



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Indianapolis Field Office
Community Planning and Development
575 N. Pennsylvania Street, Suite 655
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 957-7290, Fax (317) 957-7383



Mary K. Ferdon
Executive Director
City of Columbus
Community Development
123 Washington St.
Columbus, IN 47201

DEC 14 2016

Dear Ms Ferdon :

Subject: Consolidated End-of-Year Review
Program Year 2015
City of Columbus, Indiana

HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development seeks to establish partnerships with State and local governments. The focus of our partnership has been to work with communities to ensure that our joint efforts result in housing and community programs and policies that benefit and serve low and moderate-income persons. These efforts occur within the framework of the statutes we administer, as well as the regulations and emerging policies that are designed to improve program performance.

The provisions of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, require the annual submission of performance reports by grantees receiving federal assistance through program covered under these Acts. Additionally, these Acts require that a determination be made by the Secretary that the grant recipient is in compliance with the Statutes and has the continuing capacity to implement and administer the programs for which assistance is received.

Traditionally, these determinations were made based on the review of annual reports submitted by the grantee, as well as, IDIS generated reports for program activity for each program receiving assistance. The implementation of the Consolidated Planning Regulations of January 5, 1995 requires that a comprehensive performance review of your overall progress at least annually, as required by the statutes and stated in section 91.525 of the regulations, must be performed. The review consists of analyzing your consolidated planning process; reviewing management of funds; determining the progress made in carrying out your policies and programs; determining the compliance of funded activities with statutory and regulatory requirements; determining the accuracy of required performance reports; as well as evaluating your accomplishments in meeting key Departmental objectives.

This assessment not only meets the mandates of the statutes, but it also provides a basis for working together collaboratively to help you achieve housing and community development

goals. One critical outcome of this collaboration should be the development of a more comprehensive, effective, and concise Consolidated Plan and improved performance in achieving specific goals that correspond to the activities outlined in your Action Plan.

We congratulate you on your many accomplishments during this past year as well as on the achievement of Departmental Objectives.

The review consists of analyzing your consolidated planning process; reviewing management of funds; determining the progress made in carrying out the local programs and activities; determining compliance of funded activities with statutory and regulatory Program requirements; determining the accuracy of required performance reports; and evaluating your accomplishments in meeting key Departmental objectives

The City of Columbus was allocated \$247,324 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the 2015 PY. The City reported on its investment of formula funds and the performance of anticipated outcomes in a manner that met with its 2015 Annual Plan.

It was determined the activities implemented directly relate to: priority needs identified, the goals, objectives, and strategies identified in the city's 5-year Consolidated Plan and the 2015 Annual Action Plan.

The City carried out activities during 2015 Program Year that were identified in the Action Plan as high priority. These included:

1. Housing Rehab
 - Columbus Housing Improvements Program
 - Owner Occupied Housing
 - Rental Housing Rehab
2. Public Facilities
 - Sidewalks and ramp improvements
3. Public Services
 - Centerstone
4. Administration
 - Administration

Regulations at 24 CFR 570.902(a) require the Grantee maintain no more than 1.5 of its most recent CDBG award, sixty days prior to the close of the program year. On July 1, 2016 the City had a factor of 1.23 of its entitlement award available in the amount of \$303,905. The City has satisfactorily met the requirement of the 1.5 timeliness of expenditure.

CDBG regulations at 24 CFR 570.200 require that no more than 20% of the sum of entitlement grant funds plus current year program income shall be expended for planning and administrative costs. During Program Year 2015, the City of Columbus expended \$35,591.74 of its CDBG funds plus program income on planning and administrative activities. The expenditure of CDBG funds for planning and administration during the 2015 program year in review was at 16.89%.

Regulations at 24 CFR 570.201 further require that the amount of CDBG funds used for public services shall not exceed 15% of each grant year allocation plus prior year program income. During Program Year 2015, the City obligated 9.30% of its CDBG funds subject to the public services cap including prior year program income for eligible public service activities.

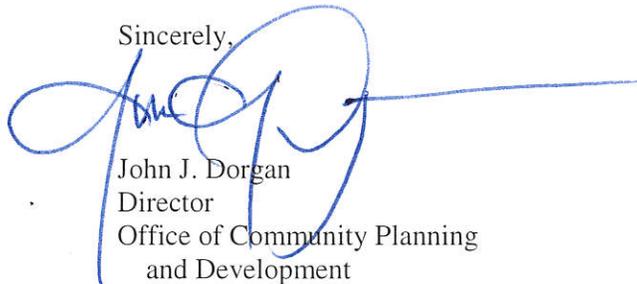
Program regulations at 24 CFR 570.200 require a minimum of 70% of the aggregate of CDBG funds expended shall be for activities benefiting low and moderate income persons over a period of not more than three years. Based on the IDIS PR26, the report computes 100% of the CDBG expenditures for the 2015 one-year certification period for the 2015 program year benefiting low to moderate income households.

The city reports assistance was provided to 141 households and 1,215 per households with non-housing services and rehabbed two (2) owner-occupied housing units and a nine-unit rental senior housing structure. The multi-unit apartment complex was not completed during the program year. Public improvements included sidewalk improvements and public services to a facility that serves homeless persons.

In accordance with Part 91.525 (b) of the Consolidated Plan regulations, you have 30 days from the date of this correspondence to review and comment on this performance assessment. This letter and any revisions that are made as a result of your comments should be made available to the public for review within 30 days of your comments.

Should you have any questions concerning this review of the year-end report, please contact Letty Almodovar, Community Planning and Development representative, at 317-957-7296. She may also be contacted by e-mail at: Letty.Almodovar@hud.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John J. Dorgan", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John J. Dorgan
Director
Office of Community Planning
and Development

CC: Honorable Jim Lenhoop
Mayor, City of Columbus
Trena Carter, ARa