeless populations. The Community Development Coordinator attends the meetings organized by the relevant regional public service agencies, such as the Rochester Area Family Support Team and the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness meetings. Analyses of the challenges and successes of Coordinated Access are a significant component of these meetings, and recent meetings have identified housing the chronically homeless population (in particular, homeless persons with mental disabilities and/or substance abuse issues) as a remaining challenge and major priority.

During all the aforementioned consultations and discussions, the Community Development Coordinator had discussed with the consulting persons and agencies how funds should be allocated, evaluation of past funded programs, and data collection and management systems presently in place and planned for future use.

***2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies, and other entities.***

	<b>Name of Individual</b>	<b>Title/Position</b>	<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Area of Consultation</b>
1.	Todd Marsh	Welfare Director	City of Rochester	Homelessness
2.	Maria Sillari	Chair	Greater Seacoast Coalition to End	Homelessness

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			Homelessness	
3.	Stacey Price	Executive Director	Rochester Housing Authority	Low-income housing needs
4.	Rene Philpott	Community Relations Director	The Homemakers	Needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities
5.	Various	First Public Hearing	City of Rochester	Neighborhood revitalization, low-income housing needs, food service needs of low-income persons, educational needs of low-income students and youth
6.	Maureen Ryan	Administrator of the Bureau of Homeless and Housing Services	New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	Homelessness
7.	Erik Swanson	Coordinated Access Specialist	Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	Homelessness
8.	Martha Stone	Executive Director	Cross Roads House	Homelessness
9.	Richard Jones	Community Development Coordinator	City of Dover	Homelessness, fair housing, sexual assault survivor issues, substance abuse
10.	Adam Cannon	Special Projects Manager	City of Portsmouth	Homelessness, fair housing, sexual assault survivor issues, substance abuse
11.	David Moore	Community Development Director	City of Portsmouth	Homelessness, fair housing, sexual assault survivor issues, substance abuse
12.	Michelle Mears	Staff Planner	City of Rochester	Fair housing, low-income housing, workforce housing, housing for elderly persons and

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				people with disabilities
13.	Seth Creighton	Staff Planner	City of Rochester	Fair housing, low-income housing, workforce housing, housing for elderly persons and people with disabilities
14.	Rad Nichols	Executive Director	Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation	Transportation issues
15.	Brian Deguzis	Manager of Operations and Planning	Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation	Transportation issues
16.	Richard Wagner	Executive Director	AIDS Response Seacoast	Food security, housing, and health care issues affecting people living with HIV/AIDS
17.	Nicole Rodler	Teen Drug Court Coordinator	City of Rochester	Substance abuse issues affecting youth
18.	Lauren Colanto	RAYS Assistant Director	City of Rochester	Substance abuse issues affecting youth
19.	Michele Halligan-Foley	Project Director	Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant	Substance abuse issues affecting youth
20.	Nicole Dale	Prevention Specialist	Rochester School District	Substance abuse issues affecting youth
21.	Various	Board of Directors	Rochester Area Senior Center	Transportation, health care, and other issues affecting elderly persons and people with disabilities
22.	Kathy Beebe	Executive Director	Sexual Assault Support Services	Sexual assault survivor issues
23.	Christine Wellington	Fair Housing Project Director	New Hampshire Legal Assistance	Fair housing issues
24.	Michael Provost	Executive director	Rochester Main Street	Economic development and

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				transportation issues affecting downtown area
25.	Torey Kortz	Executive Director	SHARE Fund	Housing and food security issues affecting low-income population
26.	Susan Ford	Executive Director	Homeless Center for Strafford County	Homelessness
27.	Heidi Moran	Clinical Administrator	Southeastern New Hampshire Services	Substance abuse
28.	William Ginter	Program Policy Analyst	New Hampshire Housing	Low-income housing, fair housing
29.	Daniel Smith	Director of Housing Research	New Hampshire Housing	Low-income housing, fair housing
30.	William Ray	Managing Director for Policy and Planning	New Hampshire Housing	Low-income housing, fair housing
31.	Jennifer Marsh	Economic Development Specialist	City of Rochester	Economic development
32.	Karen Pollard	Director of Economic Development	City of Rochester	Economic development
33.	Mary Moriarty	Assistant Superintendent	Rochester School District	Issues affecting low-income and homeless youth
34.	Stephen LeClair	Title I Coordinator	Rochester School District	Issues affecting low-income and homeless youth
35.	Various	Ward 4	Rochester United Neighborhoods	Homelessness, low-income housing, substance abuse
36.	Various	Ward 3	Rochester United Neighborhoods	Economic development, transportation, issues affecting people with disabilities
37.	Various	Ward 2	Rochester United Neighborhoods	Homelessness, substance abuse, low-income housing issues
39.	Paige Eldridge	Director	Rochester Youth Safe Haven	Needs of students and youth in low-

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				income housing
40.	Paul Lakevicius	Surveillance Manager/Epidemiologist	Healthy Homes & Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Division of Public Health Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	Lead poisoning, housing
41.	Beverly Drouin	Section Administrator	Healthy Homes & Environment Section, Division of Public Health Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	Lead poisoning, housing
42.	Jenifer Gould	Employment Counselor Specialist	Employment Program, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	Employment issues affecting low-income persons, transportation, substance abuse, health care, economic development
43.	Janet Laatsch	Chief Executive Officer	Goodwin Community Health	Health care needs of low-income persons, mental health care, substance abuse
44.	Laura Ring	President/Chief Executive Officer	Rochester Chamber of Commerce	Economic development
45.	Jennifer Flannery	Development and Communications Coordinator	Community Partners	Mental health care needs of low-income persons, substance abuse, housing needs of low-income persons
46.	Melissa Adams	Deputy Director/Head Start Coordinator	Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	Needs of low-income students and their families

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47.	Deanna Strand	Executive Director	Dover Adult Learning Center	Economic development and workforce development needs, education and business needs alignment, and transportation
48.	Robert O'Connell	Executive Director	My Friend's Place	Homeless issues, affordable housing needs, neighborhood stabilization, downtown improvements
49.	Alice Standish	Job Developer	Project Pride	Transportation needs, needs of low-income youth
50.	Daniel Warren	Seacoast Regional Manner	New Hampshire Small Business Development Center	Downtown improvements
51.	Martha Jo Hewitt	Executive Director	Tri-City Co-Op	Homeless issues, transportation issues, downtown improvements
52.	Various	N/A	Balance of State Continuum of Care	Homeless and housing issues

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

***Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?***

For most of the consultations, the Community Development Coordinator met in-person at the agency or organization's offices. For a few consultations, where the consulted individual was located outside of the greater Rochester area, the consultation was conducted via telephone. Areas for improved coordination include a potential partnership among the City of Rochester, the Community Action Partnership for Strafford County, and the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority to increase lead-based paint screening and/or lead-based paint abatement efforts in low-income housing as well as the continued implementation of the regional Coordinated Access program for addressing homelessness and for providing a range of services to the homeless population. Other anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs described by the consulted agencies and organizations, increased efforts to facilitate inter-organizational meetings and coordination, and the increase of services for unaddressed and underaddressed community needs (such as substance abuse prevention, substance abuse treatment, and behavioral health services).

***Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting.***

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All agency types were consulted during the planning process.



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

	<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
1.	2014 Needs Assessment	Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	This report identifies the top three needs for Strafford County as being transportation, housing and homelessness, and mental health. The Consolidated Plan addresses all three issues.
2.	2012 Needs Assessment	Frisbie Memorial Hospital	This report outlines five prioritized community health needs: access to resources to address risky behaviors, access to treatment and rehabilitation for drug and alcohol dependence, access to behavioral health services, increased attention to chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions, and access to safe and affordable housing. The Consolidated Plan incorporates support for those with substance abuse issues, behavioral health-related issues, and safe and affordable housing.
3.	2013 Annual Report	Goodwin Community Health	This report outlines a number of the service areas served, which include dental services, prenatal services, behavioral health, diabetes treatment, and WIC food package distribution. The Consolidated Plan addresses behavioral health needs and issues of food insecurity.
4.	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	Strafford Regional Planning Commission	This report identifies a number of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) in the Strafford County region. Among the weaknesses identified are less-developed transportation in the northern part of the county, high secondary school dropout rate, expensive workforce housing, and businesses oriented in the south in the cities of Portsmouth and Dover. The Consolidated Plan addresses transportation shortfalls, workforce housing, and the development and support for a small business development center within the City of Rochester.
5.	Fair Housing Guide	New Hampshire Housing	This report addresses the impact of disability and age on housing, affordable housing, and fair housing issues. The Consolidated Plan addresses

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			accessibility improvements to housing and public buildings, affordable housing issues, and fair housing issues.
6.	2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	This report did not provide goals but provided data outlining specific areas of concern regarding homelessness in the Strafford County region, such as high reporting of disabilities among homeless persons and a significant number of persons staying at emergency shelters multiple times throughout the reported year. The Consolidated Plan addresses these issues through specific planning related to behavioral health and permanent supportive housing.
7.	Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Regional Master Plan (Draft)	Strafford Regional Planning Commission	This draft plan outlines a number of future priorities and needs for the Strafford County region across a wide range of community areas such as environment, transportation, economic development, and housing. This Consolidated Plan addresses a number of these areas, including projects supporting public health through increasing access to recreational opportunities; supporting affordable housing options for elderly persons; and supporting existing and new businesses, employment opportunities, and the City's educational system.
8.	Regional Housing Needs Assessment	Strafford Regional Planning Commission	This report identifies a number of key housing needs, both for the Strafford County region in general and for the City of Rochester specifically: the need for smaller units of housing, housing to support the increasing percentage of the population that is elderly and people with disabilities, increase in assisted rental housing units, and increase in workforce rental housing. This Consolidated Plan includes support for rental assistance programs, analysis of workforce housing support opportunities, and funding for building accessibility improvements and additions.
9.	Fair Housing and Equity Assessment	Strafford Regional Planning Commission	This report addresses a number of areas of concern such as the need for more affordable housing, more options for low-income housing, housing and transportation for elderly persons that allows access to needed services, and

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			the disproportionately low home ownership of communities of color. This Consolidated Plan supports rental assistance programs, transportation analyses, and fair housing programs.
10.	2015-2020 Five Year Plan	Rochester Housing Authority	This plan addresses working on alternate uses for a building owned by the Rochester Housing Authority, reducing turnover time for public housing units, and the promotion of aging in place. This Consolidated Plan addresses these issues in its focus on affordable housing, including low-occupancy housing units accessible to persons at a wide range of ages.
11.	Framework to Inform the Greater Seacoast's Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness (Draft)	Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness	This report outlines three main areas of recommendations: improved access to primary and behavioral health care for persons experiencing homelessness, improved coordination and increased capacity of homeless system network of organizations and providers, and increased access to permanent housing. This Consolidated Plan addresses these issues in prioritizing the provision of homeless shelter services and behavioral health support to low-income populations.
12.	Housing Needs in New Hampshire	New Hampshire Housing	This report identifies a number of present and upcoming housing needs, including housing for an aging population with increasing accessibility needs, an increasingly less affordable rental market, an increasing demand for workforce housing, and a decline in home ownership. This Consolidated Plan includes support for rental assistance programs, workforce housing support analysis, and support for building accessibility installations and improvements.
13.	2013 Lead Poisoning Surveillance Report	Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	This report identifies the City of Rochester as one of New Hampshire's eight highest-risk communities and recommends that all children in high-risk communities be tested for blood lead poisoning before the age of six. This Consolidated Plan includes analysis and support for lead-based paint testing and abatement efforts.
14.	Homelessness	Bureau of Homeless and	This report discusses both statewide and

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	in New Hampshire Report for 2014	Housing Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	regional needs of homeless populations, and it identifies chronically homeless persons with multiple co-occurring disorders and substance abuse issues as a subpopulation particularly in need. This Consolidated Plan provides funding for several of the regional homeless shelters, including those listed as resources within this report; support for persons with substance abuse and/or mental health issues; and support for permanent supportive housing.
15.	Master Plan	City of Rochester	This plan outlines a number of goals and visions in areas such as natural resource protection, economic development, and recreation. Under economic development, the plan calls for implementation of a customized business retention and expansion program, an educational task force to stimulate additional educational opportunities for the City's high school students and other workforce members, and investing in the City's neighborhoods. This Consolidated Plan includes funding for educational programs to prepare youth for the workforce, analysis of the development of a City-located small business development center, and construction projects enhancing recreational facilities in the City.
16.	New Hampshire STD/HIV Surveillance Program 5 Year Data Summary Report: 2009-2013	New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services' Infectious Disease Surveillance Section	This report discusses the rates of HIV/AIDS infection (and other STI infection) of various New Hampshire communities as well as the demographics of infected persons. This Consolidated Plan addresses these issues through support for persons with substance abuse issues (as intravenous drug use is a known transmittal method for HIV infection).
17.	Getting Ahead of the Curve: Video Training Modules	Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast.	This series of training modules introduces workforce housing basics, provides an overview of New Hampshire's workforce housing law, and suggests strategies for encouraging the development of workforce housing. This Consolidated Plan addresses these issues through exploration of how best to achieve affordable housing expansion.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

***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(l)).***

During the consultation process, the Community Development Coordinator met with both state officials (the Division of Public Health Services of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services) and officials of other regional municipalities (the cities of Dover and Portsmouth). The Community Development Coordinator discussed potential areas of coordination and cooperation during these consultations. Consolidated Plan implementation will involve exploring state coordination possibilities on lead-based paint testing and abatement efforts and sharing monitoring reports with CDBG oversight officials in the cities of Dover and Portsmouth for public service agencies that receive CDBG funding from the City of Rochester as well as Dover and/or Portsmouth.

***Narrative (optional):***

N/A.

## **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** **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 Rochester's Community Development Division has conducted extensive public outreach as part of the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan preparation process. This has included a public hearing, attendance at monthly local neighborhood ward meetings, consultations with local public service agencies, consultations with local business organizations, and social media outreach. At the public hearing, two people spoke on behalf of a public service agency that intended to seek CDBG grant funding, and three comments were received from City residents. This outreach was conducted in accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan outlined above.

For FY 2015-2016 funding, applications for CDBG grant funding were made available on December 23, 2014 and originally were due back to the Community Development Division by January 9, 2015. In response to requests for extension, the deadline for applications was extended to January 16, 2015. Applications were reviewed by the Community Development Division and forwarded to the members of the Community Development Committee. The first review of the applications occurred at the January 22, 2015 meeting of the Community Development Committee. The grant applicants were invited to present on their applications at the Community Development Committee meeting held on February 26, 2015. After review of all grant applications received, the members of the Community Development Committee rated their level of support for each agency, and those receiving the most support were recommended for funding. Public service agencies were recommended across all areas of priority needs (basic needs, safety net, and investment). The Community Development Committee voted on its grant application funding recommendations at the March 26, 2015 Community Development Committee meeting. Throughout the evaluation process, careful attention was paid to the priorities identified in the draft FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan.

The public comments period notice was posted in the local newspaper of general circulation on March 20, 2015, and copies of the public comments period notice were also posted at City Hall, the City's Community Center, the City's Public Library, and the City's website on March 27, 2015. In the notice, the public was invited to review the draft Consolidated Plan and FY 2015-2016 Annual Action Plan in-person at the Office of Economic and Community Development and/or on the City's Community Development Division webpage.

The draft FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan was presented for a first reading to the full City Council at the April 7, 2015 City Council Meeting. A public hearing was held on April 21, 2015. There were no comments offered at the hearing. At the May 5, 2015 City Council meeting, there was a second reading of the draft FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan, and the Consolidated Plan was adopted.

Citizen participation affected goal-setting in a number of key areas. Citizens' comments on various public service agencies that had been funded previously and/or were applying for FY 2015-2016 funding were included in the Community Development Coordinator's analysis of public service agency grant applications and funding recommendations. Citizens' comments on the primary areas of need for the City included the City's homeless population, economic and

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workforce development, and rise in substance abuse were incorporated into the Consolidated Plan's objectives and goals.

### ***Citizen Participation Outreach***

<b>Sort Order</b>	<b>Mode of Outreach</b>	<b>Target of Outreach</b>	<b>Summary of response/attendance</b>	<b>Summary of comments received</b>	<b>Summary of comments not accepted and reasons</b>	<b>URL (if applicable)</b>
	In-Person Meeting	Citizens of Ward 4 District	Approximately 15 individuals in attendance, including the Ward district police officer	Comments were offered on a number of public service agencies' performances, street and sidewalk issues, and the needs for homeless resources	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate.	N/A
	Public Notice of Public Hearing, News Article about Public Hearing	General citizenry	Four email responses	One comment requested thinning out of bushes at Hanson Pines Park; one comment suggested a community garden; one comment received from a public service agency requested funding; one comment received from a skateboard park company offered to	The first two comments were referred to other City departments for follow-up; the third commenter was sent a grant application; the fourth comment was not accepted because the proposed help was not in alignment with planned renovations to the park.	N/A

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				help with a proposed project at Hanson Pines Park		
	Public Hearing	General citizenry	Representatives from Community Action Partnership of Strafford County; general citizenry	Recommendation for funding of weatherization program, Head Start, and summer meals program; criticism of previously funded projects such as rehabilitation of historic buildings; support for programs aimed at supporting marriage and "traditional families;" criticism of accepting federal funding due to federal control of local decision-making	Comment criticizing acceptance of federal funding due to federal control of local decision-making was not accepted. This comment was not accepted because it was decided that it is in the City of Rochester's best interest to continue to receive CDBG funding.	N/A
	In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 3 District	Approximately 30 in attendance, including the Ward district police officer and City councilors	Comments were offered requesting more business development downtown, funding for a business development center	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate.	N/A



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				located in the city, more transportation access for elderly persons and people with disabilities, desire for new industry, desire for job development resources for both the general public and certain special populations, and request for reduction in absentee landlords		
	In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 2 District	Approximately 12 in attendance, including the Ward district police officer	Comments were offered on need for services for homeless population, funding requests for three specific public service agencies, issues with trash pile-ups in certain locations, concerns regarding a currently-funded housing rehabilitation program,	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate.	N/A

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				request for playground equipment for a Ward-located school, and need for a drug treatment facility located in the city		
	In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 1	Approximately 6 in attendance, including the Ward district police officers and City councilor	Comments were offered that funding be spent on programs that promote self-reliance and do not reward individuals merely seeking "hand-outs," work incentive programs were suggested	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate.	N/A
	In-person meeting	Citizens of Ward 6	Approximately 10 in attendance, including the Ward district police officers and City councilor	Comments were offered on the rise in heroin abuse and the sidewalks outside School St. School are badly cracked and damaged	All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate.	N/A

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## **NEEDS ASSESSMENT** **NA-05 Overview**

### ***Needs Assessment Overview***

These priorities are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry.

Projects, activities, and requests for funding have been assigned to one of three categories described below. They do not change or indicate a preference for the types of programs supported with CDBG funds; rather, they provide a framework to summarize the presumed impact of a project when making community investment decisions. The City of Rochester commits to prioritizing activities and projects that meet a combination of the most important basic needs and longer-term important needs of the City's marginalized individuals and families, primarily through strategic partnerships with other agencies.

### Basic Needs

Basic needs include food, shelter, and clothing. Without these, no person is able to live, let alone realize a productive existence. These basics, along with health and safety concerns, form the definition of what our most fundamental requirements are to keep alive. Especially since the recession of 2008, the burden to provide health care, safe housing, and even adequate food is a struggle for many working families and individuals in the Rochester community.

### Safety Net

These are programs that provide direct services to the community's children, elderly persons, people with disabilities, and persons in crisis and augment the City's services, such as the police force and Welfare office. These are projects that intervene in emergency situations and create a place for accessing assistance.

### Investment

With addressing basic needs and safety concerns are an understandable priority, the funding of investment projects and activities help to reduce the funding needed in the future for addressing the basic needs categories through addressing poverty and homelessness at their core roots.

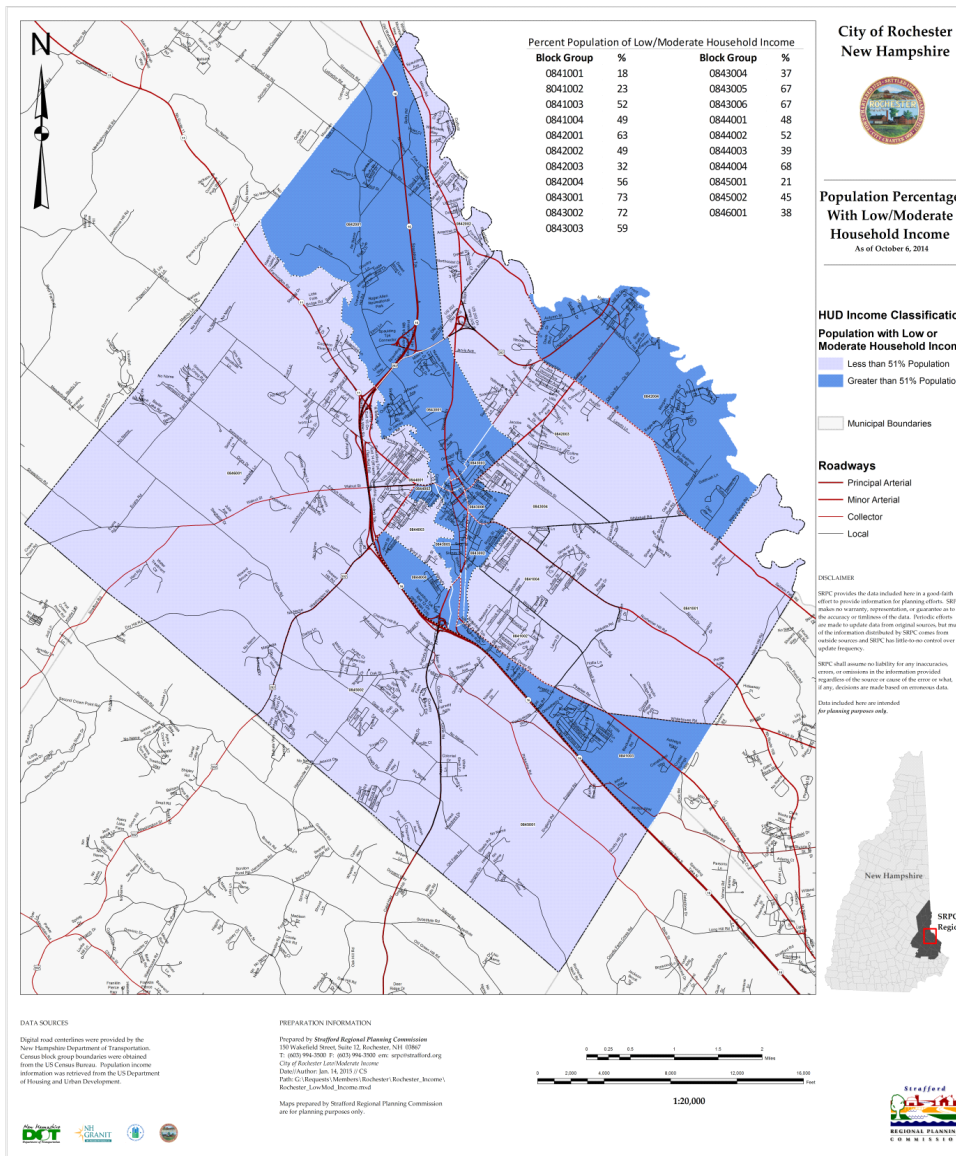
The following program goals are suggested by the City of Rochester as solving or ameliorating the community needs identified:

<b>Program Goal #1: To Provide Decent Housing</b>
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness
Retention of Affordable Housing Stock
Increasing the Supply of Supportive Housing Which Includes Structural Features and Services to Enable Persons with Special Needs (Including Persons Living with HIV/AIDS) to Live in Dignity and Independence
<b>Program Goal #2: To Provide a Suitable Living Environment</b>
Reducing the Incidence of Increasing Substance Abuse (Especially Heroin and Other Opioids) and Addressing Root Causation

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Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods
Increase Access to Quality Public and Private Facilities and Services
Increase Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents
<b>Program Goal #3: To Expand Economic Opportunities</b>
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses
Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment

In addition, in light of the greater needs of the City of Rochester's low and moderate income residents as well as the purpose and goals of the CDBG program, the City of Rochester is proposing to focus its efforts on the regions identified as low to moderate income by the most recently-available HUD data.



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The blue regions, which are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data, comprise the City of Rochester's general geographic allocation priority areas.

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## HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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

#### *Summary of Housing Needs*

Identified housing needs include an increase in affordable housing and workforce housing, an increase in lead-based paint screening and abatement, weatherization of older housing stock, and an increase in production and availability of smaller and more accessible units (versus large, detached single-family homes). As the below tables indicate, many low to moderate income households are paying significantly over 30% of total income on housing, and the struggles for such households to obtain and keep affordable housing have been confirmed during consultations with many public service agencies who serve this demographic. In particular, the agencies serving the region's homeless populations have reported that there is significant "doubling up" of individuals and families that results in severe overcrowding and that individuals with mental health and/or substance abuse issues experience especially acute troubles in maintaining stable housing.

The need for increased lead-based paint screening and abatement has been determined through consultations with the Healthy Homes & Environment Section of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health Services and referencing the lead-based paint reports published the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The City of Rochester is identified as one of eight "high risk" communities throughout the state.

The City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of its housing represented by manufactured homes. This includes a total of eight manufactured home parks, a much higher number than those in neighboring cities. These homes often lack appropriate weatherization, which results in high utilities bills for homeowners who often cannot afford to heat their homes during New England's bitterly cold winter season. For this reason, weatherization of these homes and/or utilities assistance is needed.

Lastly, consultation with the City of Rochester's Planning Department as well as referencing multiple housing reports and regional master plans has identified a need for smaller units of housing. Over the next five years and beyond, the demographics of the City of Rochester are anticipated to shift to a greater percentage of the population being comprised of persons who are elderly. This demographic is anticipated to require smaller housing units and housing units that are more accessible for those with physical disabilities. In addition, smaller units of housing, especially apartments, are required due to the current and anticipated housing trends among younger adults, who are delaying homeownership and who desire walkable communities.

<b>Demographics</b>	<b>Base Year: 2000</b>	<b>Most Recent Year: 2011</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Population	28,461	29,834	5%
Households	28,168	12,357	-56%
Median Income	\$40,596.00	\$52,536.00	29%

**Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics**

**Data** 2000 Census (Base Year), 2007-2011 ACS (Most Recent Year)  
**Source:**

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### **Number of Households Table**

	<b>0-30% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;30-50% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;50-80% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;80- 100% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;100% HAMFI</b>
Total Households *	1,660	2,020	2,160	1,575	4,940
Small Family Households *	430	710	795	635	3,030
Large Family Households *	110	40	85	75	375
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	300	425	500	380	845
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	310	345	265	185	240
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger *	330	440	150	175	470
* the highest income category for these family types is >80% HAMFI					

**Table 6 - Total Households Table**

**Data**      2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

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## Housing Needs Summary Tables

### 1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	0	15	0	30	45	0	0	0	0	0
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	35	45	0	80	0	0	20	0	20
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	100	40	0	20	160	0	25	4	15	44
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	590	265	15	0	870	375	135	190	50	750
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	95	550	160	25	830	135	295	450	365	1,245
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	40	0	0	0	40	65	0	0	0	65

**Table 7 – Housing Problems Table**



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**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS  
**Source:**

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	685	350	55	55	1,145	375	160	215	70	820
Having none of four housing problems	320	770	560	330	1,980	175	735	1,330	1,125	3,365
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	40	0	0	0	40	65	0	0	0	65

**Table 8 – Housing Problems 2**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS  
**Source:**

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	280	435	90	805	85	85	250	420
Large Related	80	0	10	90	0	25	19	44
Elderly	130	150	0	280	295	255	155	705
Other	270	310	75	655	135	100	220	455
Total need by income	760	895	175	1,830	515	465	644	1,624

**Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS  
**Source:**

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### 4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>								
Small Related	220	150	15	385	65	60	35	160
Large Related	80	0	0	80	0	25	4	29
Elderly	100	55	0	155	195	35	75	305
Other	260	70	0	330	120	45	75	240
Total need by income	660	275	15	950	380	165	189	734

**Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

### 5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Single family households	100	40	0	20	160	0	25	24	15	64
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	35	45	0	80	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	100	75	45	20	240	0	25	24	15	64

**Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	350	175	38	563	100	50	38	188

**Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2**

**Data** 2011-2013 American Community Survey

**Source:**

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

According to data from the 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), there were 465 individuals who used emergency shelters during FY 2013-2014, 25 individuals who used permanent supportive housing during FY 2013-2014, and 17 individuals who used transitional housing during FY 2013-2014. These are data for the entirety of the Seacoast region.

For the emergency shelter users, there were about twice as many men as women. Most were white, and most were between the ages of 18 and 61. Notably, 247 of these users were people with disabilities. For those accessing permanent supportive housing, there were twice as many women as men. Again, most were white, and most were between the ages of 18 and 61. All of these users were people with disabilities, and most of the reported disabilities were mental health-related. For the transitional housing users, all were women. Most were white, and all were between the ages of 18 and 50. A little under half were people with disabilities.

According to 2013 data compiled by the Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness, 122 persons total from the City of Rochester were homeless. This includes individuals and families, and this number is higher than any other municipality in the Seacoast region, including the cities of Dover and Portsmouth.

### ***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 data from the 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), there were 32 people entering emergency shelters as part of a family who were disabled, as compared to 59 people who were not disabled and 7 people for whom this information wasn't reported. There were 5 people who entered permanent supportive housing who were disabled, as compared to no persons who were not reported as having a disability, and four of these people had mental health-related disabilities and one person had substance abuse issues. There was one person who entered transitional housing who was disabled, as compared to 14 people who were not reported as having a disability.

In data compiled by A Safe Place and Sexual Assault Support Services for 2014, six Rochester residents experiencing domestic violence were provided shelters for a total of 785 bed nights. A Safe Place has a total of 16 beds for sheltering residents throughout the Seacoast region. Sexual Assault Support Services also served a total of 172 Rochester residents with issues related to sexual violence during 2014.

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

One of the most common housing problems, identified across multiple consultations, is the lack of adequately affordable housing. Average income has not kept pace with average rental costs; as a result, many Rochester residents spend well over 30% of their income on housing. According to calculations from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, less than 10% of the housing units in Strafford County are affordable to half of the renting households.

Weatherization and heating needs for manufactured home homeowners also represent a large area of concern. According to the 2014 Community Needs Assessment from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, nearly 20% of the housing units in the City of Rochester are manufactured/mobile homes. Manufactured homes are often less energy-efficient than other

housing, and there is a higher concentration of low-income residents in manufactured home parks.

Lastly, the relative lack of public housing availability is a problem for the City. Consultation with the Rochester Housing Authority has indicated that the current wait list for housing is somewhere around five years long. In addition, according to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, many of the assisted rental housing units produced under subsidized housing programs are no longer available.

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

According to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic/Latino residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City. In addition, the City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities, especially children with disabilities. While racial and ethnic minorities do not appear to be overrepresented among the City's homeless population, based on the AHAR reports, people with disabilities (and especially those with mental health-related disabilities) are vastly overrepresented among those reported to be experiencing homelessness.

***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.***

According to the 2014 Community Needs Assessment from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, most of those reported homeless are “doubled up”—that is, living with another person or family in an overcrowded housing situation. Consultations with the region's homeless shelter providers indicate that living in a “doubled up” housing situation is often the immediate precursor for entering a homeless shelter or living on the street. In addition, the high number of homeless persons reported to have substance abuse issues and/or mental health-related disabilities suggest that untreated mental illness and substance addiction are likely indicators for potential homelessness.

Rapid re-housing has been widely adopted as part of the region's implementation of Coordinated Access. Consultation with the region's Coordinated Access coordinator has indicated a primary concern for those receiving rapid re-housing assistance is the need for supportive services for the transition to permanent housing. In particular, support for addressing substance abuse issues and mental illness is needed, given the overrepresentation of persons with substance abuse issues and mental illnesses in the homeless population.

***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.***

N/A.

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

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According to the 2014 Community Needs Assessment from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, most of those reported homeless are “doubled up”—that is, living with another person or family in an overcrowded housing situation. Consultations with the region’s homeless shelter providers indicate that living in a “doubled up” housing situation is often the immediate precursor for entering a homeless shelter or living on the street.

### ***Discussion***

Some of the data in the “Crowding Information – 2/2” table was extrapolated from the 2011-2013 American Community Survey data on poverty-level households with children, based on ratios of renter households to owner households identified in the preceding tables.

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## DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: HOUSING PROBLEMS

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

#### **Introduction**

According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic (597 residents), and 2.2% other (663 residents). The City is majority white by a large margin, with residents who are categorized as “other” and Hispanic representing the next largest racial/ethnic groups.

According to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City. Given these statistics, areas of disproportionately greater need primarily center on issues related to affordable housing, especially affordable rental housing. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed.

#### **0%-30% of Area Median Income**

<b>Housing Problems</b>	<b>Has one or more of four housing problems</b>	<b>Has none of the four housing problems</b>	<b>Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems</b>
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,290	305	85
White	1,165	305	85
Black / African American	4	0	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	35	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	55	0	0

**Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*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%

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### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,560	640	0
White	1,550	585	0
Black / African American	0	25	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	20	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	10	0	0

**Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*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%

### 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,050	1,485	0
White	1,050	1,420	0
Black / African American	0	25	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	10	0

**Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*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%

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### 80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	505	1,095	0
White	455	1,030	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	10	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	24	40	0

**Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*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%

***Discussion***

N/A.



# The City of Rochester, N.H.

## DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: SEVERE HOUSING PROBLEMS NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

### *Introduction*

According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic (597 residents), and 2.2% other (663 residents). The City is majority white by a large margin, with residents who are categorized as “other” and Hispanic representing the next largest racial/ethnic groups.

According to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City. Given these statistics, areas of disproportionately greater need primarily center on issues related to affordable housing, especially affordable rental housing. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed.

It is notable that, according to the 2007-2011 CHAS data, the severe housing problems disproportionately affecting racial and ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester appear to be less than non-severe housing problems. The main exception seems to be for Hispanic residents who are at or under 30% of the area median income, as seen in Table 17.

### *0%-30% of Area Median Income*

<b>Severe Housing Problems*</b>	<b>Has one or more of four housing problems</b>	<b>Has none of the four housing problems</b>	<b>Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems</b>
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,125	475	85
White	1,020	450	85
Black / African American	4	0	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	25	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	55	0	0

**Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

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### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	470	1,725	0
White	470	1,665	0
Black / African American	0	25	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	20	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	10	0

**Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

### 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	290	2,240	0
White	290	2,185	0
Black / African American	0	25	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	10	0

**Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

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### 80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	65	1,530	0
White	30	1,455	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	10	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	20	44	0

**Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

### **Discussion**

N/A.

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## DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: HOUSING COST BURDERS NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

### *Introduction*

According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic (597 residents), and 2.2% other (663 residents). The City is majority white by a large margin, with residents who are categorized as “other” and Hispanic representing the next largest racial/ethnic groups.

According to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City. Given these statistics, areas of disproportionately greater need primarily center on issues related to affordable housing, especially affordable rental housing.

Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of 38% facing this problem. (See Table 21 below.) The percentage of white residents with a housing cost burden above 30% of the household income is only slightly above this at 38.2%. Certain racial and ethnic minorities have far greater percentages, however, primarily Asian and American Indian residents. The computed rate for Hispanic residents (17.4%) excludes a large percentage of “no/negative income” residents and seems contradicted by other reports of a high poverty rate of 21% among Hispanic residents. It seems likely that Hispanic residents, as a category, also have a disproportionately high housing cost burden.

### *Housing Cost Burden*

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	7,530	2,910	1,710	120
White	7,255	2,835	1,645	85
Black / African American	60	10	4	0
Asian	0	15	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	30	25	10	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	95	20	0	35

**Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS

Source:

### *Discussion:*

N/A.

**DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: DISCUSSION**

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

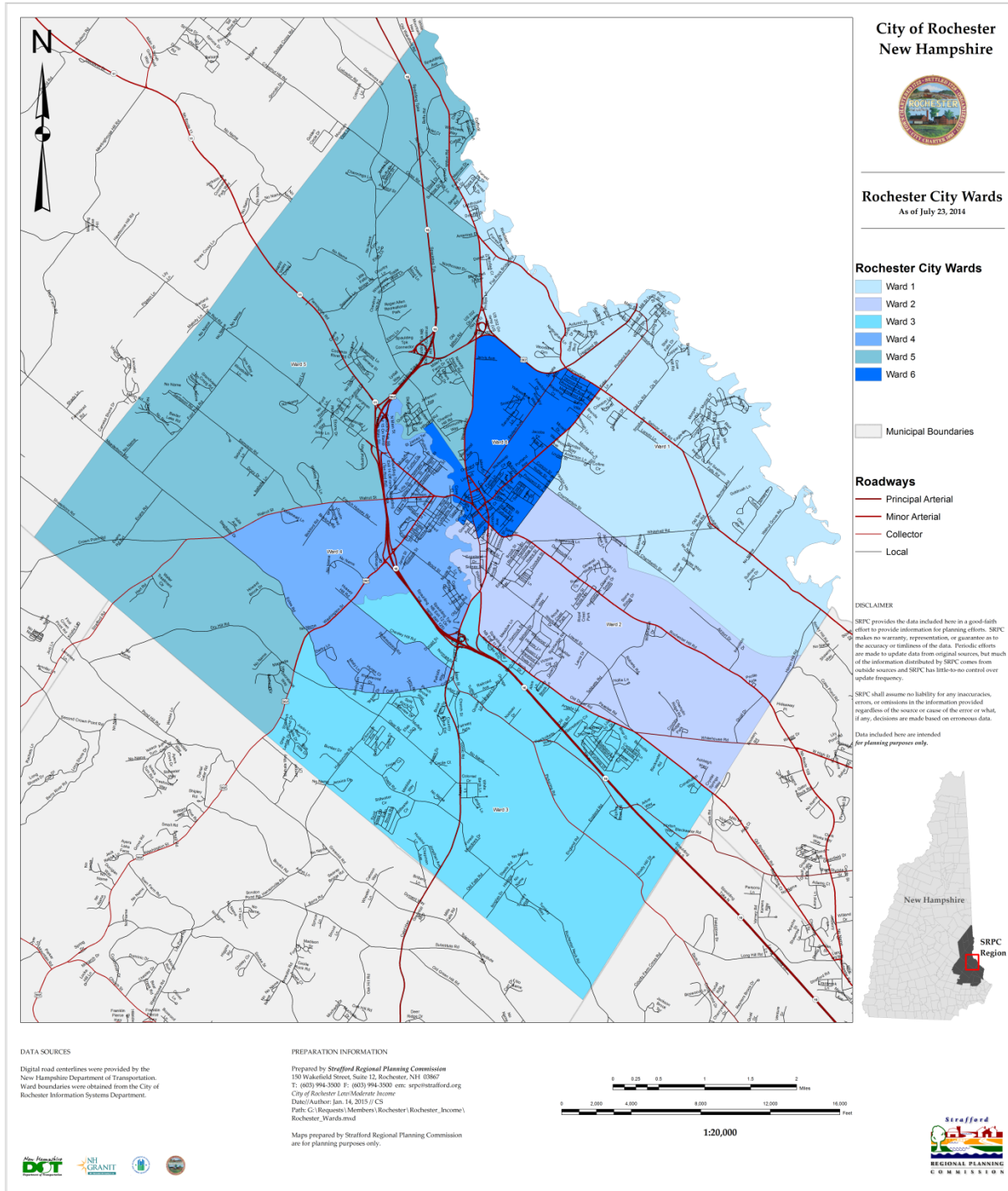
***Are there any income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?***

Overall, the greater needs of specific racial or ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester seem to correlate strongly with economic/income status. Addressing the housing needs of low-income residents will address the needs of low-income racial and ethnic minorities. In addition, addressing the greater rates of poverty among specific racial and ethnic groups in the City indirectly will impact and reduce housing needs.

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

Housing needs, beyond those reflected in higher poverty rates among specific racial and ethnic minorities, include segregation among homes occupied by their owners and the higher percentage of renters among racial and ethnic minority populations. According to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there is mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown (Wards 2 and 6). In contrast, there is a heavy concentration of racial and minority homeowners in the City's northwestern region (Wards 3 and 5), indicating segregation.

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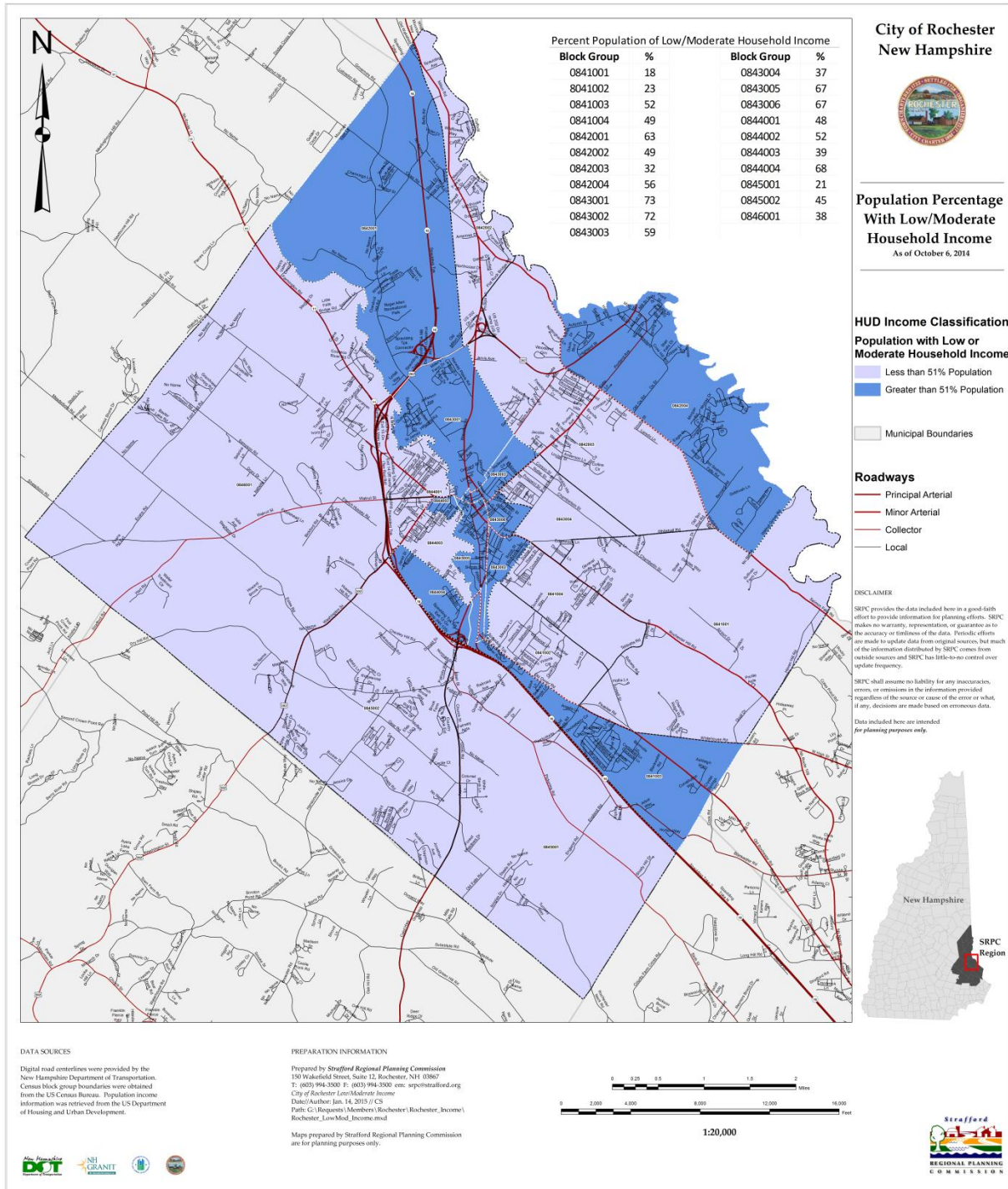
## Map of the City of Rochester's Six Ward Districts

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

There is a slight concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who rent in the center of the City (Wards 2 and 6), and there is a heavier concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who own

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their homes in the northwestern portion of the City (Wards 3 and 5). Both these areas overlap, to large extent, the census tracts classified by HUD as 51% or greater low to moderate income.



**Map of the City of Rochester's  $\geq$ 51% Low to Moderate Income Census Tracts**

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

## PUBLIC HOUSING

### NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

#### *Introduction*

The City of Rochester’s Community Development Coordinator works with the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) to identify and address public housing needs, such as the need for more housing for elderly persons and people with disabilities and the need for more smaller units of housing. During the creation of the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan, the Community Development Coordinator consulted with the Rochester Housing Authority on public housing needs and how best the City’s CDBG program can assist in addressing these needs.

The City of Rochester plans to support rental assistance programs, including rental assistance specifically for people with mental disabilities. The regional rental assistance program for people with mental disabilities is managed by Community Partners, which also partners directly with the Rochester Housing Authority. The City of Rochester also plans to explore opportunities to partner with private-sector developers to develop smaller-scale housing units, given the low-resident households that tend to comprise the residency of RHA’s public housing units.

#### *Totals in Use*

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	225	173	20	153	0	0	0

**Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type**

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

**Data** PIC (PIH Information Center)  
**Source:**



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### Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	13,740	15,710	17,383	15,491	0	0
Average length of stay	0	0	4	5	0	6	0	0
Average Household size	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	110	30	3	27	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	75	80	6	74	0	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	225	173	20	153	0	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

### Race of Residents

Race	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	221	172	19	153	0	0	0
Black/African American	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

**Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

**Data** PIC (PIH Information Center)  
**Source:**

### Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0	221	173	20	153	0	0	0

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

**Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

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**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

## **Section 504 Needs Assessment**

### ***Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units.***

One of the primary problems with the City of Rochester's public housing situation is the lack of adequate quantity. At present, the waiting list for those seeking housing is between two to five years in length. The Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) reports receiving between 20 to 25 applications for housing per week. In addition, RHA reports a need for more housing suited for elderly persons and people with disabilities.

The City of Rochester plans to support rental assistance programs, including rental assistance specifically for people with mental disabilities. The rental assistance program for people with mental disabilities is managed by Community Partners, which also partners directly with the Rochester Housing Authority. In addition, given the small households as identified in the current Rochester Housing Authority Five Year Plan (one to two persons), the City of Rochester will be exploring how best to encourage private housing developers to focus on small housing units.

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

The most recent Five Year Plan prepared by the Rochester Housing Authority reports its goals and objectives as including: reduction in public housing vacancies, increase in affordable housing units, the creation of workforce housing, and the promotion of economic opportunities and increase in affordable healthcare access to low-income families. Also, RHA is looking to increase the number of Housing Choice vouchers it is able to offer.

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

Affordable housing, workforce housing, economic development, and health care issues are all topics of concern addressed throughout this Consolidated Plan. They are major areas of concern for both public housing residents and low to moderate income residents who are not public housing residents. While attention should and will be paid specifically to how these concerns impact public housing residents, it is expected that addressing the City-wide concerns in these areas will also benefit public housing residents.

### ***Discussion***

N/A.

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## **HOMELESS NEEDS ASSESSMENT** **NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)**

### ***Introduction***

Extensive consultations and research indicate a continuing need for services and shelter serving the City of Rochester’s homeless population. The needs of the City’s homeless population will be addressed through a combination of short-term services provisions, such as funding of the region’s three homeless shelters, and longer-term planning, such as funding for programs serving those with mental illnesses and/or substance abuse issues.

The City of Rochester has participated fully in the Seacoast’s transition to the Coordinated Access system for provision of a range of services to the City’s homeless population, and the City plans to continue its participation and support. Coordinated Access provides a single point of access for the provision of homeless services in the region. As part of the Coordinated Access coordinator’s intake process, the coordinator conducts an in-depth assessment of the client’s individual situation, including current housing access, community contacts, and other available resources. The Coordinated Access coordinator then matches the client with the available shelters and other supportive resources that best match the individual’s needs and maximize available resources.

The City of Rochester also plans to fund a wide range of public service agencies that provide services such as housing, homelessness prevention, and mental health assistance. This includes direct funding to the region’s three homeless shelters, rental assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and supportive services such as mental health support. In particular, funding to the three homeless shelters is meant to benefit those who are chronically homeless, who are disproportionately those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues. All three funded shelters have shifted focus to permanently housing these chronically homeless populations, and this “housing first” approach will allow these persons to stabilize and seek the behavioral health and substance abuse treatment they may require.

### ***Homeless Needs Assessment***

<b>Population</b>	<b>Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night</b>		<b>Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year</b>	<b>Estimate the # becoming homeless each year</b>	<b>Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year</b>	<b>Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness</b>
	<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>				
<b>Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)</b>	21	33	294	247	47	123
<b>Persons in Households with Only Children</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Persons in Households</b>	13	34	507	465	42	176

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<b>with Only Adults</b>						
<b>Chronically Homeless Individuals</b>	2	6	152	Data unavailable	Data unavailable	Data unavailable
<b>Chronically Homeless Families</b>	4	6	32	Data unavailable	Data unavailable	Data unavailable
<b>Veterans</b>	1	2	33	Data unavailable	Data unavailable	Data unavailable
<b>Unaccompanied Youth</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Persons with HIV</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Data Sources:** Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR): Seacoast Projects, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10/1/2013-9/30/2014; Strafford County 2014 Community Assessment, Community Action Partnership of Strafford County.

***If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth).***

The above data is for Strafford County and not the City of Rochester specifically. The three regional homeless shelters provide services to people from multiple municipalities; therefore, it is difficult to obtain information specific to the City of Rochester.

However, according to 2013 data collected by the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness, 122 persons from the City of Rochester were reported as experiencing homelessness in 2013. According to data taken from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County's 2014 *Community Assessment*, during SY 2013 in the Rochester School District there were 99 students living in doubled-up housing, 31 students living in hotels or motels, seven students living in shelters, and one student living unsheltered.

Also, the 2014 *Homelessness in New Hampshire* report from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Bureau of Homeless and Housing Services indicated that about 19% of the overall homeless population for the state is comprised of persons who are chronically homeless. Consultation with a number of homeless shelter and service providers also indicates that many individuals and families who are chronically homeless are disproportionately those with mental illness and/or substance abuse issues. In addition, families and individuals who are chronically homeless experience more difficulties exiting homelessness than those individuals and families who are not chronically homeless.

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

Families in need of housing assistance comprise about 38% of the entire Strafford County region's homeless population. This would be about 46 people in families per year who need housing assistance. The numbers of veterans experiencing homelessness in the Strafford

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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County region is very low, unlike other regions of the country, and it is possible that the City of Rochester currently does not have any veterans experiencing homelessness.

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

According to the 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) for the Seacoast region, the racial and ethnic demographics for persons experiencing homelessness roughly parallel the general racial and ethnic demographics for the region. A significant majority of homelessness is experienced by white residents, who also comprise a significant majority of the general population. There is a slight overrepresentation of racial and minorities, however. For example, the AHAR report for individuals seeking emergency shelter indicates that 399 of the total 465 people (85.8%) seeking shelter were white. According to the 2011-2013 American Community Survey, Strafford County is approximately 92.2% white.

For racial and ethnic minorities, the highest amount of homelessness, in terms of raw numbers, is experienced among multiracial residents followed next by Hispanic residents. This also roughly parallels the representation of both racial/ethnic groups in the overall population.

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

According to the *2014 Strafford County Community Assessment* published by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, at a point-in-time count in January 2013 there were 18 sheltered single adults, 13 unsheltered single adults, and 16 doubled-up single adults. There were 10 sheltered families, 5 unsheltered families, and 12 doubled-up families. Lastly, there were 33 sheltered family members, 21 unsheltered family members, and 34 doubled-up family members. These numbers corroborate consultations with the region's Coordinated Access coordinator and with homeless shelter officials that indicate that many of the region's and the City's homeless population is living doubled-up (with friends, family members, etc.) and not in unsheltered situations.

### ***Discussion***

N/A.

## **NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

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

#### ***Introduction***

Extensive consultations and research have indicated the need for permanent supportive housing and related support services for people with substance abuse and/or mental health-related disabilities, fair housing education and support for people with disabilities, and the development of housing tailored to the needs of elderly persons. Services aimed at those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues are meant to help keep these vulnerable individuals in stable housing as well as to provide appropriate health care resources. Fair housing statistics indicate that the highest numbers of complaints within the City of Rochester are based upon disability. Lastly, demographic trends indicate that the population of the City will increasingly be comprised of elderly persons, and smaller and more handicap-accessible housing units are needed to serve this growing population. In many cases, service needs must address the unique needs of overlapping demographics (such as people who are both elderly and low-income).

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

According to the data compiled in the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 master plan, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, the City of Rochester has one of the highest concentrations of individuals receiving Social Security benefits for disability for the entire Strafford County region. There are about 1,140 residents receiving these benefits (about 4% of the overall population). In addition, according to this same report, New Hampshire Legal Assistance received a total of 20 intakes related to housing discrimination within the City of Rochester between the years 2008 and 2013, and 17 of those intakes were based upon disability.

The *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* also identified the City of Rochester's 75+ population as an "area of concern," which indicates segregation of this population. Other community needs assessments, such as the *2014 Strafford County Community Assessment* published by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and the *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, have indicated that the population of the City of Rochester increasingly will skew older over the next five years and beyond. This is in keeping with overall statewide trends, and the preference for New Hampshire's elderly population to "age in place."

The 2012 needs assessment authored by Frisbie Memorial Hospital, the main health care center in the City of Rochester, reported that drug and alcohol dependence had significantly increased in the prior four years, including the use of heroin and pharmaceutical opiates. Consultations with the City's Police Department and with the neighborhood Ward meetings confirm the rise in such substance abuse. The *2014 Strafford County Community Assessment* identifies mental health issues as one of the top three service gaps in the region. Consultation with Goodwin Community Health, the primary provider of health care to the region's low-income communities, also indicated substance abuse and mental illness (along with obesity and heart disease) as two of its current top priorities.

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



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The housing and supportive service needs described below were determined through consultations with a variety of public service agencies, government officials, and others, as well as careful review of relevant community needs assessments and master plans. In many cases, service needs must address the unique needs of overlapping demographics (such as people who are both elderly and low-income).

Data from New Hampshire Legal Assistance suggest the need for programs targeting the overlap between low-income persons and people with disabilities, such as strengthening public transportation options, as well as for fair housing education. Data from Strafford Regional Planning Commission's *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* identified the City of Rochester's 75+ population as an "area of concern," which indicates segregation of this population. Especially for the 75+ population, increasing age brings increasing disabilities and the need for accessible housing units and transportation options besides private car ownership. Reports also indicate a strong desire among elderly persons to "age in place" and to maintain their present housing situations, which in many cases will require accessible installations and retrofitting. Multiple consultations and reports, with health care providers and other related professionals, have indicated the prevalent co-occurrence of both substance abuse and mental illness. These consultations also suggested the need for supportive programs that assist to keep persons with mental illnesses and/or substance abuse stabilized in safe housing situations and in self-supporting employment/education programs.

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

The City of Rochester falls within the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is spread across the counties of Strafford (Rochester and Dover) and Rockingham (Portsmouth). According to the *New Hampshire STD/HIV Surveillance Program 5 Year Data Summary Report: 2009-2013*, prepared by the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services' Infectious Disease Surveillance Section, three new HIV cases were reported for 2013 within Strafford County. Within Rockingham County, seven new HIV cases were reported for 2013. For the period between 2009 and 2013, a total of 20 new HIV cases were reported for Strafford County and a total of 36 new HIV cases were reported for Rockingham County.

The statistics indicate the majority of these persons living with HIV/AIDS are men, mostly between the ages of 20 and 54. A little over half of the statewide cases of HIV infection were associated with male-to-male sexual contact, 17% were associated with heterosexual sexual contact, and about 6% were associated with intravenous drug use.

**Discussion:**

N/A.

## **NON-HOUSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS**

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

#### ***Describe the jurisdiction's need for public facilities.***

Consultations and research have indicated needs for additional public housing units to meet the demand of ever-growing public housing waiting lists, the creation of in-city homeless shelter facilities for single adult men, and handicap-accessibility improvements to several of the City's public buildings (e.g., public library, schools, City Hall).

#### ***How were these needs determined?***

These needs were determined through consultations with the City of Rochester's Planning Department, the Rochester Housing Authority, the Rochester Public Library, the Rochester School Department, and the neighborhood Ward meetings. Regional community needs assessments and master plans, specifically the Rochester Housing Authority's Five Year Plan and Strafford Regional Planning Commission's *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region*, were also consulted.

#### ***Describe the jurisdiction's need for public improvements.***

Consultations and research have indicated the need for improvements to the City's recreational facilities (such as adding lights to public parks' basketball courts to enhance safety) and the creation and/or repair of many of the City sidewalks, which are subject to significant environmental stresses due to the region's harsh winters.

#### ***How were these needs determined?***

These needs were determined through consultations with the City of Rochester's Planning Department, the City of Rochester's Recreation & Arena Department, the City of Rochester's Department of Public Works, and the neighborhood Ward meetings. Regional community needs assessments and master plans, such as the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region*, were also consulted.

#### ***Describe the jurisdiction's need for public services.***

Consultations and research have indicated the need for homeless shelter services; permanent supportive housing services; increased services for residents who have mental illnesses and/or substance abuse issues, especially addictions to heroin or other opioids; rental assistance for low-income families, especially those at risk of becoming homeless; and food pantry funding.

#### ***How were these needs determined?***

These needs were determined through consultation with multiple public service agencies in the region, including those currently funded and those currently not funded; consultation with the City of Rochester's Welfare office; consultation with the City of Rochester's School Department; and consultation with the general citizenry through the neighborhood Ward meetings. Regional community needs assessments, such as those published by the two local hospital facilities serving the City and the *2014 Strafford County Community Assessment* published by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, were also consulted.

## **HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS MA-05 Overview**

### ***Housing Market Analysis Overview***

The City of Rochester has a large number of single-family detached homes as well as a large number of manufactured homes, especially as compared to neighboring municipalities. The City of Rochester has eight manufactured home parks, by far the largest number in the Strafford County region. Identified demographic trends indicate that the City's population will be increasingly older, by proportion, and will desire smaller units of housing. In addition, a fair percentage of current housing is forty years or older, and much of this aging housing stock requires updates in heating and cooling systems as well as lead-based paint abatement.

There is a substantial quantity of subsidized housing in the City of Rochester, but the demand for affordable housing still outmatches the supply. This is true for both renters and home owners, although owning an affordable home is especially a problem for extremely low income residents. Consultations with City personnel and regional public service agencies indicate that home values and rents are expected to increase during the next five years. In addition, the disproportionately high rental costs for four-bedroom units indicate a need for more affordable family housing.

Extensive consultations and research indicate a continuing need for services and shelter serving the City of Rochester's homeless population. In particular, services aimed at those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues are needed to effectively and permanently home the segment of the population which is chronically homeless and consumes a disproportionately large portion of services such as bed nights and emergency room visits.

Regarding economic development, the City of Rochester has seen an increase in high-tech industrial businesses, such as Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites, in recent years. The City anticipates that this increase will continue, as the region attempts to position itself as a specialist in aerospace composite manufacturing. This development demands a workforce with post-secondary education and technical skills.

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## NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS

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

#### *Introduction*

The City of Rochester has a large number of single-family detached homes as well as a large number of manufactured homes, especially as compared to neighboring municipalities. The City of Rochester has eight manufactured home parks, by far the largest number in the Strafford County region. Identified demographic trends indicate that the City's population will be increasingly older, by proportion, and will desire smaller units of housing. In addition, a fair percentage of current housing is forty years or older, and this housing will require rehabilitation or replacement over the next five years.

The City of Rochester commits to continuing its partnerships with the Rochester Housing Authority and regional non-profits (such as the SHARE Fund and the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County) to address barriers to affordable housing. This will be accomplished through a variety of approaches, including low-income housing tax credit projects, weatherization, and rental assistance. Low-income housing tax credits will help to incentivize housing developers to take on housing projects that might otherwise prove economically disadvantageous. Weatherization of low-income homes, accomplished through the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, will reduce energy expenses and thereby will lower overall home ownership and maintenance expenses for low-income householders. Rental assistance will help low-income residents obtain and maintain safe and adequate housing.

#### *All residential properties by number of units*

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	7,067	51%
1-unit, attached structure	495	4%
2-4 units	2,052	15%
5-19 units	1,165	8%
20 or more units	740	5%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	2,339	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,858</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 26 – Residential Properties by Unit Number**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

#### *Unit Size by Tenure*

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	22	0%	140	4%
1 bedroom	165	2%	845	23%
2 bedrooms	2,686	31%	1,933	53%
3 or more bedrooms	5,827	67%	739	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,700</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,657</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 27 – Unit Size by Tenure**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

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

The Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) is funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and provides public housing to the residents of the City of Rochester. According to data from RHA's most recent Five Year Plan, RHA provides housing to a total of 227 families, 164 of which (72%) qualify as extremely low income. The average annual income is \$13,746. There are a total of 345 individuals housed, with about a third in the 62+ age range. The vast majority of households (86%) are comprised of only one to two persons. The Rochester Housing Authority targets low-income and elderly residents of the City of Rochester.

According to data from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, there are seven other properties (besides those managed by the Rochester Housing Authority) that provide government-assisted housing. Brookside Place provides 90 assisted units of family housing, with 30 of those units accessible to residents with disabilities. Chaplin Adrien Chase Village provides 42 units of elderly housing, with three of those units accessible to residents with disabilities. Laurel Terrance provides 55 units of elderly housing, with three of those units accessible to residents with disabilities. Rochester East provides 48 units of elderly housing, with five of those units accessible to residents with disabilities. Rochester Transitional Housing provides 12 units of family housing, with none of those units accessible to residents with disabilities. Salmon Falls Estates provides 32 units of family housing (30 units of assisted family housing), with two of those units accessible to residents with disabilities. All of these units are targeted toward low-income residents in addition to the other noted demographics.

In addition, the Community Action Partnership for Strafford County (Strafford CAP) receives CDBG funding for its Weatherization Program work. This includes improving insulation, installing new heating systems, and lead-based paint abatement work. During FY 2013-2014, the Weatherization Program performed improvements to 40 homes in the City of Rochester. All 40 homes are owned by residents who are classified as extremely low income. Strafford CAP also reports that many of these homes are manufactured homes, as manufactured homes are disproportionately owned by low-income residents and can be weatherized in a very cost-efficient way.

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

The Rochester Housing Authority reports that it does not anticipate the loss of affording housing over the next five years and expects its current housing stock to remain stable. Data obtained from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority reports that three Section 8 contracts are due to expire in 2015. Two of these contracts are for Rochester Housing Authority buildings, and the Rochester Housing Authority has taken steps to compensate for the loss of these contracts and to maintain its current housing stock. The last expiring Section 8 contract, Laurel Terrance on McKinley Street, provides 55 units of elderly housing.

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

The availability of housing units overall meets the needs of the City of Rochester's residents, but there is an identified need for an increase in affordable housing. Consultations and research also indicate that the City of Rochester's current housing stock currently is mismatched somewhat with the identified demographic trends toward an increasingly elderly population, with

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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attendant accessibility needs, and toward smaller households. The Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 master plan, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region*, provides analysis of in-progress shifts in housing preferences, including the decline of home ownership and increase in renting, the trend toward downsizing, concerns regarding elderly housing, and rise in demand for assisted living. Consultation with the Rochester Housing Authority indicates the need for additional housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.

In addition, several consultations with affordable housing and government-assisted housing providers have indicated the need for more affordable housing and more workforce housing in the City of Rochester. Data compiled by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority also indicates that much of the City of Rochester's current housing stock is forty years or older, and these housing units will need to be rehabilitated or replaced in coming years.

### ***Describe the need for specific types of housing.***

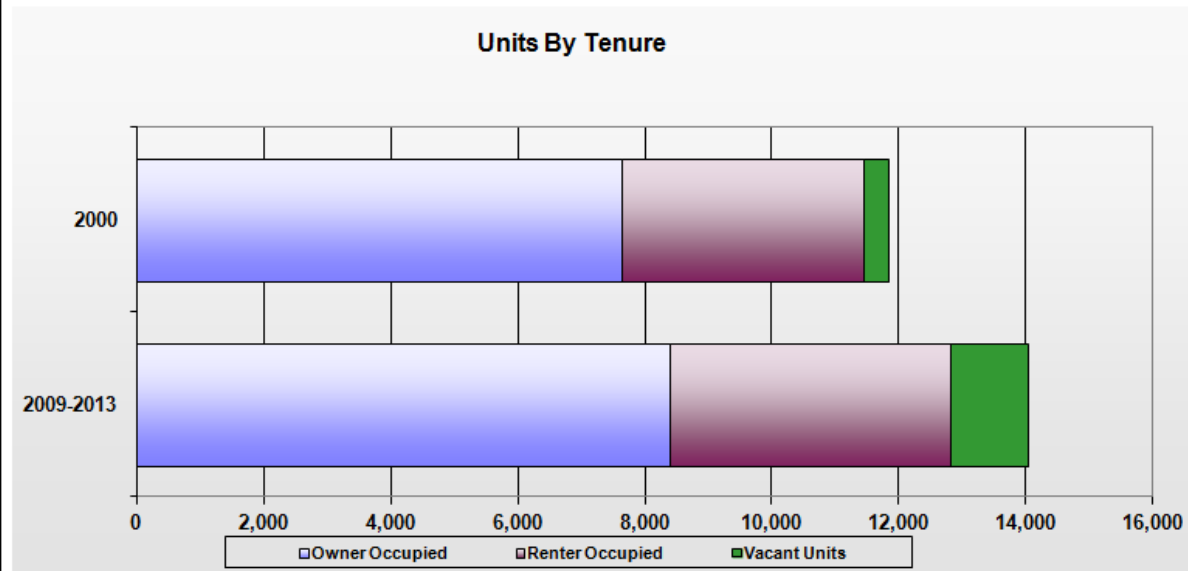
Housing is needed that will provide affordable and accessible housing for the City of Rochester's increasingly elderly population as well as smaller households. There is significant housing stock for elderly residents at present, but very little of this stock is accessible to residents with disabilities. Also, the current housing stock is comprised largely of single-family detached houses. Additional multi-unit housing that is affordable and accessible to residents with disabilities would meet the needs of the increasingly elderly population, the needs of residents seeking to downsize, and the needs of residents with smaller households.

### ***Discussion***

Below are tables depicting the City of Rochester's housing stock classified by units of tenure, units of type, units by number of bedrooms, and units by year built. These tables were created by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority using U.S. Census and 2009-2013 American Community Survey data.

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

## HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS



### Units by Tenure & Vacancy

	2000	%	2009-2013	%	Margin of Error 2009-2013	% Change
Total Units	11,836		14,040		+/-378	19%
Occupied Units	11,434	97% of Total	12,808	91% of Total	+/-345	12%
Owner Occupied	7,643	67% of Occ.	8,380	65% of Occ.	+/-402	10%
Renter Occupied	3,791	33% of Occ.	4,428	35% of Occ.	+/-402	17%
Vacant Units	402	3% of Total	1,232	9% of Total	+/-286	206%
Vacant For Sale	68	0.9% Vac.	69	0.8% Vac.	+/-53	1%
Vacant For Rent	110	2.8% Vac.	334	7% Vac.	+/-175	204%
Vacant Seasonal	77	1% of Total	201	1% of Total	+/-148	161%

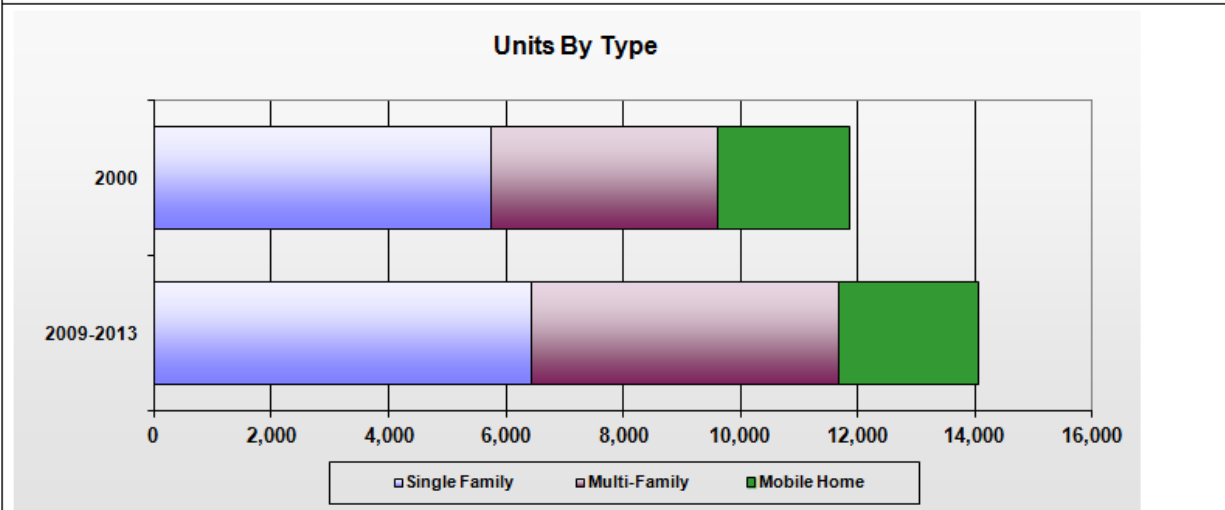
Data from the American Community Survey are estimates

**Table 3 – Units by Tenure**

**Data** New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority  
**Source:**

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

## HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS



Source: US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey Tables B25024; B25032

Units by Type	2000	% of Total	2009-2013	% of Total	% Change	Margin of Error 2009-2013
Total Units	11,836		14,040		18.6%	+/-378
Single Family Units	5,727	48.4%	6,421	46%	12.1%	+/-436
SF Owner Occ.	5,154		5,408		4.9%	+/-384
SF Renter Occ.	467		539		15.4%	+/-144
Multi-family Units	3,864	32.6%	5,242	37%	35.7%	+/-508
MF Owner Occ.	606		939		55.0%	+/-196
MF Renter Occ.	3,072		3,662		19.2%	+/-452
Mobile Home & Other	2,245	19.0%	2,377	16.9%	5.9%	+/-303

Data from the American Community Survey are estimates

**Table 4 – Units by Type**

**Data** New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority  
**Source:**



# The City of Rochester, N.H.

<b>Units by Number of Bedrooms</b>						
Source: US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey Table B25041						
Bedrooms	2000	% of Total	2009-2013	% of Total	% Change	Margin of Error 2009-2013
No Bedrooms	103	1%	507	4%	392%	+/-225
1 Bedroom	1,671	14%	1,309	9%	-22%	+/-255
2 Bedrooms	4,384	37%	5,724	41%	31%	+/-473
3 Bedrooms	4,227	36%	5,057	36%	20%	+/-410
4+ Bedrooms	1,451	12%	1,443	10%	-1%	+/-228

Data from the American Community Survey are estimates

<b>Units by Year Built</b>					
Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey Table B25034					
Year Built	Units	% of Total	Margin of Error 2009-2013		
2010 or later	31	0.2%	+/-37		
2000 to 2009	2,145	15.3%	+/-242		
1990 through 1999	1,348	9.6%	+/-249		
1980 through 1989	2,870	20.5%	+/-365		
1970 through 1979	1,816	13.0%	+/-296		
1960 through 1969	1,044	7.5%	+/-200		
1950 through 1959	1,236	8.8%	+/-245		
1940 through 1949	569	4.1%	+/-147		
1939 and earlier	2,981	21.3%	+/-354		

Data from the American Community Survey are estimates

**Table 5 – Units by Number of Bedrooms**  
**Table 6 – Units by Year Built**

**Data** New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority  
**Source:**

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

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## HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS: COST OF HOUSING

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

#### *Introduction*

There is a substantial quantity of subsidized housing in the City of Rochester, but the demand for affordable housing still outmatches the supply. This is true for both renters and home owners, although owning an affordable home is especially a problem for extremely low income residents. Consultations with City personnel and regional public service agencies indicate that home values and rents are expected to increase during the next five years. In addition, the disproportionately high rental costs for four-bedroom units indicate a need for more affordable family housing.

#### *Cost of Housing*

	<b>Base Year: 2000</b>	<b>Most Recent Year: 2011</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Median Home Value	89,300	189,700	112%
Median Contract Rent	510	823	61%

**Table 6 - Cost of Housing**

**Data** 2000 Census (Base Year), 2007-2011 ACS (Most Recent Year)

**Source:**

<b>Rent Paid</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Less than \$500	727	19.9%
\$500-999	2,191	59.9%
\$1,000-1,499	704	19.3%
\$1,500-1,999	35	1.0%
\$2,000 or more	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,657</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table 7 - Rent Paid**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

#### *Housing Affordability*

<b>% Units affordable to Households earning</b>	<b>Renter</b>	<b>Owner</b>
30% HAMFI	370	No Data
50% HAMFI	1,355	720
80% HAMFI	2,900	2,275
100% HAMFI	No Data	3,940
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,625</b>	<b>6,935</b>

**Table 8 - Housing Affordability**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

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## **Monthly Rent**

<b>Monthly Rent (\$)</b>	<b>Efficiency (no bedroom)</b>	<b>1 Bedroom</b>	<b>2 Bedroom</b>	<b>3 Bedroom</b>	<b>4 Bedroom</b>
Fair Market Rent	718	838	1,065	1,459	1,523
High HOME Rent	718	838	1,065	1,459	1,523
Low HOME Rent	718	838	1,007	1,163	1,298

**Table 9 – Monthly Rent**

**Data** HUD 2014 Fair Market Rent Data for Portsmouth-Rochester, NH Metro Area and  
**Source:** HUD 2014 HOME Program Rents Data for Portsmouth-Rochester, NH Metro Area

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

There is a substantial quantity of subsidized housing in the City of Rochester, but the demand for affordable housing still outmatches the supply. This is true for both renters and home owners, although owning an affordable home is especially a problem at those at 30% HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI). The above tables, as well as data reported in the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 master plan and regional community needs assessments, indicate that the City's lower-income population disproportionately rents rather than owns.

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

Consultations with the City of Rochester's Office of Economic Development, the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, AIDS Response Seacoast, and others indicate that home values and rents are expected to increase during the next five years. There is a region-wide trend of rising costs of living beginning in the south and moving north, which have already impacted the neighboring cities of Portsmouth and Dover. Over the last few years, the City of Rochester has seen immigration from these two neighboring cities as those residents became unable to afford Dover and Portsmouth housing costs. The City of Rochester is poised to experience similar difficulties due to rising housing costs.

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

According to data from New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority's 2014 "Residential Rental Cost Survey," the gross median monthly rent for the Portsmouth-Rochester Metro Area for a two-bedroom apartment is \$1,162. The median rent for a three-bedroom unit is \$1,443, and a four-bedroom unit's median rent is \$1,883. As can be seen in the tables above, these numbers are mostly higher than the Fair Market Rent and HOME Rent rates for the Portsmouth-Rochester Metro Area.

There is an especially large difference in rent numbers for a four-bedroom unit. While consultations and research have indicated needs for affordable housing for elderly residents and for smaller units of housing, this median rent discrepancy indicates the need to simultaneously ensure adequate supply of affordable family housing. A multi-pronged strategy of funding rent subsidies, offering tax incentives for the development of affordable housing, and the development of additional workforce housing (as the City's workforce is more likely to have larger families than elderly residents, who are more likely to be retired and no longer have children living at home) will help ensure affordable multi-bedroom housing is available to the

City's residents.

***Discussion***

N/A.

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

## HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS: CONDITION OF HOUSING MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

### *Introduction*

A significant portion of the City of Rochester’s housing stock originates from 1980 or earlier. This aging housing stock presents a number of challenges for providing safe and affordable housing for the City’s residents. Much of this aging housing stock requires updates in heating and cooling systems as well as lead-based paint abatement.

### ***Describe the jurisdiction’s definition for "substandard condition" and "substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation."***

The City of Rochester applies the International Property Maintenance Code when determining whether a property is in “substandard condition” or “substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation.” The City is in the process of formalizing its definitions for such conditions in an amendment to its zoning ordinance. The minimum standards, as established by the amendment would include:

dangerous defects; lack of adequate ventilation, light, or sanitary facilities, uncleanliness, overcrowding or lack of ingress or egress; inadequate drainage; violations of health, fire, or safety regulations; insect or rodent infestation; falling plaster from walls or ceilings; dangerous holes in walls, floors, or ceilings; structurally unsound porches, stairs, or railings; excessive accumulation of garbage or rubbish; inadequate water supply or malfunctioning water heaters; gas leaks or defective pilot light ventilation; lack of proper heating or malfunctioning heating systems.<sup>2</sup>

### ***Condition of Units***

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	2,683	31%	1,851	51%
With two selected Conditions	43	0%	188	5%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	5,974	69%	1,618	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,700</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,657</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 10 - Condition of Units**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

### ***Year Unit Built***

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	1,372	16%	596	16%
1980-1999	2,910	33%	863	24%
1950-1979	2,809	32%	792	22%
Before 1950	1,609	18%	1,406	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,700</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>3,657</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>2</sup> Rochester, New Hampshire, Municipal Code §44.3. (Proposed)

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**Table 11 – Year Unit Built**

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS  
**Source:**

***Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard***

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	4,418	51%	2,198	60%
Housing Units Built Before 1980 with Children Present	455	5%	310	8%

**Table 12 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS (Total Units) 2007-2011 CHAS (Units with Children present)  
**Source:**

***Vacant Units***

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	1,234	0	1,234
Abandoned Vacant Units	58	0	58
REO Properties	130	0	130
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

**Table 13 - Vacant Units**

**Data** 2011-2013 American Community Survey; New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority; City of Rochester’s Office of Assessing; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2010 Neighborhood Stabilization Program Data Sets  
**Source:**

***Describe the need for owner and rental rehabilitation based on the condition of the jurisdiction's housing.***

As shown in the “Year Unit Built” table above, half of the City of Rochester’s owner-occupied housing stock was built prior to 1980 and 60% of the City’s renter-occupied housing stock was built prior to 1980. Also, the weatherization program run by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, which provides weatherization upgrades to low-income residents’ homes to improve cost-effectiveness and/or health and safety, indicates that the City’s aging housing stock requires rehabilitation. In addition, community needs assessments and consultations have indicated that much of this older housing stock is not accessible to residents with disabilities, and accessibility upgrades are needed.

***Estimate the number of housing units within the jurisdiction that are occupied by low or moderate income families that contain lead-based paint hazards.***

The City of Rochester is classified by the State of New Hampshire as one of eight “high risk” communities for lead-based paint hazards. This assessment is based primarily on the age of the City’s housing stock and the percentage of low to moderate income families living in the City. The 2014 HUD income limits state that \$63,900 for a family of four persons is 80% of the area median income. Data taken from the 2011-2013 American Community Survey indicates that there are 4,272 City residents who live in family households that earn \$59,999 or less per year. Assuming most of these residents live in housing that predates 1980, that equals about 1,068

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housing units that are occupied by low to moderate income families that contain lead-based paint hazards.

***Discussion***

N/A.

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### PUBLIC AND ASSISTED HOUSING

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

##### *Introduction*

The City of Rochester’s Community Development Coordinator works with the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) to identify and address public housing needs, such as the need for more housing for elderly persons and people with disabilities and the need for more smaller units of housing. The City of Rochester also plans to explore opportunities to partner with private-sector developers to develop smaller-scale housing units, given the low-resident households that tend to comprise the residency of RHA’s public housing units.

##### *Totals Number of Units*

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	0	225	173	20	153	0	0	0
# of accessible units	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition</b>									

**Table 14 – Total Number of Units by Program Type**

**Data** PIC (PIH Information Center); New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority

**Source:**

##### *Describe the supply of public housing developments.*

The Rochester Housing Authority has 232 public housing units available. At present, the waiting list for those seeking public housing within the City of Rochester is between two to five years in length. The Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) reports receiving between 20 to 25 applications for housing per week. In addition, RHA reports a need for more housing suited for elderly persons and people with disabilities.



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***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.***

The Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) has 232 units of public housing. The Cold Spring Manor is comprised of 60 units of family housing, the Wellsweep Acres building is comprised of 78 units of housing for elderly persons and people with disabilities, the Wyandotte Falls building is comprised of 72 units of housing for elderly persons and people with disabilities, the Felker Street building is comprised of 12 units of housing for elderly persons and people with disabilities, and the Magic Avenue building is comprised of 12 units of housing for elderly persons and people with disabilities. According to data included in RHA's most recent Five Year Plan, the public housing units are currently in generally good repair. Concerns regarding the physical condition of the building include water in lower parts of some building; security issues related to tree overgrowth; the desire for more security cameras at the Wyandotte Falls building; replacement of pipes, boilers, and roofs at several building; and replacement of stair treads at the Cold Spring Manor building. In addition, consultation with RHA indicate that RHA is seeking to rehabilitate its Roberge Center building, which is currently unoccupied, and return it to use.

**Public Housing Condition**

<b>Public Housing Development</b>	<b>Average Inspection Score</b>
Rochester Housing Authority	82

**Table 15 - Public Housing Condition**

**Data** Rochester Housing Authority

**Source:**

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

According to data included in RHA's most recent Five Year Plan, the public housing units are currently in generally good repair. Concerns regarding the physical condition of the building include water in lower parts of some building; security issues related to tree overgrowth; the desire for more security cameras at the Wyandotte Falls building; replacement of pipes, boilers, and roofs at several building; and replacement of stair treads at the Cold Spring Manor building. In addition, consultation with RHA indicate that RHA is seeking to rehabilitate its Roberge Center building, which is currently unoccupied, and return it to use.

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

The RHA utilizes federal funds under the capital fund program to make large capital improvements to its various building locations. RHA partners with a number of agencies, including the City's Community Development Division and mental health-focused public service agency Community Partners, to explore new initiatives and to improve the quality of life for RHA residents.

***Discussion***

N/A.

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## HOMELESS FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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

#### *Introduction*

Extensive consultations and research indicate a continuing need for services and shelter serving the City of Rochester’s homeless population. The City of Rochester plans to fund a wide range of public service agencies that provide services such as housing, homelessness prevention, and mental health assistance. This includes direct funding to the region’s three homeless shelters, rental assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and supportive services such as mental health support. In particular, services aimed at those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues are meant to effectively and permanently home the segment of the population which is chronically homeless and consumes a disproportionately large portion of services such as bed nights and emergency room visits.

#### *Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households*

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	81	5	21	6	0
Households with Only Adults	78	26	11	23	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 16 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households**

**Data:** Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR): Seacoast Projects, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10/1/2013-9/30/2014; 2013 Data on Homelessness, Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness (Numbers are for Strafford County)

***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.***

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The Homeless Center for Strafford County, which provides seasonal shelter, and Cross Roads House, which provides year-round shelter, both offer a range of supportive services in addition to shelter for homeless persons. The Homeless Center for Strafford County offers basic financial skills counseling and employment services such as interview preparation. Cross Roads House offers tutoring and GED preparation assistance, referrals to mental health counseling and/or substance abuse treatment, job search and vocational training, life skills training, and access to primary medical and dental care.

In addition, Community Partners provides a range of behavioral health services to low-income and homeless people in the City of Rochester. This includes rental assistance to homeless individuals and families with mental illness or a developmental disability to aid these persons in obtaining and maintaining permanent housing.

***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 Homeless Center for Strafford County is a seasonal shelter that offers both emergency and transitional shelter for families and single women. It has 26 individual beds and space to serve five families. In addition to shelter, the Homeless Center for Strafford County offers basic financial skills counseling and employment services such as interview preparation. The Homeless Center for Strafford County is located in the City of Rochester but provides services to residents from the entire county.

Cross Roads House is a year-round shelter that offers emergency shelter for men, women, and child. It has 89 individual beds and 35 family beds. In addition to shelter, Cross Roads House offers tutoring and GED preparation assistance, referrals to mental health counseling and/or substance abuse treatment, job search and vocational training, life skills training, and access to primary medical and dental care. Cross Roads House is located in the City of Portsmouth but provides services to residents from the City of Rochester among others.

My Friend's Place is a year-round shelter that provides emergency and transitional shelter for individuals and families. It has 24 individual beds and space to serve four families, including four transitional housing units. In addition to shelter, My Friend's Place operates an emergency food and shelter program. My Friend's Place is located in the City of Dover but provides services to residents from the City of Rochester among others.

The Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and Community Partners co-operate a permanent supportive housing facility. This facility is located in the City of Rochester.

In addition to these homeless shelters, there are a number of public service agencies that provide assistance such as food pantries, employment and job search counseling, rental and homeless prevention assistance, and health care services. These services and shelter are coordinated through the Seacoast region's Coordinated Access system, which is housed under the Community Action Partnership for Strafford County. The regional Coordinated Access coordinator has indicated a need for more permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities, including veterans experiencing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and more services for homeless single men. Consultation with the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End

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Homelessness has indicated the need for expanded rapid rehousing, targeted prevention, and more supportive housing for those persons who are chronically homeless.

It should be noted, as well, that in the “Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households” table, the lack of numbers under the categories of Chronically Homeless Households, Veterans, and Unaccompanied Minors does not mean that the region’s shelters are not serving these populations. The current services available in the region do not specifically target these populations, but all three shelters provide services to those who are chronically homeless and/or who are veterans.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

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

#### ***Introduction***

The residents of the City of Rochester have a range of supportive special needs facilities and services available, specifically within the City, within the county, and within the greater Seacoast region. This includes case management and transitional and emergency housing facilities for people with mental illnesses, people living with HIV/AIDS, people with substance abuse addictions, people with developmental disabilities, and people with physical disabilities. The City of Rochester has funded many of these programs through CDBG and plans to continue funding such programs and facilities throughout FY 2015-2020.

***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.***

The regional Coordinated Access coordinator has indicated a need for more permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities, including veterans experiencing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. In addition, those persons with mental illnesses and/or substance abuse issues were identified as especially in need of supportive housing, as their particular situations and needs make obtaining and maintaining housing especially difficult. Consultation with the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness has indicated the need for more supportive housing for those persons who are chronically homeless.

These needs call for a combination of approaches. Behavioral health services and substance abuse treatment services are required to supplement the current provision of shelter and rental assistance. In addition, outreach and relationship development with the City's landlords can help foster more understanding and willingness to work with residents who are mentally ill and/or suffering from addiction. For those persons with physical disabilities, improvements in accessibility (both for general housing and for shelter facilities) are required.

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

Community Partners offers permanent supportive housing to those with mental illnesses as well as rental assistance to those with developmental disabilities. Other behavioral health services, such as case management, are provided by the Seacoast Mental Health Center and Tri-City Co-Op. (Tri-City Co-Op was CDBG funded in FY 204-2015, and Community Partners has received CDBG funding in prior fiscal years.) Services for those with substance abuse issues are provided by Southeastern New Hampshire Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services. Such services include both short-term and transitional living residential programs, drug court services, outpatient programs, and aftercare groups.

Physical health services are provided by a number of different organizations. The Homemakers and Cornerstone VNA provide home-care services for elderly persons, people with physical disabilities, and people with ongoing health concerns. Such services include home nurse visits, behavioral health services, social worker case management, and hospice care. AIDS Response Seacoast provides a wide range of supportive services to those living with HIV/AIDS, including health care referrals, utility costs assistance, emergency financial assistance, transportation for medical appointments, mental health counseling, a good pantry, and support groups. (Both the

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Homemakers and Cornerstone VNA have received general City funding, mostly recently in FY 2014-2015. AIDS Response Seacoast has received CDBG funding in prior fiscal years.)

***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.***

The City of Rochester will support rental assistance to those who are at risk of becoming homeless, including rental assistance and supportive services such as non-medical mental health support. In addition to these basic needs services, Rochester will also fund programs and activities aimed at assisting low-income individuals and families over a longer term through educational, employment, and health investments. These programs and activities include Project Pride's out-of-school youth program serving economically disadvantaged youth who wish to become economically self-sufficient, Tri-City Co-Op's provision of services to those struggling with mental health issues, and the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project's education and outreach to landlords and tenants about fair housing issues and tenants' rights.

***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.***

The City of Rochester will support rental assistance to those who are at risk of becoming homeless and supportive services such as non-medical mental health support. In addition to these basic needs services, Rochester will also fund programs and activities aimed at assisting low-income individuals and families over a longer term through educational, employment, and health investments. These programs and activities include Project Pride's out-of-school youth program serving economically disadvantaged youth who wish to become economically self-sufficient, Tri-City Co-Op's provision of services to those struggling with mental health issues, and the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project's education and outreach to landlords and tenants about fair housing issues and tenants' rights.

## **BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

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

#### ***Describe any negative effects of public policies on affordable housing and residential investment.***

Many barriers to affordable housing for the City of Rochester's residents have been eliminated. Low-income housing tax credits help to incentivize housing developers to take on housing projects that might otherwise prove economically disadvantageous. Further, the Community Development Coordinator has consulted with the City of Rochester's Planning Department during the process of researching and preparing the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan. During this consultation, the Community Development Coordinator specifically raised concerns regarding the potential negative effects of public policies and zoning ordinances on the development and availability of affordable housing. Analysis of the City of Rochester's current zoning ordinances has not indicated negative effects on affordable housing and residential investment; however, discussion with building developers at a Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast training event have indicated concerns with the impact of antiquated municipal zoning ordinances on the development of new housing.

The Community Development Coordinator also consulted with the City of Rochester's Office of Economic Development. This consultation indicated that the City's current fire safety codes have impacted the development of multi-family housing units. Such multi-family units are required to have sprinkler systems, as opposed to fire alarms, and building developers and property owners often find this cost-prohibitive. Given that this impacts multi-family housing but not single-family housing, these fire safety codes disproportionately impact the City of Rochester's affordable housing.

The Community Development Coordinator will continue to consult with the Planning Department, the Office of Economic Development, and other relevant government officials and boards to monitor and evaluate the overall effects of policies and ordinances on the affordable housing supply. This includes working to explore ways that the City of Rochester can affirmatively further fair housing and proactively encourage fuller implementation of New Hampshire's Workforce Housing Law.



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## NON-HOUSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSETS MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

### *Introduction*

The City of Rochester has seen an increase in high-tech industrial businesses, such as Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites, in recent years. The City anticipates that this increase will continue, as the region attempts to position itself as a specialist in aerospace composite manufacturing. This development demands a workforce with post-secondary education and technical skills. Currently, the City of Rochester has a lower percentage of residents with college degrees than several neighboring municipalities. This mismatch is being addressed through several approaches, including the building and expansion of Great Bay Community College's Advanced Technology & Academic Center within the City of Rochester. The City of Rochester also faces the challenge of an aging infrastructure, which impacts and limits business growth and expansion.

### *Economic Development Market Analysis*

#### *Business Activity*

<b>Business by Sector</b>	<b>Number of Workers</b>	<b>Number of Jobs</b>	<b>Share of Workers %</b>	<b>Share of Jobs %</b>	<b>Jobs less workers %</b>
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	49	14	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,161	1,019	11	10	-1
Construction	440	358	4	4	-1
Education and Health Care Services	1,943	1,895	18	19	1
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	795	517	7	5	-2
Information	302	142	3	1	-1
Manufacturing	1,717	1,371	16	13	-2
Other Services	417	410	4	4	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	740	459	7	4	-2
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	1,987	2,882	18	28	10
Transportation and Warehousing	238	126	2	1	-1
Wholesale Trade	459	218	4	2	-2
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,248</b>	<b>9,411</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>

**Table 17 - Business Activity**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS (Workers), 2011 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)  
**Source:**

#### *Labor Force*

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	16,696
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	15,760

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Unemployment Rate	5.61
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	19.99
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	3.93

**Table 18 - Labor Force**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	2,778
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	755
Service	1,657
Sales and office	4,602
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,165
Production, transportation and material moving	975

**Table 19 - Occupations by Sector**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

### *Travel Time*

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	9,480	63%
30-59 Minutes	4,370	29%
60 or More Minutes	1,097	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,947</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 20 - Travel Time**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

### *Education*

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	817	61	524
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	4,290	301	1,316
Some college or Associate's degree	4,594	195	920
Bachelor's degree or higher	2,978	88	259

**Table 21 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

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## **Educational Attainment by Age**

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	34	95	35	296	500
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	333	127	332	517	506
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,349	1,052	1,559	3,314	2,020
Some college, no degree	753	623	1,032	2,133	743
Associate's degree	97	295	636	1,017	123
Bachelor's degree	158	482	657	1,211	409
Graduate or professional degree	34	259	246	476	149

**Table 22 - Educational Attainment by Age**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

## **Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	24,933
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	29,935
Some college or Associate's degree	36,850
Bachelor's degree	49,176
Graduate or professional degree	57,115

**Table 23 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

**Data** 2007-2011 ACS

**Source:**

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

Major employment sectors include Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations; Education and Health Care Services; Manufacturing; and Retail Trade. The Rochester Opera House is a regional cultural attraction, and the City of Rochester also offers a number of restaurants in its downtown district and several hotels, inns, and motels. Frisbie Memorial Hospital is located within the City of Rochester and is a major provider of medical services to the region. Within the last few years, Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites, Inc. built locations within the City of Rochester. This has added about 400 jobs to the region, and it reflects a growing specialization in aerospace composite manufacturing for the City of Rochester. There are many national retailers in the City of Rochester, as well, including Wal-Mart, Lowe's, Kmart, JCPenney, PetSmart, Hannaford, and others. Lilac Mall, a regional shopping destination, is also located with the City of Rochester.

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

The increase in high-tech industrial businesses, such as Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites, demands a workforce with post-secondary education and technical skills. Currently, the City of Rochester has a lower percentage of residents with college degrees than several neighboring municipalities. This mismatch is being addressed through several

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approaches, including the building and expansion of Great Bay Community College's Advanced Technology & Academic Center within the City of Rochester.

One of the primary needs of the business community in the City is the need for repairs and replacements of old infrastructure. In many cases, especially in the downtown district property owners have found that older buildings are too expensive to rehabilitate. Downtown businesses have also reported the need for traffic calming activities. Granite State Business Park has been unable to expand due to lack of sufficient water services. Retail development along the City's Route 11 corridor has added needed water and septic access, and this was enabled by the creation of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district. Similar access is needed along the Route 125 corridor, as well.

***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.***

Great Bay Community College has expanded its Rochester campus and may expand in the future. This expansion is related to Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites building locations in the City of Rochester. Safran Aerospace Composites plans to expand over the next five years, as well, adding another 400 to 500 employees by 2020. In addition to affecting Great Bay Community College, this expansion will also impact the housing development sector, as the City of Rochester will require additional housing for these added workers. Some new market-rate housing developments are currently being planned.

In addition, business developments along the Route 11 corridor will add 320,000 square feet of retail space, including restaurants, clothing retailers, banks, and other businesses. As Route 11 is a major thoroughfare for tourists traveling to the Lakes Region of the state in the summer months, the Route 11 developments are anticipated to have a significant economic impact for the entire City.

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

The increase in high-tech industrial businesses, such as Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites, demands a workforce with post-secondary education and technical skills. Currently, the City of Rochester has a lower percentage of residents with college degrees than several neighboring municipalities. This mismatch is being addressed through several approaches, including the building and expansion of Great Bay Community College's Advanced Technology & Academic Center within the City of Rochester.

***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.***

As mentioned above, Great Bay Community College has a Rochester campus that houses the Advanced Technology & Academic Center. The Advanced Technology & Academic Center has a close working relationship with regional employers Safran Aerospace Composites and Albany International to provide graduated students who have the skills and training needed for high-tech industrial work.

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Great Bay Community College also runs a WorkReadyNH program that is housed in the City of Rochester's Community Center. This work-readiness program provides a 60-hour interactive classroom that allows students and job seekers to develop "soft skills" as well as math and reading training services. The WorkReadyNH program partners with N.H. Department of Health and Human Services' employment counselors, who are co-located in the Community Center building.

In addition, there are programs and services aimed specifically at youth within the City of Rochester. Spaulding High School hosts the Richard W. Creteau Regional Technology Center. The Technology Center offers 14 career and technical education programs, including automotive technology, computer technology, architecture and engineering, and health sciences. Project Pride provides educational opportunities and occupational training to low-income and otherwise disadvantaged youth. Offered occupational training programs include advanced manufacturing training, early childhood education certification, and licensed nurse assistant certification.

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

The City of Rochester participates in a City-wide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The City also participates in a county-wide CEDS for Strafford County.

***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.***

The City of Rochester CEDS has a number of immediate future goals, including improving water and sewer infrastructure, downtown neighborhood improvements, the repositioning of underperforming properties, and the expansion of existing training programs and educational opportunities. All of these initiatives overlap with economic development needs identified within this Consolidated Plan. In particular the improvement of downtown neighborhoods and the expansion of educational opportunities will impact low to moderate income residents of the City, and these initiatives will be coordinated with this Consolidated Plan.

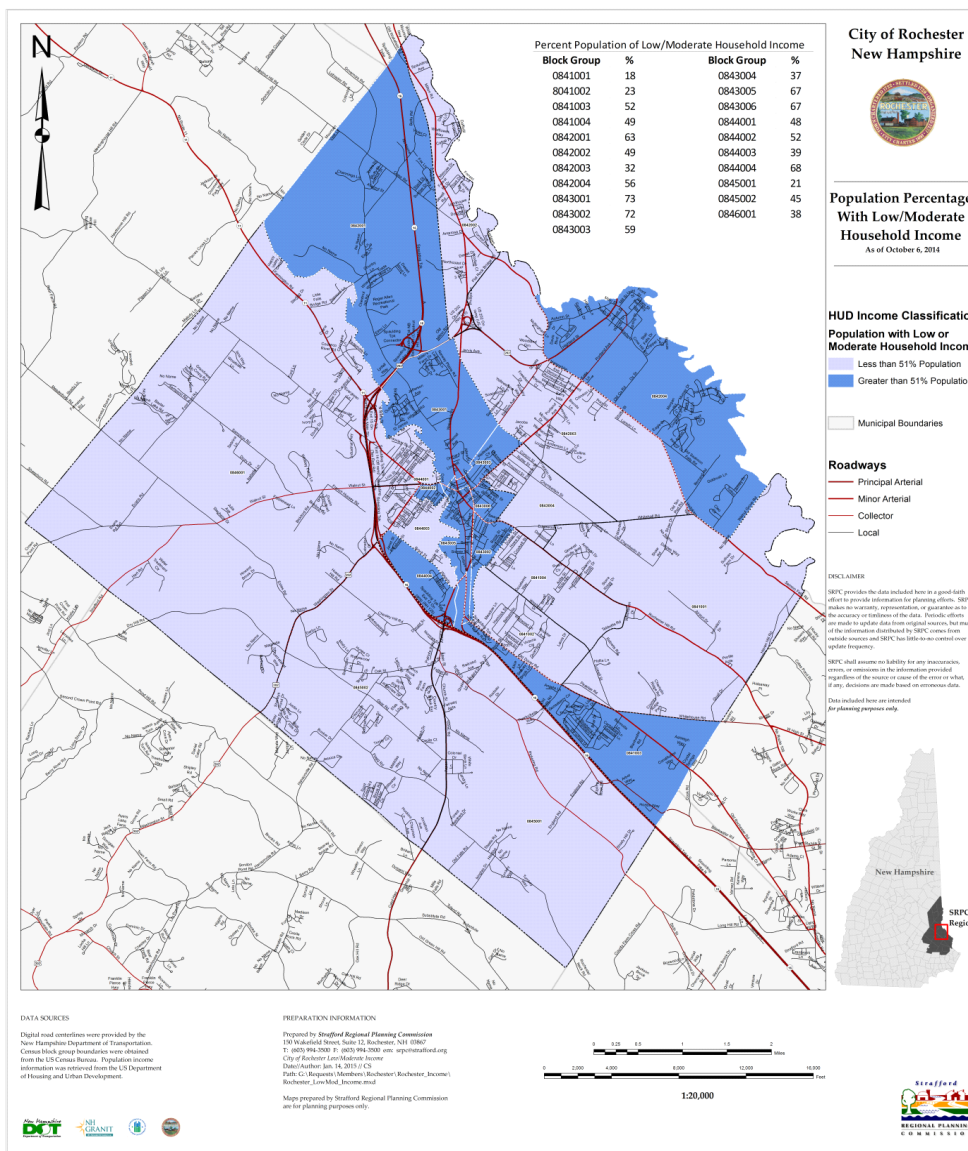
**Discussion**

N/A.

## NEEDS AND MARKET ANALYSIS DISCUSSION MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

***Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated?  
(Include a definition of "concentration.")***

According to the "Condition of Units" table above, there are few units in the City of Rochester with multiple housing problems. Of those housing units that do have two or more problems, however, there are over four times as many renter-occupied housing units with multiple problems as there are owner-occupied units. The residents of renter-occupied units are lower income than the residents of owner-occupied units, on the whole, with most renter households earning less than the area median income. The most recently updated census tract information from HUD indicates that there is low to moderate income concentration in several census tracts of the city, which is indicated on the map below.

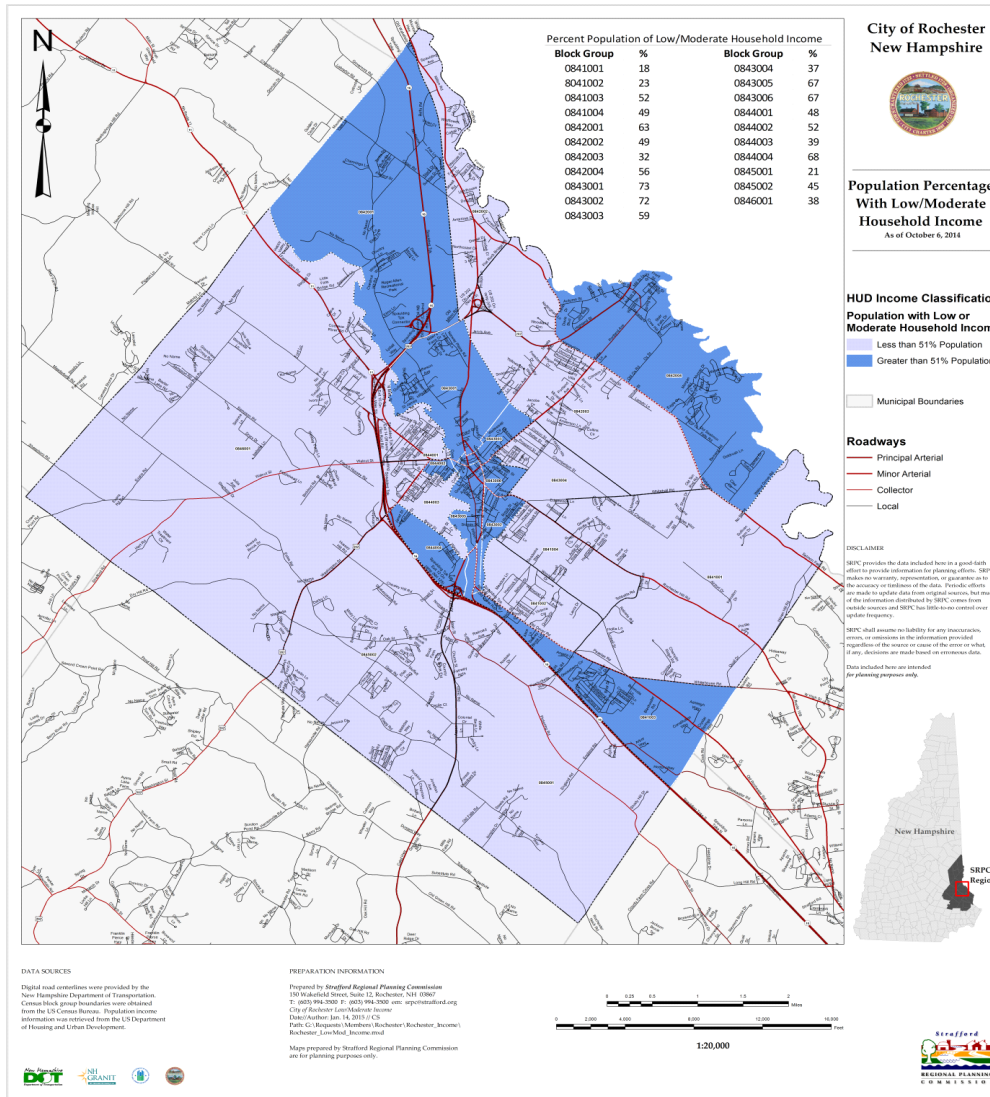


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The blue regions are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data.

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

There are areas of concentration of both racial and ethnic minorities and low-income families, as well as overlap between the two areas. The most recently updated census tract information from HUD indicates that there is low to moderate income concentration in several census tracts of the city, which is indicated on the map below.

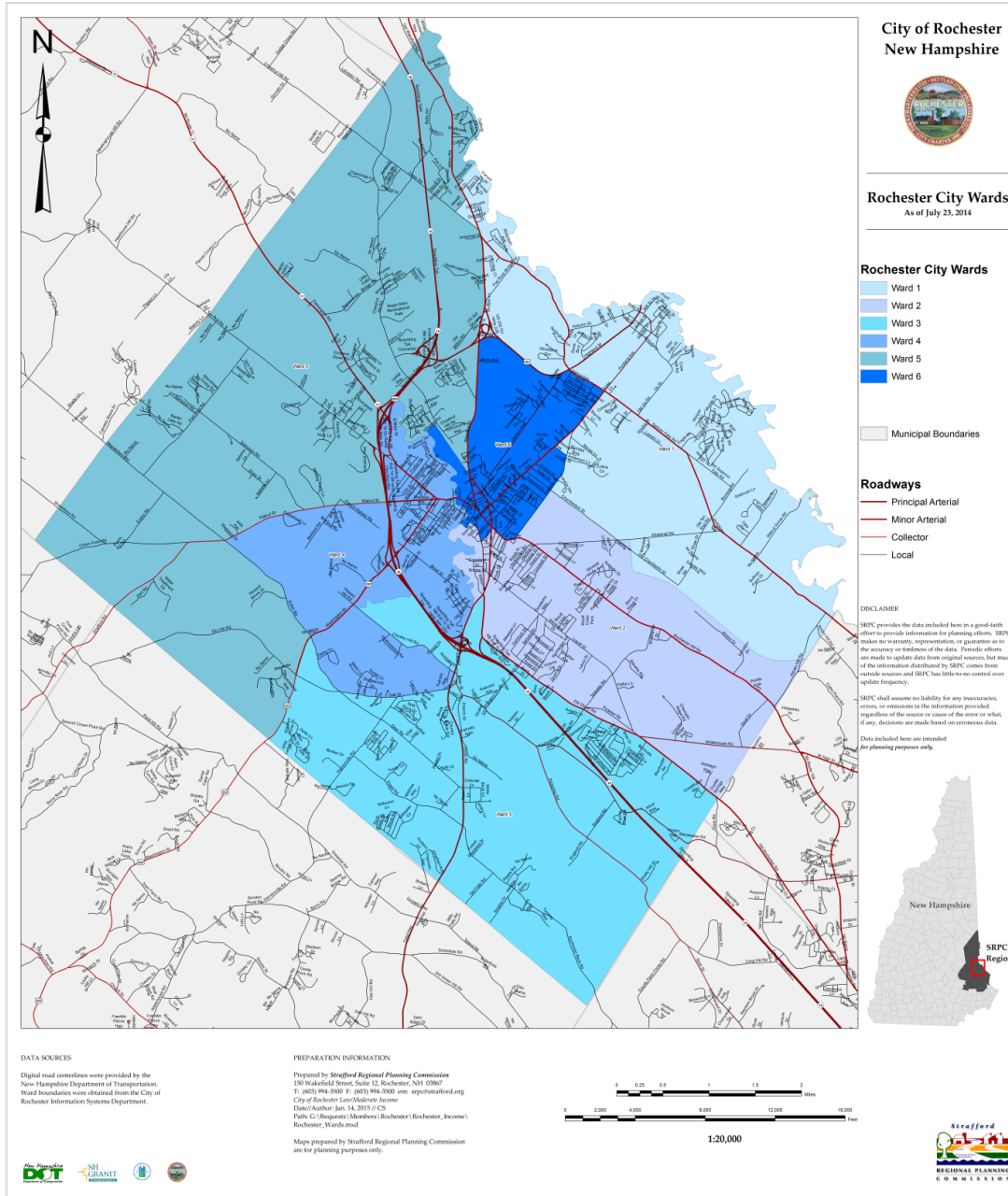


The blue regions are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data.

According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic

# The City of Rochester, N.H.

(597 residents), and 2.2% other (663 residents). According to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there is mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown (Wards 2 and 6). In contrast, there is a heavy concentration of racial and minority homeowners in the City's northwestern region (Wards 3 and 5), indicating segregation. A map of the City of Rochester's six Ward districts is included below.



Also, according to the *Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis*, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic/Latino residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and



## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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ethnicities in the City. This indicates significant overlap between the City's lower income population and its racial and ethnic minority population.

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

In general, rents and property values are lower in these neighborhoods. In addition, especially in the downtown district, there have been ongoing concerns related to vacant units (primarily commercial) and property owners who reside outside the City of Rochester. Other identified issues in these neighborhoods, as identified through the City of Rochester's Neighborhood Stabilization Program, include trash and debris in the exterior of properties, siding protection issues, junk and unregistered vehicle storage, wiring and plumbing issues, inadequate heat, and bedbugs. In addition, four out of the five public housing locations maintained by the Rochester Housing Authority are located in census tracts that are 51% or greater low to moderate income residents.

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

Due to the location of the downtown district within these low to moderate income census tracts, there are many community assets. City Hall, the Rochester Opera House, the Rochester Public Library, the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce, and the Rochester Historical Society Museum are all located in the downtown district. The downtown district also offers a number of independently-owned restaurants and retailers. Also located within 51% or greater low to moderate income census tracts but outside the downtown district are the Rochester Community Center, which houses multiple public service agencies and governmental offices as well as recreational facilities; the Richard W. Creteau Regional Technology Center, located within Spaulding High School; and Great Bay Community College's Advanced Technology & Academic Center.

Most to all of these community assets are easily reached via public transit, as well. Most are located along Route 108, one of the main corridors of the region. Near the downtown district, bus stops along Route 108 are spaced at approximately quarter-mile intervals.

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

Other strategic opportunities include partnering with downtown revitalization non-profit Rochester Main Street to increase employment opportunities for low-income residents; increasing the educational, vocational, and community enrichment programming offered by the Rochester Public Library and the Rochester Community Center; and development of the downtown district's Cocheco River river walk to provide recreational space and economic development.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW**

#### **SP-05 Overview**

The City of Rochester plans to focus its programs and efforts on the census tracts within the City that are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data. Using these census tracts and block groups as a basis for allocation prioritization ensures that projects and programs will primarily benefit low to moderate income City residents. The City's priorities and programs for these areas are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry.

The needs of the City's homeless population are high on the list of priority needs, and a number of efforts are planned to address the housing and supportive service needs of this population. Focus on permanent housing solutions for the chronically homeless, rapid rehousing for all individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and the large number of supportive services available (such as behavioral health services, employment assistance, and rental assistance) are some of the key strengths of the region's current service delivery system.

The City of Rochester also plans to fund a wide range of public service agencies that provide services such as housing, educational and employment training, and mental health assistance. In particular, services aimed at those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues are meant to effectively and permanently home the segment of the population which is chronically homeless and consumes a disproportionately large portion of services such as bed nights and emergency room visits.

Other components of the City of Rochester's strategic plan include the review of municipal zoning ordinances on the development of new affordable and workplace housing, projects aimed at increasing lead-based paint screening and lead-based paint abatement of low-income homes within the City, and stringent program compliance monitoring policies.

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

### Geographic Area

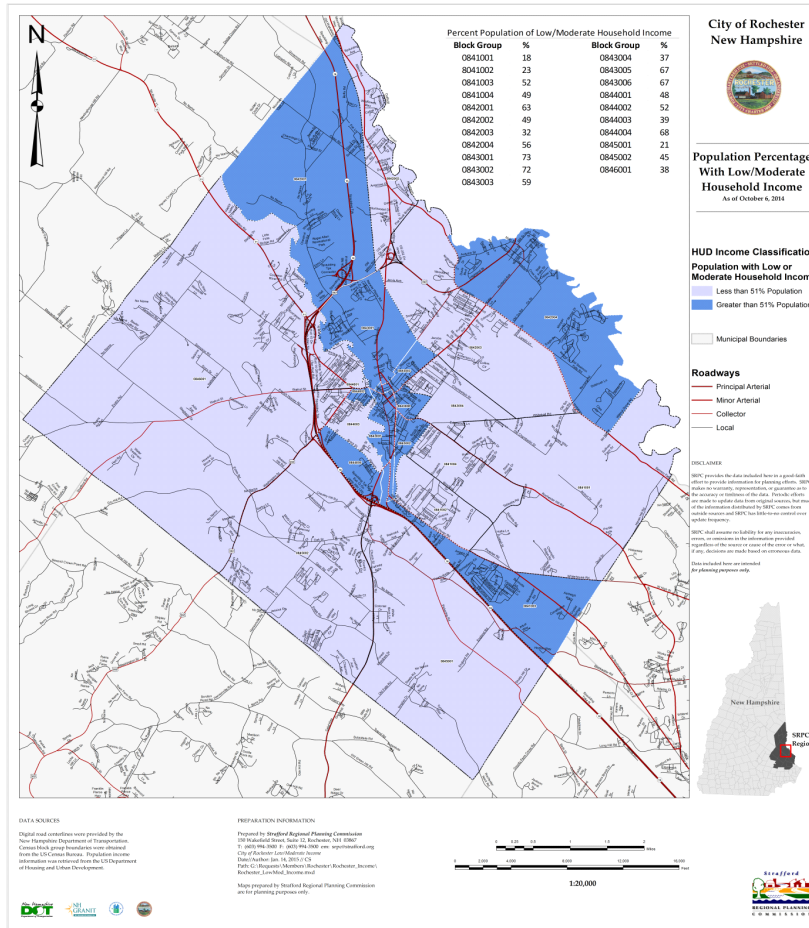


Table 28 - Geographic Priority Areas

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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The blue regions, which are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data, comprise the City of Rochester's general allocation priority areas.

### ***General Allocation Priorities***

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

These identified regions, which are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data, comprise the City of Rochester's general allocation priority areas. Using these census tracts and block groups as a basis for allocation prioritization ensures that projects and programs will primarily benefit low to moderate income City residents. Coordinated revitalization efforts will include accessibility improvement microgrants, partnering with the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce and Rochester Main Street to encourage downtown business development, partnering with the Rochester Housing Authority to make improvements to public housing units, partnering with a variety of public service agencies to provide housing and basic needs services, making improvements to recreational and cultural facilities, and other such activities.

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**PRIORITY NEEDS**

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

Name	Priority (Low/High)	Population (Extremely Low/Low/Moderate/Middle)	Family Types (Large Families/Families with Children/Elderly/Public Housing Residents)	Homeless (Rural/Chronic Homelessness/Individuals/Families with Children/Mentally Ill/Chronic Substance Abuse, Veterans/Persons with HIV/AIDS/Victims of Domestic Violence/Unaccompanied Youth)	Non-Homeless Special Needs (Elderly/Frail Elderly/Persons with Mental Disabilities/Persons with Physical Disabilities/Persons with Developmental Disabilities/Persons with HIV/AIDS and Their Families/Victims of Domestic Violence/Non-Housing Community Development)	Target Areas Affected	Associated Goals	Basis for Relative Priority
Affordable Housing and Assistance for Persons at Risk of Homelessness	High	Extremely Low	Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly	Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, Veterans, Victims of Domestic Violence	N/A	Identified 51% or greater low-moderate income census tracts, homeless communities within the City of Rochester	Support of shelters, including transitional shelters and permanent supportive housing, for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups, including funding for building	Adequate shelter is a basic need.

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							upgrades and rehabilitation; Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and those at risk for becoming homeless, including, persons with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses; Exploration of resources and support for resources available for long-term supportive housing for the chronically	
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The City of Rochester, N.H.

							homeless population	
Retention of Affordable Housing Stock	High	Extremely Low, Low	Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents	N/A	Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities	Identified 51% or greater low-moderate income census tracts, public housing residents within the City of Rochester	Support of weatherization and other energy efficiency efforts to provide long-term and sustainable affordability to low-income homeowners; Exploration of future housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing efforts; Exploration and support for the creation of workforce	Adequate shelter is a basic need.

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							housing opportunities	
Increase in Supply of Supportive Housing Which Includes Structural Features and Services to Enable Persons with Special Needs (Including Persons Living with HIV/AIDS) to Live in Dignity and Independence	High	Extremely Low, Low	Elderly	N/A	Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with HIV/AIDS and Their Families	Identified 51% or greater low-moderate income census tracts, low-income clients of public service agencies providing supportive housing	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and those at risk for becoming homeless, including persons with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses; Exploration of resources and support for resources available for long-term supportive housing for the chronically	Adequate shelter is a basic need.



The City of Rochester, N.H.

							homeless population; Funding allocations for accessibility microgrants for building upgrades and new installations of accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.), including in residential buildings	
Reduction in Substance Abuse (Especially Heroin and Other Opioids) and Addressing Root Causation	High	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate	N/A	N/A	Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with HIV/AIDS and Their Families, Non-Housing Community Development	Identified 51% or greater low-moderate income census tracts, low and moderate income clients of public service	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and those at risk for becoming homeless, including persons	Rising rates of substance abuse in the City of Rochester have negatively affected all areas of life, especially

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						agencies providing substance abuse treatment and related services	with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses; Support for organizations and programs addressing mental illness (due to the high coincidence of substance abuse and mental illness)	for low and moderate income residents.
Improved Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	High	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate	Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents)	N/A	Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with HIV/AIDS and Their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence, Non-Housing Community Development	Identified 51% or greater low-moderate income census tracts, public housing residents, workforce housing residents, residents with	Funding allocations for fair housing education programs to provide education to tenants, landlords, community-based organizations, and general	Shelter is a basic need, and expensive and/or discriminatory housing practices prevent all residents from having access to

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						disabilities	citizenry; Exploration of future housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing efforts; Encourage thoughtful exploration of appropriate locations for low-income housing and workforce housing placement	safe and adequate housing.
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	Low	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate	N/A	N/A	Non-Housing Community Development	Identified 51% or greater low-moderate income census tracts, downtown business district	Explore development and funding resources for an in-city small business development center;	Providing quality employment opportunities for low and moderate income residents

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							Continue to maintain revolving loan fund for small business financing in exchange for low-income job creation/retention agreements	is an investment strategy, which is not basic needs but necessary for longer-term community improvement.
Public Services Concerned with Employment	Low	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate	N/A	N/A	Non-Housing Community Development	Identified 51% or greater low-moderate income census tracts, low and moderate income clients of public service agencies providing employment, educational, and related services	Support for vocational education programs and workforce training programs for low-income residents, people with disabilities, and other disadvantaged populations; Encourage partnership responses	Providing quality employment opportunities for low and moderate income residents is an investment strategy, which is not basic needs but necessary for longer-term

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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							to addressing specific employment accessibility gaps in populations identified as in need, such as the newly unemployed, veterans, and minors	community improvement.
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**Table 29 – Priority Needs Summary**

***Narrative (Optional)***

These priorities are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry. Many worthwhile requests are proposed, and a system of project classification is required in order to make the most beneficial investments in the City of Rochester.

Projects, activities, and requests for funding have been assigned to one of three categories described below. They do not change or indicate a preference for the types of programs supported with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds; rather, they provide a framework to summarize the presumed impact of a project when making community investment decisions. The City of Rochester commits to prioritizing activities and projects that meet a combination of the most important basic needs and longer-term important needs of the City's marginalized individuals and families, primarily through strategic partnerships with other agencies.

Basic Needs

Basic needs include food, shelter, and clothing. Without these, no person is able to live, let alone realize a productive existence. These basics, along with health and safety concerns, form the definition of what our most fundamental requirements are to keep

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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alive. Especially since the recession of 2008, the burden to provide health care, safe housing, and even adequate food is a struggle for many working families and individuals in the Rochester community.

### Safety Net

These are programs that provide direct services to the community's children, elderly persons, people with disabilities, and persons in crisis and augment the City's services, such as the police force and Welfare office. These are projects that intervene in emergency situations and create a place for accessing assistance.

### Investment

With addressing basic needs and safety concerns are an understandable priority, the funding of investment projects and activities help to reduce the funding needed in the future for addressing the basic needs categories through addressing poverty and homelessness at their core roots.

The expected objectives, outcomes, and indicators for the FY 2015-2016 Annual Action Plan are outlined in the narrative section under each project/activity below and are aligned with those set forth by HUD and identified during the consultation process of creating this Consolidated Action Plan.

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

### INFLUENCE OF MARKET CONIDITIONS

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

<b>Affordable Housing Type</b>	<b>Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type</b>
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	High rental rates and home ownership costs make housing unaffordable for many residents who are extremely low, low, and moderate income. In particular, many residents in these income categories rent their housing, and so tenant—based rental assistance is especially needed.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	High rental rates and home ownership costs make housing unaffordable for many residents who are extremely low, low, and moderate income. In particular, residents who have mental illnesses and/or substance abuse issues often experience difficulties obtaining and maintaining stable housing, as their unique needs can daunt landlords who would prefer to rent to residents without these needs. Tenant-based rental assistance is needed for these specific populations.
New Unit Production	The City of Rochester’s population is expected to grow relatively slowly over the next five years, but the percentage of elderly persons who comprise the City’s population is expected to increase. Currently, the construction of new housing units is moving towards “universal design” and smaller housing units, both of which will benefit an older population. These housing units will be largely market-rate, however, and may be unaffordable to extremely low, low, and moderate income residents. Therefore, funding will be targeted at increasing the production of housing units affordable to extremely low, low, and moderate income residents.
Rehabilitation	The City of Rochester has housing stock that is relatively old (about half built before 1980), and this older housing stock often makes rehabilitation projects more expensive due to code-related upgrades and other additional activities that become necessary during a rehabilitation project. Funding will be provided for accessibility-related upgrades and weatherization work that will benefit low to moderate income homeowners, many of whom own manufactured homes, who would otherwise be unable to make such necessary improvements to their homes.
Acquisition, including preservation	Overall, acquisition tends to be more affordable and less inexpensive than rehabilitation, due to the aforementioned reasons. Historic preservation work tends to be an exception, however. The City of Rochester’s historic district is located within census tracts that are 51% or greater low to moderate income, and acquisition funding will be focused on historic preservation projects.

**Table 30 – Influence of Market Conditions**

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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### ANTICIPATED RESOURCES

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

##### *Introduction*

The City of Rochester owns the land of Hanson Pines Park, the land of Rochester Commons, the buildings that house the Rochester Public Library and the Rochester Opera House, the building that houses the Rochester Community Center, and all public school buildings. This represents a significant variety of cultural, educational, and recreational resources. In addition, the City of Rochester provides annual funding through its general budget for public services, and additional funding and leveraging is available through other awarded grants.

##### *Anticipated Resources*

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		



## The City of Rochester, N.H.

CDBG	Public – Federal (HUD)	Acquisition, Admin and Planning, Economic Development, Housing, Public Improvements, Public Services	227,062.00	60,506.04	57,481.64	345,049.68	1,054,624.16	Program income is calculated in the form of Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) Loan repayments.
Non-CDBG	General City Funding	Public Service Agencies	47,500.00	0.00	0.00	47,500.00	190,000.00	The City provides funding in its general budget to three public service agencies every fiscal year. These agencies provide services to low-income residents of the City.
Non-CDBG	Economic Development Funds	Community economic development projects outside of CDBG	186,000.00	0.00	24,729.00	210,729.00	744,000.00	This fund is based on a contribution to the City by Waste Management.
Non-CDBG	NH Department of	Watershed development	120,000.00	0.00	0.00	120,000.00	0.00	This is a grant funding

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	Environmental Services							the development of watershed protection.
Non-CDBG	Public – Federal (SAMHSA)	Substance abuse prevention	125,000.00	0.00	0.00	125,000.00	375,000.00	This is a grant funding the work of drug-free communities coalition Bridging the Gaps. The City is presently applying to become the new fiscal agent for the coalition and its grant.

Table 31 - Anticipated Resources

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

In the public service agency grant application forms, the City of Rochester requests information on whether CDBG funding will be used to leverage other funding available to the public service agencies. This information is collected and taken under consideration during the grant application evaluation process, with the goal of maximizing funding impact through taking advantage of leveraging opportunities. In addition, the City uses general City funds to assist in construction projects through providing City employees to accomplish work on many facilities projects.

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

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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The City owns the land of Hanson Pines Park, the land of Rochester Commons, the building that houses the Rochester Public Library, the building that houses the Rochester Community Center, and all public school buildings. Projects including but not limited to bicycle racks installations, accessibility improvements, and public safety improvement are planned for these locations.

### ***Discussion***

N/A.

**INSTITUTIONAL DELIVERY STRUCTURE**

**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.*

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

<b>Responsible Entity</b>	<b>Responsible Entity Type</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Geographic Area Served (Optional)</b>
Welfare Office, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development	Jurisdiction
Planning Department, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Ownership (Affordable Housing), Rental (Affordable Housing), Public Housing, Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Department of Public Works, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Office of Economic Development, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Economic Development, Planning	Jurisdiction
Recreation Department, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Public Library, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies, Public Institution	Public Facilities, Planning	Jurisdiction
Police Department, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Rochester Schools, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Planning	Jurisdiction
Rochester Housing Authority	PHA	Rental (Affordable Housing), Public Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Planning	Jurisdiction

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care	Continuum of Care	Ownership (Affordable Housing), Rental (Affordable Housing), Public Housing, Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Planning	Region
Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness	Non-Profit Organization	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Planning	Region
The Homemakers	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development	Region
Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Ownership (Affordable Housing), Rental (Affordable Housing), Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Public Services	Region
Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation	Regional Organization	Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Region
AIDS Response Seacoast	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services, Planning	Region
Rochester Area Senior Center	Community Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Sexual Assault Support Services/A Safe Place	Non-Profit Organization	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services, Planning	Region

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

New Hampshire Legal Assistance	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Ownership (Affordable Housing), Rental (Affordable Housing), Public Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services	State
Rochester Main Street	Non-Profit Organization, Community Organization, Private Industry	Neighborhood Improvements, Economic Development, Planning	Jurisdiction
Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce	Non-Profit Organization, Community Organization, Private Industry	Neighborhood Improvements, Economic Development, Planning	Jurisdiction
SHARE Fund	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Rental (Affordable Housing), Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services	Jurisdiction
Homeless Center for Strafford County	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services, Planning	Region
Southeastern New Hampshire Drug & Alcohol Abuse Services	Government, Regional Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services, Planning	Region
New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority	Non-Profit Organization, Regional Organization	Ownership (Affordable Housing), Rental (Affordable Housing), Public Housing, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	State

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

Healthy Homes & Environment Section, Division of Public Health Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	Government, Regional Organization	Ownership (Affordable Housing), Rental (Affordable Housing), Public Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	State
Goodwin Community Health	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services, Planning	Region
Community Partners	Non-Profit Organization	Rental (Affordable Housing), Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services	Region
My Friend's Place	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services	Region
Cross Roads House	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services	Region
Cornerstone VNA	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services	Region
Dover Adult Learning Center	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Public Services, Economic Development	Region
Project Pride	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Public Services, Economic Development	Jurisdiction
Rochester Child Care Center	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Public Services	Jurisdiction
Seacoast Learning Center	Community Organization	Public Services	Region



## The City of Rochester, N.H.

Tri-City Co-Op	Community Organization, Subrecipient	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development, Public Services	Region
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**Table 32 - Institutional Delivery Structure**

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

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

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
<b>Homelessness Prevention Services</b>			
Counseling/Advocacy	x	x	x
Legal Assistance	x		
Mortgage Assistance	x		
Rental Assistance	x	x	x
Utilities Assistance	x	x	x
<b>Street Outreach Services</b>			
Law Enforcement	x	x	
Mobile Clinics	x	x	
Other Street Outreach Services	x	x	
<b>Supportive Services</b>			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	x	x	x
Child Care	x	x	
Education	x	x	
Employment and Employment Training	x	x	
Healthcare	x	x	x
HIV/AIDS	x		x
Life Skills	x	x	x
Mental Health Counseling	x	x	x
Transportation	x		x
<b>Other</b>			
Other			

**Table 33 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary**

***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 City of Rochester, N.H.

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Due to the region's implementation of Coordinated Access, most of these services are now managed through an intake system run by the Coordinated Access coordinator, housed within the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County. In addition to placing people with the region's three general homeless shelters (Cross Roads House, My Friend's Place, and the Homeless Center for Strafford County), Coordinated Access provides homelessness prevention assistance, such as rental assistance. Rental assistance is also provided by other regional organizations, such as the SHARE Fund. Rental assistance for specific special classes is also available, such as rental assistance through AIDS Response Seacoast for persons living with HIV/AIDS and rental assistance through Community Partners for people with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities.

In addition, Cross Roads House, My Friend's Place, and the Homeless Center for Strafford County all provide supportive services in addition to emergency and transitional shelter. Such services include employment assistance, budgeting and financial counseling, and medical and dental care. The Coordinated Access system, along with the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness, has increased focus on the permanent, supported housing of chronically homeless individuals and families. This includes case management services and working with regional landlords to prevent landlord-tenant problems and evictions.

Specialized, non-housing services are provided by a number of public service agencies in the region. In addition to rental assistance, AIDS Response Seacoast provides fuel and utilities assistance, medical and legal referrals, case management, transportation for medical appointments, mental health counseling, and budgeting and financial counseling to persons living with HIV/AIDS. Community Partners provides behavioral health services, family support, case management, nursing support, supported employment, and elder services to people with mental health issues and developmental disabilities. The Homemakers and Cornerstone VNA provide home nursing care, adult day care, behavioral health, and other related services to elderly persons and people with disabilities.

The City of Rochester's Welfare Office provides general emergency financial assistance for low-income individuals and families, such as fuel assistance and public housing applications, and provides referrals to other regional resources, including the Coordinated Access intake system.

***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 regional Coordinated Access system has been implemented over the last year and half with great success, and it has been held up as a model for other Continuums of Care in the state. Focus on permanent housing solutions for the chronically homeless, rapid rehousing for all individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and the large number of supportive services available (such as behavioral health services, employment assistance, and rental assistance) are some of the key strengths of the region's current service delivery system.

Gaps in the current system include a relative lack of services for homeless persons who are mentally ill and/or have substance abuse issues. Currently, there is no drug treatment facility located with the City of Rochester, and the abuse of illegal drugs (especially heroin and other opioids) has increased within the last few years. Also, the regional Coordinated Access coordinator and other homeless shelter providers have reported unique challenges in permanently housing individuals with mental illnesses and the need for more supportive assistance.

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

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

The City of Rochester plans to explore the creation of an in-City drug treatment facility and/or the expansion of existing drug treatment services' locations to include the City of Rochester. The City of Rochester also plans to support rental assistance and other supportive housing efforts aimed at housing persons with mental illnesses and persons with substance abuse issues.

**GOALS SUMMARY**

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

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

### Goals Summary Information

Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Priority Needs Addressed	Funding Allocated	Goal Outcome Indicator	Goal Objectives
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness	2015	2020	Affordable Housing, Homelessness	City-wide	Basic	\$94,250	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 675 persons; Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds Added: 15 beds; Tenant-Based Rental Assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 250 individuals; HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 115 individuals	Provide Decent Affordable Housing
Retention of Affordable Housing Stock	2015	2020	Affordable Housing, Public Housing	Census tracts 51% or great low-moderate income, public housing locations	Basic	\$250,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 200 homes	Provide Decent Affordable Housing

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

Increasing the Supply of Supportive Housing Which Includes Structural Features and Services to Enable Persons with Special Needs (Including Persons Living with HIV/AIDS) to Live in Dignity and Independence	2015	2020	Affordable Housing, Public Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs	Census tracts 51% or great low-moderate income	Safety Net	\$25,000	Tenant-based Rental Assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 60 individuals and families	Provide Decent Affordable Housing
Reducing the Incidence of Increasing Substance Abuse (Especially Heroin and Other Opioids) and Addressing Root Causation	2015	2020	Non-Homeless Special Needs, Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide	Safety Net	\$30,000	Public Service Activities Other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 150 individuals	Create Suitable Living Environment
Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	2015	2020	Non-Housing Community Development	Census tracts 51% or great low-moderate income	Investment	\$150,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities Other Than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4,720 persons	Create Suitable Living Environment
Increase Access to Quality Public and Private Facilities and Services	2015	2020	Non-Housing Community Development	Census tracts 51% or great low-moderate income, downtown district	Investment, Safety Net	\$225,000	Facade Treatment/Business Building Rehabilitation: 10 buildings	Create Suitable Living Environment

## The City of Rochester, N.H.

Increase Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents	2015	2020	Affordable Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs	Census tracts 51% or great low-moderate income	Basic	\$25,000	Public Service Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1,400 persons	Create Suitable Living Environment
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	2015	2020	Non-Housing Community Development	Census tracts 51% or great low-moderate income, downtown district	Investment	\$60,000	Jobs Created/Retained : 75 jobs, Businesses Assisted: 8 businesses	Create Economic Opportunities
Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment	2015	2020	Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide, census tracts 51% or great low-moderate income	Investment	\$25,000	Public Service Activities Other Than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 130 individuals	Create Economic Opportunities

**Table 34 – Goals Summary**

### ***Goal Descriptions***

This section outlines HUD’s expectations for what the City should be addressing with its CDBG funding. The individual activities were established to meet HUD outcomes and were those seen to meet the needs of the City’s low to moderate income population as identified at present and projected over the next five years. Within the context of these identified needs and objectives, other eligible activities can and may be undertaken and supported with CDBG funding as opportunities are defined and new needs in the community emerge.

### ***Program Goal for the City of Rochester: To Provide Decent Housing***

- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness

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### Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Support of shelters, including transitional shelters and permanent supportive housing, for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups, including funding for building upgrades and rehabilitation
  - Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless, including persons with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses
  - Exploration of resources and support for resources available for long-term supportive housing for the chronically homeless population
- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Retention of Affordable Housing Stock

Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester: In conjunction with Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and private and non-profit housing developers:

- Support of weatherization and other energy efficiency efforts to provide long-term and sustainable affordability to low-income homeowners
  - Exploration of future housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing efforts
  - Exploration and support for the creation of workforce housing opportunities
- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Increasing the Supply of Supportive Housing Which Includes Structural Features and Services to Enable Persons with Special Needs (Including Persons Living with HIV/AIDS) to Live in Dignity and Independence

### Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless, including persons with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses
- Exploration of resources and support for resources available for long-term supportive housing for the chronically homeless population
- Funding allocations for accessibility microgrants for building upgrades and new installations of accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.), including in residential buildings

***Program Goal for the City of Rochester: To Provide a Suitable Living Environment***



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- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Reducing the Incidence of Increasing Substance Abuse (Especially Heroin and Other Opioids) and Addressing Root Causation

### Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless, including persons with substance abuse issues and persons with mental illnesses
- Support for organizations and programs addressing mental illness (due to the high coincidence of substance abuse and mental illness)

- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods

### Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Ongoing coordination with the Department of Public Works for enhancements to major infrastructure improvement projects in low-income neighborhoods
- Ongoing coordination with the Recreation Department for improvements and expansions to youth recreational facilities to provide pro-social activity opportunities and to reduce youth vandalism and other misconduct
- Continued review of neighborhood conditions and exploration of projects that can address deficiencies that negatively impact the health, safety, and quality of life in low-income neighborhood

- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Increase Access to Quality Public and Private Facilities and Services

### Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Support for public service agencies providing programs and support to low-income populations of greatest need
- Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (e.g., Balance of State Continuum of Care, regional Continuum of Care, and Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness)
- Encourage and support regional transportation groups to provide greater access to community resources for low-income population as well as senior citizens and people with disabilities
- Renovations to public buildings to increase access and accessibility for all citizens, with particular focus on people with disabilities

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- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Increase Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents

Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Funding allocations for fair housing education programs to provide education to tenants, landlords, community-based organizations, and general citizenry
- Exploration of future housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing efforts
- Encourage thoughtful exploration of appropriate locations for low-income housing and workforce housing placement

***Program Goal for the City of Rochester: To Expand Economic Opportunities***

- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses

Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Explore development and funding resources for an in-city small business development center
- Continue to maintain revolving loan fund for small business financing in exchange for low-income job creation/retention agreements

- HUD Outcome Performance Measure: Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment

Activities Proposed by the City of Rochester:

- Support for vocational education programs and workforce training programs for low-income residents, including people with disabilities and other disadvantaged populations
- Encourage partnership responses to addressing specific employment accessibility gaps in populations identified as in need, such as the newly unemployed, veterans, and minors

***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).***

In addition to temporary and emergency housing provided through support of the three regional homeless shelters, the City of Rochester will provide affordable housing through support for the SHARE Fund and the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County. The SHARE Fund provides rental assistance and other related housing-based support to low-income persons and families. An estimated number of 195 low-income families and individuals are estimated to be provided affording housing, or assistance

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staying in affordable housing, during FY 2015-2016. During the FY 2015-2020 period, an estimated number of 975 low-income families and individuals are estimated to be provided affording housing or assistance staying in affordable housing.

The Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, through its weatherization program, will provide weatherization of an estimated 40 low-income homes during FY 2015-2016, which will reduce these homeowners' utility bills and allow these homes to remain affordable. During the FY 2015-2020 period, an estimated number of 200 low-income homes will receive weatherization.

This increase in available housing will supplement pre-existing housing supplies. About five units for people with mental or physical disabilities are managed by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County in conjunction with Community Partners. Rent is 30% of tenants' adjusted gross income.

Four units of transitional housing are available through the Homeless Center for Strafford County in conjunction with Waste Management. These units house one family each for a period of 12 to 18 months. Case management is provided to the families.

Ninety units of housing have been made available through Low Income Housing Tax Credits. This includes twelve units of housing for elderly persons.

Four units of housing are available to people living with HIV/AIDS. These units are owned and managed by AIDS Response Seacoast in conjunction with the Housing Partnership.

**PUBLIC HOUSING ACCESSIBILITY AND INVOLVEMENT**

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

***Describe the need to increase the number of accessible units (if required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement).***

The City of Rochester plans to provide outreach to the Rochester Housing Authority on CDBG-related funding opportunities, such as accessibility micro-grants, and to coordinate with the leadership of the Rochester Housing Authority to access existing public housing units for accessibility upgrades.

***Describe planned activities to increase resident involvement.***

The City of Rochester has verified with the Rochester Housing Authority that a Resident Advisory Board, including representatives from each of the RHA public housing sites, meets to review RHA one-year and five-year plans as well as to provide input on RHA operations. The City of Rochester plans to coordinate with the Rochester Housing Authority to explore ways to increase resident engagement with the Resident Advisory Board as well as home ownership opportunities for RHA residents. In particular, the City of Rochester plans to provide outreach to the Rochester Housing Authority on CDBG-related funding opportunities, such as accessibility micro-grants, and to encourage the leadership of the Rochester Housing Authority to share these opportunities with the Resident Advisory Board for its review and consideration.

***Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?***

The Rochester Housing Authority is not designated as troubled.

***Plan to remove the “troubled” designation.***

N/A.

## **BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

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

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

Affordable housing remains an under-met need in both the City of Rochester and the greater Seacoast region. Average income has not kept pace with average rental costs; as a result, many Rochester residents spend well over 30% of their income on housing. According to calculations from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, less than 10% of the housing units in Strafford County are affordable to half of the renting households.

Weatherization and heating needs for manufactured home homeowners also represent a large area of concern. According to the 2014 Community Needs Assessment from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, nearly 20% of the housing units in the City of Rochester are manufactured/mobile homes. Manufactured homes are often less energy-efficient than other housing, and there is a higher concentration of low-income residents in manufactured home parks. High heating costs during the region's bitterly cold winter months often make these homes unaffordable for their low-income owners.

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

Many barriers to affordable housing for the City of Rochester's residents have been eliminated. Low-income housing tax credits help to incentivize housing developers to take on housing projects that might otherwise prove economically disadvantageous. Further, the Community Development Coordinator has consulted with the City of Rochester's Planning Department during the process of researching and preparing the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan. During this consultation, the Community Development Coordinator specifically raised concerns regarding the potential negative effects of public policies and zoning ordinances on the development and availability of affordable housing. Analysis of the City of Rochester's current zoning ordinances has not indicated negative effects on affordable housing and residential investment; however, discussion with building developers at a Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast training event have indicated concerns with the impact of antiquated municipal zoning ordinances on the development of new housing.

The Community Development Coordinator also consulted with the City of Rochester's Office of Economic Development. This consultation indicated that the City's current fire safety codes have impacted the development of multi-family housing units. Such multi-family units are required to have sprinkler systems, as opposed to fire alarms, and building developers and property owners often find this cost-prohibitive. Given that this impacts multi-family housing but not single-family housing, these fire safety codes disproportionately impact the City of Rochester's affordable housing.

The Community Development Coordinator will continue to consult with the Planning Department, the Office of Economic Development, and other relevant government officials and boards to monitor and evaluate the overall effects of policies and ordinances on the affordable housing supply. This includes working with these departments to explore ways that the City of Rochester can revise its zoning and fire safety codes to reduce obstacles for housing developers in developing affordable housing.

## HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY

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

*Describe how the jurisdiction's strategic plan goals contribute to:*

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

The City of Rochester has participated fully in the Seacoast's transition to the Coordinated Access system for provision of a range of services to the City's homeless population, and the City plans to continue its participation and support throughout the FY 2015-2020 period. The Community Development Coordinator plans to attend all relevant meetings with the Coordinated Access coordinator, the City's welfare officer, the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness, the regional homeless shelter providers, and other key officials and stakeholders to ensure that Coordinated Access implementation continues to proceed smoothly.

Coordinated Access provides a single point of access for the provision of homeless services in the region. As part of the Coordinated Access coordinator's intake process, the coordinator conducts an in-depth assessment of the client's individual situation, including current housing access, community contacts, and other available resources. The Coordinated Access coordinator then matches the client with the available shelters and other supportive resources that best match the individual's needs and maximize available resources.

The City of Rochester also plans to fund a wide range of public service agencies that provide services such as housing, homelessness prevention, and mental health assistance. This includes direct funding to the region's three homeless shelters, rental assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and supportive services such as mental health support. In particular, services aimed at those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues are meant to effectively and permanently home the segment of the population which is chronically homeless and consumes a disproportionately large portion of services such as bed nights and emergency room visits.

***Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons.***

The City of Rochester plans to fund a wide range of public service agencies that provide services such as housing, homelessness prevention, and mental health assistance. This includes direct funding to the region's three homeless shelters. The Homeless Center for Strafford County provides seasonal emergency and transitional shelter for homeless women and families, My Friend's Place provides emergency and transitional shelter for families, and Cross Roads House provides emergency shelter for men, women, and families. In addition to funding general operating expenses for these three homeless shelters, the City of Rochester also plans to fund facilities construction work on the Homeless Center for Strafford County to expand its offering of transitional units and other expansions at the other regional shelters as needed.

***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.***

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The City of Rochester plans to fund a wide range of public service agencies that provide services such as housing, homelessness prevention, and mental health assistance. This includes direct funding to the region's three homeless shelters. The Homeless Center for Strafford County provides seasonal emergency and transitional shelter for homeless women and families, My Friend's Place provides emergency and transitional shelter for families, and Cross Roads House provides emergency shelter for men, women, and families.

In addition to these efforts, the City of Rochester plans to support rental assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and supportive services such as mental health support. In particular, services aimed at those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues are meant to effectively and permanently home the segment of the population which is chronically homeless and consumes a disproportionately large portion of services such as bed nights and emergency room visits. The City of Rochester also plans to partner with the Coordinated Access coordinator, the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness, and the region's three homeless shelters to explore ways of encouraging more landlords within the City to rent to these particularly vulnerable populations.

***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 Rochester plans to support rental assistance to those who are at risk of becoming homeless and supportive services such as non-medical mental health. In addition to these basic needs and safety net services, Rochester will also fund programs and activities aimed at assisting low-income individuals and families over a longer term through educational, employment, and health investments. These programs and activities include out-of-school youth programs serving economically disadvantaged youth who wish to become economically self-sufficient, the provision of non-medical supportive services to those struggling with mental health issues, and an education and outreach campaign to the City of Rochester's landlords and tenants about fair housing issues and tenants' rights.

## **LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARDS**

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

#### ***Describe the jurisdiction's planned actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards.***

A need for increased lead-based paint screening and abatement has been determined through consultations with the Healthy Homes & Environment Section of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health Services and referencing the lead-based paint poisoning reports published the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The City of Rochester is identified as one of eight "high risk" communities throughout the state.

The City of Rochester will seek to partner with the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority to administer a joint project aimed at increasing lead-based paint screening and lead-based paint abatement. Both the City of Rochester and the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority fund the housing weatherization work of the Community Action Partnership for Strafford County. Given the ages and conditions of many of the homes that receive weatherization assistance, these homes have a higher than average chance of lead-based paint hazard.

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

The City of Rochester is identified as one of eight "high risk" communities throughout the state. Consultations with the Healthy Homes & Environment Section of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health Services and referencing the lead-based paint poisoning reports published the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services have indicated that low-income and older homes are key indicators for lead-based poisoning risk. The Community Action Partnership for Strafford County's weatherization program focuses on weatherizing homes owned by low-income residents of the City of Rochester, and many of these homes are older homes. These homes, therefore, present a higher than average risk of containing lead-based paint.

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

There are a number of actions planned by the City of Rochester to integrate the screening and abatement of lead-based paint hazards into its housing policies and procedures. For example, all lead-based paint hazards have been removed from housing units owned and managed by the Rochester Housing Authority. The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services offers lead-based paint hazards education to families and runs regular "Lead Safe Renovation" workshops in the region, and the City of Rochester will promote these trainings and encourage attendance at these trainings by relevant City staff and private building developers throughout the City.



## **ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY**

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

#### ***Describe the jurisdiction's goals, programs, and policies for reducing the number of poverty-level families.***

The City of Rochester plans to support a wide range of anti-poverty efforts. Educational activities, such as assisting low-income residents in obtaining their GEDs and specialized vocational skills training, will be supported through funding and other means. The City recognizes the value of investing in education and believes there is a greater likelihood of positive future economic status if youth and other job-seekers can attain the basic skills needed to advance in the marketplace and avoid poverty. Activities that address impediments to job success and housing retention, such as non-medical mental health wellness and rental assistance, will also support and improve the self-sufficiency of the City's low-income residents.

The City of Rochester also plans to continue to support its Job Opportunity Benefits (JOB) Loan Program, which provides loans to small businesses to encourage the hiring of low-income employees, and to explore an in-city small business development center to further support these efforts. Both programs not only help specifically low-income residents to obtain and retain employment within the City of Rochester, which provides benefits such as short and low-cost commutes, but also help the overall economic health and development of the City.

#### ***How are the jurisdiction's poverty-reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan?***

During the consultation process for this Consolidated Plan, the Community Development Coordinator consulted with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Employment Program office in Rochester. This consultation covered employment issues affecting low-income persons, transportation, substance abuse, health care, and economic development concerns. During this consultation, Employment Program staff introduced the Community Development Coordinator to staff at Great Bay Community College's WorkReadyNH employment training program, and the Community Development Coordinator and WorkReadyNH staff also discussed the employment issues affecting low-income residents of the City of Rochester.

Several of the concerns that were raised during these consultations—including the need for increased substance abuse programs and mental health care options for low-income residents—have been incorporated into this Consolidated Plan. In addition, the Community Development Coordinator will continue to coordinate with Employment Program and WorkReadyNH staff throughout the implementation of this Consolidated Plan to ensure anti-poverty goals and objectives are being met.

## MONITORING

### 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.***

Community Development Division staff has performed an extensive evaluation of CDBG project monitoring procedures, and a number of updates and improvements have been implemented to ensure full compliance and effective delivery of services. During the subrecipient grant application process, the City of Rochester requires information as to the applicant organization's experience with federal grant requirements, ability to comply with federal and local regulations, and information on previous performance, if the organization has received CDBG funding in prior years. The applicant must also certify that it will comply with the City of Rochester's anti-displacement and relocation policy.

Before funding decisions are made, all applications are analyzed according to how the proposed project or program meets the goals and priority needs of the City of Rochester's Consolidated Plan. Applications from previously-funded organizations are also analyzed for prior compliance and competency, and organizations with previous poor performance may be rejected for future funding or required to submit proofs of remediation of the cause of past poor performance.

Once a subrecipient is selected for funding, the City of Rochester requires both quarterly and annual reports from the subrecipient organization and its associated programs. Community Development Division staff compare these reports with previously-established projected goals. All subrecipients also have a contract or letter of agreement on file with the City that outlines federal obligations and other responsibilities associated with receiving CDBG funding.

In addition to quarterly and annual reports, Community Development Division staff perform annual visits to subrecipients' site office where reporting statistics are kept as well as the subrecipients' site(s) where program activities take place, if different. Community Development Division staff also visit subrecipients when the organizations are open to the public and during special events. This allows Community Development Division staff to keep current with the subrecipients' activities, to get a first-hand look at how the subrecipients present themselves to the general public, and to discuss any successes and/or challenges the subrecipients have been experiencing in program implementation.

Community Development Division staff will visit all construction projects, including housing rehabilitation projects, on site to conduct monitoring. Monitoring will include (but is not limited to) Davis-Bacon and Related Acts compliance monitoring and data collection, environmental review compliance monitoring, and regular conferences with subrecipients and other impacted parties to discuss any project-related challenges and concerns.

If at any time there is found to be any inconsistencies or noncompliance with the Community Development Block Grant regulations, Community Development Division staff will take immediate corrective action. Such corrective actions may vary according to the seriousness of the identified inconsistency/noncompliance and may include (but are not limited to) more frequent and/or extensive reporting requirements, forfeiture of received and anticipated CDBG funds, rejection of future funding requests, and higher requirements and proofs of remediation of the cause of inconsistency/noncompliance for future funding requests.

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Monitoring related to comprehensive planning will include Community Development Division staff maintaining up-to-date knowledge of all relevant HUD regulations and policies; providing timely updates to CDBG grant subrecipients on changes in HUD and/or City policies; inclusion of all current CDBG grant subrecipients in Annual Action Plan planning and future Five-Year Consolidated Action Plan planning; inclusion of all relevant public service agency, government agency, and other organizational types in Annual Action Plan planning and future Five-Year Consolidated Action Plan planning; and analyzing performance under this Consolidated Plan when drafting associated Annual Action Plans and the FY 2020-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Action Plan.