



**CITY OF
ASHLAND**

**CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE
EVALUATION REPORT
(CAPER)**

**Program year 2011
(July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012)**

Date of Report August 23, 2012

Prepared for:
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

By:
The City of Ashland
Department of Community Development
Planning Division
Ashland, Oregon

CITY OF ASHLAND



City of Ashland 2011 Program Year Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

Executive Summary

The City of Ashland is an entitlement jurisdiction, receiving an annual allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As a recipient of CDBG funds, the City is required to prepare a five-year strategic plan that identifies housing and community needs, prioritizes these needs, identifies resources to address the needs, and establishes annual goals and objectives to meet the identified needs. This five year plan is known as the Consolidated Plan.

The purpose of the Consolidated Plan is to outline a strategy for the City to follow in using CDBG funding to achieve the goals of the CDBG program, *“to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons.”* This Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) Addresses the goals identified in the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan which was approved in April of 2010.

Each year the City is required to provide the public and HUD with an assessment of its accomplishments toward meeting the priority goals outlined in the Five Year Consolidated Plan. This annual assessment is known as the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

This document provides a review and evaluation of the City of Ashland’s progress toward meeting the annual goals and outcomes as outlined in the Action Plan for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 as well as the larger five year goals of the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan. The CDBG fiscal year begins July 1st and ends on June 30th, this report will summarize the City’s accomplishments for that time period.

During FY 2011 the City of Ashland continued working toward meeting its homeless, at-risk and special needs priorities for supportive services through activities such as emergency rent and utility funding for low-income households at risk of homelessness. During FY 2011 the City continued to work toward affirmatively furthering fair housing by partnering with the City of Medford in support of the Fair Housing Council of Oregon to provide education and outreach to Ashland residents and to Social Service organizations that provide services to low and moderate income households. And lastly, the City awarded funds to ACCESS, Inc. for acquisition of a site on which to develop six units of affordable housing. The tables that follow provide a comprehensive overview of the Consolidated Plan’s 5 year goals and the City’s progress toward attaining those goals.

Priority Housing Needs/Investment Plan Table
(Table 2A)

Priority Need	5-Yr. Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 1 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 2 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 3 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 4 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 5 Goal Plan/Act
Renters						
0 - 30 of MFI	10	2/76 ¹	2/47			
31 - 50% of MFI	10	2/3	2/3			
51 - 80% of MFI	30	6/0	6/35			
Owners						
0 - 30 of MFI	0	0/3	0/3 ²			
31 - 50 of MFI	5	1/1	1/0			
51 - 80% of MFI	12	3/3	3/0			
Homeless*						
Individuals	100	20/20	20/20 ³			
Families	50	10/10	10/10			
Non-Homeless Special Needs						
Elderly	5	1/0	1/0			
Frail Elderly	5	1/1	1/0			
Severe Mental Illness	2	1/1	1/2			
Physical Disability	1	1/3	0/2			
Developmental Disability	1	0/3	1/1			
Alcohol or Drug Abuse	0	0/0	0/0			
HIV/AIDS	0	0/0	0/0			
Victims of Domestic Violence	0	0/0	0/0			
Total (Sec. 215 and other)	14	5/8	4/5			
Total Sec. 215						
215 Renter	50	10/79	10/83			
215 Owner	17	4/7	4/3			

* Homeless individuals and families assisted with transitional and permanent housing

¹ Number of Renters counted were reported through the St. Vincent De Paul's home visitation program for rental assistance to avoid homelessness. Similarly, these populations count toward the non homeless special needs populations.

² Number of owner's counted came from CDBG-R funds that assisted with weatherization upgrades, there was some crossover in CDBG-R recipient's with Housing Rehab recipients, those Households were not double counted.

³ Number of Homeless individuals and families reflected in table are from the Projected Homeless Connect Event which serves a greater number of individuals than reflected in the table. Actual numbers are quantified elsewhere. Some of those served are counted from the St. Vincent De Paul Home visitation program.

Priority Housing Activities/Investment Plan Table
(Table 2A)

Priority Need	5-Yr. Goal <u>Plan/Act</u>	Yr. 1 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 2 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 3 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 4 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 5 Goal <u>Plan/Act</u>
CDBG						
Acquisition of existing rental units	40	10/0	10/0			
Production of new rental units	10	2/62	2/0			
Rehabilitation of existing rental units	2	2/2	0/0			
Rental assistance	0	0/79	0/83			
Acquisition of existing owner units	0	0/0	0/0			
Production of new owner units	14	2/7	2/8			
Rehabilitation of existing owner units	3	1/3	1/3			
Homeownership assistance	15	0/0	5/0			
Other						
Condo- Conversion/Other	0	0/0	0/0			
ARU (Accessory Residential Unit)	0	0/2	0/2			
General Fund (SDC & Comm. Dev. fee Waiver	0	0/0	0/0			
Production of new rental units HOME/LIHTC	0	0/60	0/0			
Affordable Homeownership or Rental Total	0	0/7	0/8			
Rental Only Total	52	10/60	10/0			

Annual Housing Completion Goals
(Table 3B)

Grantee Name: City of Ashland Program Year: 2011	Expected Annual Number of Units To Be Completed	Actual Annual Number of Units Completed	Resources used during the period			
			CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA
BENEFICIARY GOALS (Sec. 215 Only)						
Homeless households	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-homeless households	22	6	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special needs households	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Sec. 215 Beneficiaries*	22	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RENTAL GOALS (Sec. 215 Only)						
Acquisition of existing units	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Production of new units	14	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Rehabilitation of existing units	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rental Assistance	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Sec. 215 Affordable Rental	14	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOME OWNER GOALS (Sec. 215 Only)						
Acquisition of existing units	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Production of new units	8	6	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Rehabilitation of existing units	0	2	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Homebuyer Assistance	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Sec. 215 Affordable Owner	8	8	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COMBINED RENTAL AND OWNER GOALS (Sec. 215 Only)						
Acquisition of existing units	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Production of new units	22	6	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Rehabilitation of existing units	0	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rental Assistance	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Homebuyer Assistance	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Combined Total Sec. 215 Goals*	22	8	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OVERALL HOUSING GOALS (Sec. 215 + Other Affordable Housing)						
Annual Rental Housing Goal	14	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annual Owner Housing Goal	8	8	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Overall Housing Goal	22	8	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* The total amounts for "Combined Total Sec. 215 Goals" and "Total Sec. 215 Beneficiary Goals" should be the same number.

Priority Community Development Activities
(Table 2B)

Priority Need	5-Yr. Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 1 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 2 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 3 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 4 Goal Plan/Act	Yr. 5 Goal Plan/Act
Acquisition of Real Property	0					
Disposition	0					
Clearance and Demolition	0					
Clearance of Contaminated Sites	0					
Code Enforcement	0					
Public Facility (General)	0					
Senior Centers	0					
Handicapped Centers	0					
Homeless Facilities	0					
Youth Centers	0					
Neighborhood Facilities	0					
Child Care Centers	0					
Health Facilities	0					
Mental Health Facilities	0					
Parks and/or Recreation Facilities	0					
Parking Facilities	0					
Tree Planting	0					
Fire Stations/Equipment	0					
Abused/Neglected Children Facilities	0					
Asbestos Removal	0					
Non-Residential Historic Preservation	0					
Other Public Facility Needs	0					
Infrastructure (General)	0					
Water/Sewer Improvements	0					
Street Improvements	10,000	2,000/0	0/0			
Sidewalks	10,000	2,000/205 3	0/0			
Solid Waste Disposal Improvements	0					
Flood Drainage Improvements	0					
Other Infrastructure	0					
Public Services (General)	0					
Senior Services	10	2	0			
Handicapped Services	4	0	0			
Legal Services	0					
Youth Services	10	0	0			
Child Care Services	0					
Transportation Services	0					
Substance Abuse Services	0					
Employment/Training Services	0					
Health Services	0					
Lead Hazard Screening	0					
Crime Awareness	0					
Fair Housing Activities	10	0	10			
Tenant Landlord Counseling	0					
Other Services	0					
Economic Development (General)	0					
C/I Land Acquisition/Disposition	0					
C/I Infrastructure Development	0					
C/I Building Acq/Const/Rehab	0					

Other C/I	0					
ED Assistance to For-Profit						
ED Technical Assistance						
Micro-enterprise Assistance						
Other						

OUTCOME PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS
(Table 1C, 2C, 3A)

Availability/Accessibility of Decent Housing (DH-1)							
Specific Objective	Source of Funds	Year	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number CDBG/Other	Percent Achieved	
DH 1.1 Provide assistance to non-profit organizations that assist the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless, provide transition assistance to the homeless and help prevent homelessness. (*These goals are established for the Medford-Ashland & Jackson County Continuum of Care region.)	CDBG General Fund Private	2010	Number of homeless, or households at risk that have received services to improve health, safety, provide counseling, or improve conditions and assistance to homeless populations that enable them to be self sufficient.	150 Individuals and persons per year*	400 ⁴ / 0	200%	
		2011			714 ⁵ /0	475%	
2012							
2013							
2014							
		MULTI-YEAR GOAL		750	400		
DH 1.2 Encourage development of transitional and supportive housing for extremely low and low-income special needs populations.	CDBG General Fund Private	2010	Number of individuals with special needs that have received services designed to improve health safety, general welfare, and self reliance.	5 3 2 2 2	0	0 %	
		2011			0	0%	
2012							
2013							
2014							
		MULTI-YEAR GOAL		14	0	0%	
DH 1.3 Provide assistance to non-profit organizations that provide support services for extremely low and low-income special needs populations.	CDBG General Fund Private	2010	Number of group homes or other supportive housing developed for the elderly, individuals with special needs.	0 0 1 0 0	0	0%	
		2011			0	0%	
2012							
2013							
2014							
		MULTI-YEAR GOAL		1	0	100%	
Affordability of Decent Housing (DH-2)							

⁴ This number reflects the combined total of homeless and at-risk individuals served through the one day Project homeless connect event as well as through the CDBG funded St. Vincent De Paul Home Visitation Program.

⁵ This number reflects the combined total of homeless and at-risk served through the one day Project Community Connect Event which served 629 individuals and the St. Vincent De Paul Home Visitation Program which served 85 but still had some grant funds to expend.

DH 2.1	Encourage the acquisition and construction of affordable rental housing.	CDBG General Fund Private	2010	Number of new rental units affordable to, and occupied by, lower-income households	2	2 ⁶ / 0	100 %
			2011		2		
			2012		2		
			2013		2		
			2014		2		
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		10	2	0%
DH 2.2	Encourage the acquisition and construction of affordable housing by private developers.	CDBG General Fund Private	2010	Number of new for purchase housing units created by private developers that are affordable to, and occupied by lower-income households.	2	0 / 0	100 %
			2011		2		
			2012		2		
			2013		2		
			2014		2		
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		10		
Sustainability of Decent Housing (DH-3)							
DH 3.1	Support the acquisition and development of affordable rental housing units through a sustainable program, which retains the units as affordable in perpetuity, such as a land trust.	CDBG General Fund Private Federal	2010	Number of existing or new housing units that have been secured as affordable through deed restrictions recorded on the property	5	2 ⁷ / 0	40 %
			2011		5		
			2012		5		0 %
			2013		5		0 %
			2014		5		0 %
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL		25	2	0%
DH 3.2	Support Acquisition and development of affordable ownership housing units through a sustainable program which retains the units as affordable in perpetuity, such as a land trust	CDBG	2010	Number of existing or new housing units that have been secured as affordable through deed restrictions recorded on the property	4	0/7 ⁸	100 %
			2011		2		
			2012		5		0/8
			2013		2		
			2014		1		

⁶ ACLT completed the development of 2 new rental units on Bridge Street during program year 2010.

⁷ See footnote #1 above.

⁸ Groundworks completed 7 of the 15 proposed new ownership units in the Rice Park development in the 2010 program year. These units were developed to meet a City planning requirement and have no CDBG funding in them.

				MULTI-YEAR GOAL	14	7	100%
DH 3.3	Retain existing affordable housing, rental and ownership, by supporting rehabilitation programs which recapture the rehabilitation costs for further use in Ashland.	CDBG General Fund State Federal Private Fund	2010	Number of housing units occupied by low income households that have been rehabilitated	1	3 ⁹ 3	100 %
			2011		1		100 %
2012	1						
2013	0						
2014	0						
				MULTI-YEAR GOAL	3	3	100%
DH 3.4	Retain existing affordable housing, rental and ownership, by supporting rehabilitation programs using a sustainable program which retains the units as affordable in perpetuity.	CDBG General Fund	2010	Number of existing housing units that have been rehabilitated and retained as affordable through deed restrictions recorded on the property.	10	0/0 0/0	0%
			2011		10		0%
2012	10						
2013	5						
2014	5						
				MULTI-YEAR GOAL	40		0%
Availability/Accessibility of Suitable Living Environment (SL-1)							
SL 1.1	Accessibility-Availability of improved public infrastructure serving low-moderate income persons	CDBG General Fund	2010	Number of households benefiting from new or enhanced city sidewalks.	20	60 ¹⁰ /117 1 ¹¹	100%
			2011		20		
2012	20						
2013	20						
2014	20						
				MULTI-YEAR GOAL	100	1230	100 %
Affordability of Suitable Living Environment (SL-2)							
SL 2.1	Construct new sidewalks on existing streets in extremely low-, low- and moderate income neighborhoods.		2010	Linear feet of sidewalk completed in qualified low-income Census block groups.	2,000	0/2065 ¹² 0/0	100%
			2011		2,000		
2012	2,000						
2013	2,000						
2014	2,000						
				MULTI-YEAR GOAL	10,000	2065	100%
Sustainability of Suitable Living Environment (SL-3)							

⁹ Three homeowner rehab projects were completed in PY 2010 utilizing revolving loan fund repayments.

¹⁰ Residents of Snowberry brook who will benefit from the CDBG funded sidewalk improvements.

¹¹ # of residents of census block groups 001900-1,002000-1, and 001800-1 divided by the average household size (2.14). These improvements were funded through the City's general fund.

¹² Linear feet of sidewalk improved or installed in low-income census block groups funded by the City's general fund.

SL 3.1	Install Wheel chair ramps in existing sidewalks.		2010	Number of wheel chair ramps installed in existing sidewalks.	1	1/23 ¹³ 0/0	
			2011		1		
			2012		1		
			2013		1		
			2014		1		
			MULTI- YEAR GOAL		5		

¹³ City General Funds paid for the installation or upgrade of 11- wheelchair ramps in census tract 1900 blockgroup 1, 8- wheelchair ramps in tract 2100 blockgroup 2, and 5 in tract 2000 blockgroup 1 all of which qualify as low income census block groups

Availability/Accessibility of Economic Opportunity (EO-1)						
Specific Objective	Source of Funds	Year	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number CDBG/ Other	Percent Achieved
EO 1.1	No goals identified		2010			
			2011			
			2012			
			2013			
			2014			
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL			
Affordability of Economic Opportunity (EO-2)						
EO 2.1	No goals identified		2010			%
			2011			%
			2012			%
			2013			%
			2014			%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL			%
Sustainability of Economic Opportunity (EO-3)						
EO 3.1	No goals identified		2010			%
			2011			%
			2012			%
			2013			%
			2014			%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL			%
Neighborhood Revitalization (NR-1)						
NR 1.1	No goals identified		2010			%
			2011			%
			2012			%
			2013			%
			2014			%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL			%
Other (O-1)						
O 1.1	No goals identified		2010			%
			2011			%
			2012			%
			2013			%
			2014			%
			MULTI-YEAR GOAL			%
Other (O-2)						

O 2.1	No goals identified		2010				%	
			2011				%	
			2012				%	
			2013				%	
			2014				%	
			MULTI- YEAR GOAL					%

OUTCOME PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS
Table 1C
Summary of Specific Homeless/Special Needs Objectives

#	Specific Objectives	Sources of Funds	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number	Outcome/ Objective*
	Homeless Objectives					
	Special Needs Objectives					
	Other Objectives					

***Outcome/Objective Codes**

	Availability/Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability
Decent Housing	DH-1	DH-2	DH-3
Suitable Living Environment	SL-1	SL-2	SL-3
Economic Opportunity	EO-1	EO-2	EO-3

OUTCOME PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS
Table 2C
Summary of Specific Housing/Community Development Objectives

#	Specific Objectives	Sources of Funds	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number	Outcome/Objective*
	Rental Housing					
	Owner Housing					
	Community Development					
	Infrastructure					
	Public Facilities					
	Public Services					
	Economic Development					
	Neighborhood Revitalization/Other					

*Outcome/Objective Codes

	Availability/Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability
Decent Housing	DH-1	DH-2	DH-3
Suitable Living Environment	SL-1	SL-2	SL-3
Economic Opportunity	EO-1	EO-2	EO-3

Table 3A -- Summary of Specific Annual Objectives

#	Specific Annual Objectives	Sources of Funds	Performance Indicators	Expected Number	Actual Number	Outcome/ Objective*
	Rental Housing					
	Owner Housing					
	Homeless					
	Special Needs					
	Community Development					
	Infrastructure					
	Public Facilities					
	Public Services					
	Economic Development					
	Neighborhood Revitalization/Other					

***Outcome/Objective Codes**

	Availability/Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability
Decent Housing	DH-1	DH-2	DH-3
Suitable Living Environment	SL-1	SL-2	SL-3
Economic Opportunity	EO-1	EO-2	EO-3

I. Summary of Resources and Distribution of Funds

The City of Ashland utilized Community Development Block Grant funds to assist in furthering the goals and objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan. For Fiscal Year 2011 the City received \$186,256 in CDBG funding. The City also utilized carryover funds in the amount of \$13,522 in unallocated CDBG funds from the 2010 program year. See table 1.1 below.

In the 2011 program year the City of Ashland awarded funds to; ACCESS Inc. \$136,142 in CDBG funds to acquire a lot on which to build six units of affordable housing, \$27,938 to St. Vincent De Paul home Visitation Program to provide emergency rent and energy assistance to avoid homelessness, and lastly \$27,623 to provide audible signals added to existing cross walks to assist the sight impaired did not get utilized in the 2010 program year.

In Program Year 2011, the City drew down \$203,945, in Community Development Block Grant Funds.

Table 1.1

Agency/Organization	Funds Committed	Funds Expended in FY 2010	Funds Expended in FY 2011	Remaining Balance
ACCESS, Inc.	\$136,142.00		\$136,142.00	\$0
St. Vincent De Paul 2011	\$27,938.00		\$20,856.49	\$7,081.51
St. Vincent De Paul 2010	\$30,000	\$29,276.16	\$723.84	\$0
Public Works-ADA	\$27,623			\$27,623.00
City of Ashland (Admin 2010)	\$44,909.00 ¹⁴	\$42,378.55		\$2,530.45*
City of Ashland (Admin 2011)	\$37,251.00		\$37,251.00	\$0
CDBG Fund total	\$303,863.00	\$71,654.71	\$194,973.33	\$37,237.96
CDBG-Recovery Act	\$55,622.00	\$46,650.21	\$8,971.79	\$0
Total	\$359,485.00	\$118,304.92	\$203,945.12	\$37,237.96

*Funds returned to HUD, due to General Fund discrepancy

A) Geographic Distribution of Expenditures

The City of Ashland is a relatively small community both in population and incorporated area. Ashland is 4.4 miles long and 1.7 miles wide and comprises seven census tracts and 20 block groups. Of those 20 block groups 8 qualify as Low- to Moderate- Income area benefit block groups. There are no areas that fall under HUD's definition of racial or minority concentrations within the City. The 2000 Census estimated that 92% of Ashland's population is White alone. The City of Ashland does not have any designated Revitalization Neighborhoods nor does the City have any areas that qualify as being affected by slum or blight conditions. The city did not target any CDBG funds to a designated area.

¹⁴ The City returned \$2,530.45 in CDBG admin funds which are not reflected in IDIS.

II. Narrative Statement

A) Assessment of Three to Five Year Goals and Objectives

In April of 2010, the City of Ashland adopted the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (2010-2014). Fourteen priorities (goals) are identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The priorities are not ranked in order of importance. Each project/activity, which was undertaken during Program Year 2011, is listed and discussed under the relevant priority.

The assessment provided in this CAPER covers the 2011 Program year (July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012).

For the 2011 Program year the City had very little progress to report on the three to five year Consolidated Plan Goals. Two projects, one of which will provide a total of 15 homeownership units and 60 rental units for low to moderate income households were completed in the 2010 Program year. One of these projects, the 60 unit rental development utilized CDBG funding for public facilities improvements. Please see tables 2A, 1C, 2C, and 3A for details.

B) Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

In the 2011 Program year the City undertook several activities to affirmatively Further Fair Housing. The City continued its support to the Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO), working with that organization in partnership with the City of Medford and the Southern Oregon Housing Resource Center to provide education and outreach on a regional level. The City convened a meeting with the Fair Housing Council of Oregon, the Southern Oregon Housing Resource Center, the Southern Oregon Rental Owner's Association, and other community stakeholders where fair housing activities for the 2011 Program year were discussed and coordinated on a regional level. These activities which came out of this meeting included; bringing the Fair Housing Display to the Southern Oregon region for the entire month of April, and bringing it to communities who had not previously had the opportunity to host the display, the display was featured at the Southern Oregon spring home show which has been held since 1983 and sees upwards of 20,000 people annually. Regional providers of housing and legal services discussed training needs and gaps in fair housing compliance and coordinated with the Fair Housing Council of Oregon around a grant opportunity to provide more Fair Housing presence and compliance in the Southern Oregon region. The Fair Housing Council received notice in June of 2012 that they were awarded funding to provide a .50 FTE employee stationed in the Southern Oregon Region. ACCESS, Inc. has offered to provide office space for this person. The FHCO is currently in the process of hiring for this position and expects them to become active locally in the 2012 Program Year.

In the 2008 Program year, the City of Ashland Contracted with the Fair Housing Council of Oregon to undertake an update of the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). The final draft of the AI was completed in September of 2009. In the updated City of Ashland AI the Fair Housing Council of Oregon identified several impediments to fair housing choice. Many of the recommendations were in line with activities that the city was currently undertaking, and some of the recommendations the City has begun to work toward implementing. The City of Ashland Housing Commission has completed a review and recommended revisions to the City's local Fair Housing Ordinance which will be presented to the City Council for adoption during the 2012 program year.

The Fair Housing Council identified 15 impediments to Fair Housing Choice in the City of Ashland's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. In Program year 2009 the City initiated action on nine of those impediments. In Program Year 2011 the City continued its work on those activities as well as ongoing education and outreach efforts through targeted trainings and public awareness activities. Though the City is far from accomplishing the goals laid out in the AI, the City is committed to affirmatively furthering fair housing and continuing to work with community partners, citizens, and other jurisdictions on implementing the recommendations included in the AI. The City will report further activities and accomplishments on the goals noted above as well as the remaining unaddressed goals in successive CAPER's.

C) Affordable Housing

Progress on the Consolidated Plan goals 1.1 and 1.2, the development of affordable rental and homeownership housing; had throughout the period covered by the 2005-2009 Consolidated Plan been hampered by the high cost of land in the City of Ashland. Though this has been a considerable barrier to providers of affordable housing in the Jackson County area, the recent economic downturn has served to slow the pace of market rate development in Ashland allowing opportunities for more affordable housing development. The City met its Consolidated Plan goals for affordable ownership housing and for the development of rental housing for the previous five year period. For the current five year period beginning in program year 2010, the City is on track with the goals for affordable rental, ownership and long term deed restricted units.

In the 2008 and 2009 program years the City of Ashland partnered with the Housing Authority of Jackson County to jointly acquire a 10 acre property. The City traded 1.7 million in land, and \$720,000 in cash, the Housing Authority paid 1.2 million for a total purchase price of 3.6 million. The direct contribution from the city toward the land purchased for the Housing Authority development was \$160,000. The development was completed in the spring of 2010 and fully leased at that time as well. The completion of this project allowed the City to meet the goal of developing 55 new affordable rental units which was identified in the previous five year consolidated plan.

The City has also met and exceeded Decent Housing goal 3.3 for ownership housing rehabilitation primarily utilizing CDBG program income and CDBG-Recovery act funds.

During the 2011 Program year the City continued to work with Rogue Valley Community Development Corporation on the completion of the remaining eight units of the self help homeownership units(seven units were completed in the initial phase of the project in 2010). Each of these units is deed restricted to remain affordable through the SDC deferral program for a period of 30 years, through the annexation ordinance for a period of 60 years, and through the Rogue Valley Community Development Corporation's (RVCDC) land lease for a period of 99 years.

The City of Ashland does not directly develop or manage affordable housing. The City of Ashland has prioritized the provision of affordable housing to be the highest priority need in the Consolidated Plan. Over the years the City of Ashland has developed a number of programs, incentives, and regulations in an effort to promote the development of affordable housing. Specifically; the City provides a density bonus to developers who construct affordable rental and ownership units, the City defers the System Development Charges (SDCs) for affordable rental

and single family homes so long as they remain “affordable” for a period of 30 years. The maximum rent limit set by HUD can not be exceeded, nor can the housing units be sold outside the program during this period, (a change in the SDC waiver program instituted in 2005 was to eliminate the ability to “buy-out” of the program by paying off past SDCs), lastly, the City added language to the zone change, annexation, and condominium conversion ordinances that provides for a percentage of affordability under certain circumstances. The funding source for these activities is the City of Ashland’s General fund for administration of the City sponsored affordable housing program and foregoing collection of System Development Charges and applicable Community Development and Engineering fees.

The City continues to examine and initiate new and innovated programs to promote, develop, and retain affordable housing.

Worst Case Needs

The City of Ashland has undertaken many steps to meet the needs of low-income renters with severe cost burden, to address substandard housing and to lessen or alleviate instances of involuntary displacement. Specifically, the City has worked with the local providers of affordable housing to promote the production and retention of affordable rental and ownership housing in Ashland. In 2010 the Housing Authority of Jackson County completed the first large scale affordable rental housing project built in Ashland in the last twenty years. The Housing Authority currently provides approximately 100 housing choice vouchers to residents in the City of Ashland, these vouchers help to alleviate severe cost burden to some Ashland renters. The City of Ashland Housing Commission has listed as one of that body’s top priorities the preservation of expiring use HUD subsidized rental complexes. In program year 2011 the City awarded funds to ACCESS, Inc. the CAP agency for Jackson County to develop 6 units of affordable housing and to St. Vincent De Paul Society to assist those at risk of losing their housing or at risk of having their utilities shut off.

In an effort to reduce the number of households living in substandard housing, the City awarded homeowner rehabilitation program funds to the Housing Authority of Jackson County over three grant years, 1997, 1998, and 2000. Loan repayment proceeds from prior year’s home owner rehabilitation projects are put into a revolving loan fund to complete more homeowner rehabilitation projects. In program year 2010 loan repayments proceeds from prior year’s payoff in the amount of \$46,448.99, were utilized to complete repairs on three more owner occupied units. Two of the projects leveraged funds from the City’s energy efficiency program funded with CDBG recovery act dollars. The Housing Authority has not received any new payoffs in Program year 2011.

In 2009 the City was the recipient of \$55,622 in Community Development Block Grant Recovery Act (CDBG-R) funds. The City council allocated those funds to complete weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades on housing units occupied by low-income homeowners. These funds were leveraged with other available funds on a case by case basis to help further the grant funds and complete needed repairs, weatherization, and energy efficiency upgrades. There are four programs which could be used to leverage funds with the CDBG-R funds; USDA’s Rural Development Department offers low interest loans of up to \$20,000 to complete needed repairs to owner occupied homes, and up to \$7,500 in grant funds to repair the homes of owner occupants who are 62 years old and older, the City of Ashland Homeowner repair program that is detailed in the paragraph above, Access, Inc.’s low-income weatherization program, which provides weatherization measures such as insulation, window replacement and roof repairs on

mobile homes, manufactured homes and single family residences,(this program has senior and disabled preference) and the City of Ashland's Conservation program which offers a zero percent interest 60 month loan of up to \$7,500 for owner occupied units repaid through utility bill or a City incentives. The City makes referrals to Rural Development or the Housing Authority for homeowner repair needs or to ACCESS, Inc. in an effort to leverage CDBG-R funds and assist those populations within the City with the least ability to pay for needed repairs and energy efficiency upgrades. Although the intent of the CDBG-R program is to promote energy efficiency measures, lower utility expenses for low income residents and work toward community wide energy conservation allowing the City to meet the tier two energy goals of reducing the City's overall energy use as well as, the larger goal of preserving affordable housing units and making health and safety improvements is also being met. Detailed outcomes for this program are reported in section F, Leveraged resources.

The city passed a tenants rights ordinance in 2007 in an effort to protect the basic rights of tenants living in multi-family residential units who may be displaced or affected by the conversion of existing multi-family rental housing into for purchase housing. The ordinance requires property owners to notice tenants about the conversion and of the tenant's right to relocation assistance if certain conditions are not met. The City of Ashland follows all federal regulations regarding relocation when carrying out CDBG activities. The City recognizes the continued need for affordable housing for city residents, and will continue to seek out and prioritize opportunities to develop, maintain, and preserve affordable rental and ownership housing to meet the needs of very low, low, and moderate income households.

During the 2008 and 2009 Program year the City's CDBG funding went toward assisting the Jackson County Housing Authority in completing a large scale affordable housing development, the first multifamily housing development built by the Housing Authority in Ashland ever, and the first new affordable multifamily development in the past 20 years. This 60 unit development known as Snowberry Brook was completed and leased in the spring of 2011. The new development includes three fully accessible units that meet the section 504 building code for ADA accessibility, and one hearing impaired unit. All 14 of the ground floor flats were designed and built to be ADA adaptable. And 43 of the units were designed and built to be "visitible" units for people in wheelchairs providing 36" exterior and restroom doors. Similarly, a portion of the funding awarded to the Housing Authority for public facilities improvements provided for the installation of 3,250 linear feet of new sidewalk on newly developed interior streets and on previously unimproved public right of way along a major collector roadway completing the connection between two existing sidewalks between two arterial transportation routes. Lastly, the grant funds paid for the installation of 13 new wheel chair ramps further increasing ADA accessibility.

D) Continuum of Care

Consolidated Plan goals aimed at serving homeless and special needs populations are currently on track primarily due to the efforts of the Jackson County Homeless Task Force's (HTF) annual Project Homeless Connect event as well activities undertaken by the Society of St. Vincent De Paul to keep people in their homes. City staff is an active member of the Homeless Task Force, a subcommittee of the Continuum Care, and continues to work toward creating more resources for local and regional homeless and at-risk populations.

Program year 2011 was the fourth year that the HTF organized a Project Community Connect Event. In the 2008 program year the City of Ashland in partnership with the many other individual members and organizations of the Homeless Task Force put on the first annual Project Homeless Connect Event. Since that time new partner organizations and private sector businesses have donated their time and services to the event. Over the past few years the coordination effort has become more efficient, organized, and inclusive. This year the one day event took place on Friday, June 22nd, at the Medford Armory. The purpose of the event was to connect homeless populations and those at risk of homelessness to service providers, government agencies and community resources. The Project Community Connect event also serves as an opportunity for individual community members to welcome those experiencing homelessness or on the verge of homelessness back into the community through volunteerism and recognition. The event provided a hot meal and resources for approximately 629 people. Many of the agencies who participated reported that they have had follow ups from the event. Services ranged from free haircuts, dental, mental and medical health services, veterinary services, to hygiene kits, food baskets and hot lunch. Attendance at this year's event was up considerably from the previous year. There are several factors that can affect attendance rates, including the day of the week, and the weather.

Jackson County's Ten Year Plan to end Homelessness was adopted by the Jackson County Commissioners on June 3rd 2009. Paul Carlson, HUD Region X, Regional Coordinator of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, Robert Franco from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, and Karen Clearwater, from Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) spoke at the event in support of the Ten Year Plan. The Jackson County Ten Year Plan to end homelessness is available on the Jackson County Website at: http://www.co.jackson.or.us/files/10-Year_Plan_to_End_Homelessness.pdf The City of Ashland continues to contribute to a coordinated effort to serve the Homeless populations and those at risk of homelessness

As mentioned the City is on track to meet the Consolidated Plan Goals of assisting 150 persons annually by providing assistance to non-profit organizations that assist the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless, by providing transition assistance to the homeless and helping to prevent homelessness. However, due to the Housing Program Specialist's continued involvement in the Homeless Task Force in general and more specifically the time spent on the planning and participation in the Project Homeless Connect Events, the number of persons benefiting from this activity will be counted as contributing toward this goal during the 2011 Program Year and in subsequent years. The activities undertaken by the Housing Program Specialist to this end will be divided between CDBG administrative costs and City General Fund as part of the City's Housing Program. For all other activities undertaken in the 2011 program year to assist homeless and special needs populations the City primarily looked to the general fund and non-CDBG funds to fulfill these goals. Please see Outcome and Performance Measures table for details.

The City directs over \$100,000 in general fund dollars to safety net services each year. Awards to selected service providers are made on a two year cycle, with recipients receiving the full award amount on July 1st, of each year. Therefore the award indicated in table 1.3 below is an annual allocation and the recipient ultimately receives twice the amount listed. Several homeless service providers, low income health care, and essential continuum of care services are funded each year. In the 2010 program year the "Social Service Grants awarded totaled \$120,342. Given the relatively small size of the award requests, the use of the City's General Fund grant

awards enables these non-profits to direct the award to services with a minimal amount of grant administration costs.

The City has not directed funds specifically toward addressing the needs of persons with special needs that may require supportive housing (such as persons with HIV/AIDs) preferring instead to target funding and staff time to serving the needs of all populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness. If an affordable housing provider applied for CDBG funds to support the development of permanent supportive or transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or living with a disease that necessitated supportive housing that application would meet several of the City's priority goals for CDBG. Currently providers of affordable housing and services that target such populations express concerns about ongoing funding for staffing and other operational costs that the City alone could not provide. City staff and members of the Jackson County Homeless Task Force continue to monitor new and existing funding sources to better serve this population. However staff and the task force have yet to identify any suitable new resources.

In Program Year 2011 one new application was funded through the Continuum of Care HUD Homeless SuperNOFA. The Jackson County Continuum of Care received a bonus award of \$11,718 to the Oregon Department of Human Services to house homeless populations with HIV/Aids. For complete CoC grant award details see table 1.2 below.

Table 1.2
Continuum of Care Grant Funds FY 2011

Agency Name	Program	Amount
ACCESS-Woodrow Pines Unit	SHPR	\$10,901
Community Works-TLP program	SHPR	\$116,015
DHS-HIV/Aids housing	SHP	\$11,718
RVCOG/DASIL-Home At Last Program	SHPR	\$132,297
Society of St. Vincent De Paul-Hope House	SHPR	\$50,000
TOTAL		\$320,931

Table 1.3
City of Ashland Social Service Grants FY 2010-2011

Organization	Awarded Annual allocation (2 year disbursement = award below x 2)
ACCESS, Inc.	5,700
CASA of Jackson County, Inc.	2,000
Center for Non-Profit Legal services	6,039
Children's Dental Clinic	3,285
Community Health Center	35,000
Community Works-Dunn House	15,270
Community Works-Sexual Assault Victims Services	2,600
Community Works-Helpline	10,250
Community Works-Street Outreach	8,000
Help Now! (low income legal assistance)	1,133
Jackson County Children's Advocacy Center	4,000
Jackson County S.A.R.T.	2,480
Mediation Works	2,100
Ontrack, Inc.	3,000
Pathway Enterprises, Inc.	3,120
Planned Parenthood of South West	4,000
RV Manor-Senior Volunteer Program	2,000
RV Manor-Foster Grandparent Program	1,500
SOASTC	1,200
S. Ore. Child Study and Treatment Center	2,815
Southern Oregon Drug Awareness	1,500
WinterSpring Center for living with grief and loss	1,350
Total Awarded	\$ 120,342 (\$240,682 over two years)

E) Other Actions

a. Actions to Address Obstacles to meeting Underserved Needs

No specific actions were taken during 2011 that are not identified elsewhere in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. The 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan does not identify specific underserved populations, however, since the loss of Interfaith Care Community of Ashland, the only local service provider for the homeless population, the City has made it a goal to explore opportunities to be more proactive in assisting the Homeless Community. In 2009 the City of Ashland City Council articulated goals relating to homelessness; "facilitate efforts to address homelessness by; replacing services previously provided by ICCA, Developing and emergency shelter for minors, better connection services available in Jackson County to Ashland's homeless, and ensuring [that] Jackson County's 10 Year Plan addresses the specific issues faced in Ashland. To that end the City Council has appointed a 10 person ad hoc advisory committee to explore community oriented solutions to the homeless issue and to advise the council on what the City can do to reduce homelessness locally and regionally. Lastly, in the

2011 Program year the City of Ashland awarded funds to St. Vincent De Paul's home visitation program to support their ongoing efforts to prevent homelessness. These activities are reported elsewhere in this document.

The City's continued involvement in the Jackson County Homeless Task Force is also instrumental in assessing the needs and resources of homeless populations. Similarly, the City's support for local providers of services to low income, at risk, disabled, homeless, and elderly populations through the Social Service grant program funded out of the City's general fund helps to offset the lack of resources and helps to support local providers of services to those populations. See table 1.3 above for details.

b. Foster and Maintain Affordable Housing

As mentioned previously the City of Ashland worked with the Housing Authority of Jackson County to complete a sixty unit affordable rental housing development. The City is also working with ACCESS, Inc. on a project that will create six new affordable rental units targeted to low income households. In the 2011 program year the City also saw the completion of eight new homeownership units affordable to low and moderate income households.

An Affordable Housing Committee was formed in 1990 and reconvened in 1994 to search for ways to provide economical housing in Ashland. In 1995 a formal Housing Commission was formed. The Housing Commission has endeavored to create policies that will allow additional housing opportunities for low- and moderate- income Ashland households.

The City of Ashland Housing Commission continues to explore opportunities to promote the protection of the City's HUD expiring use units, researching funding sources for the newly established City of Ashland Affordable Housing Trust Fund, as well as working toward finding new resources to serve the City's homeless populations.

c. Eliminate barriers to affordable housing

Goal 4 of the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan looks at examining and taking steps toward eliminating barriers to affordable housing, to that end the Housing Commission, the Planning Commission, and the City Council held a joint meeting to open a dialog between city officials, community members, and developers of affordable housing. The joint meeting took place in September 2008. Barriers to affordable housing and what steps can be taken to overcome such barriers and promote the development of affordable and multi-family housing within the City were examined and discussed. Several viable ideas came out of that joint meeting and continue to be explored by the City. The City continues to consider the potential impacts to affordable housing that changes in the Ashland Land Use Ordinance may have, as well as to look at ways that the ALUO need to be updated in order to promote affordable housing and housing types. One such issue is the ALUO's requirements for manufactured housing in single family zones. Staff is currently working on updating the requirements to make it easier for landowners to place manufacture housing units on single family lots by removing outdated language that does not account for the changes and energy efficiency measures that manufactured housing has undergone since the code was originally adopted. Changing this ordinance will allow low- and moderate income individual's better access to USDA loan programs for manufactured homes.

d. Overcome gaps in institutional structure and enhance coordination.

City of Ashland Staff will continue to provide staff support to the City of Ashland Housing Commission including a Housing Program Specialist, which will help provide institutional

structure as well as to examine and implement opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation. The City will also continue to be an active participant with the Southern Oregon Housing Resource Center to maintain and promote further regional coordination and partnership in housing and community development related activities. Ashland will continue to work with the Jackson County Continuum of Care's Homeless Task force to address the development of affordable housing and resources for homeless and at risk populations at a regional level. Staff will further outreach efforts with those entities and organizations that offer resources to Ashland residents.

e. Improve Public housing and resident initiatives

The Housing Authority of Jackson County operates all Public Housing Units in Jackson County. In 2006 HAJC filed for disposition of all of their public housing units, three of which were in the City of Ashland. Consequently there are no Public Housing Units within the City of Ashland.

f. Evaluate and reduce lead-based Paint hazards.

Outside of Staff time, the City did not use CDBG funds for this activity during PY 2011. The City will ensure that lead testing and clearance is completed on any federally funded project involving a structure built prior to 1979.

g. Ensure compliance with program and comprehensive planning requirements.

HUD has established specific requirements for implementation of the Consolidated Plan. The City of Ashland has made every effort to ensure that it is in compliance with these comprehensive planning requirements. Requirements include holding public hearings, allowing for adequate periods to receive public comments, and ensuring proper public notification of these and other actions. The City continues to make every effort to comply with all regulations that govern the CDBG program.

h. Reduce the number of persons living below the poverty level.

The Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 requires communities to include in their Consolidated Plan a description of an anti-poverty strategy. The City of Ashland has limited resources for addressing the issues involved in reducing poverty and improving the self-sufficiency of low-income residents. Affordable housing is one of the factors directly related to poverty that the City of Ashland does have some ability to influence, and the related goals are covered in the Housing Goals section. In addition, the City supports housing, social service, and economic development programs targeted at the continuum of care needs of the homeless.

In another effort to address poverty within Ashland, during 2001-2002 the City of Ashland passed a Living Wage Ordinance. This ordinance requires that employees of the City, or employers receiving financial assistance or business from the City in excess of approximately \$15,000 (adjusts annually) must pay a minimum of \$12.96 per hour (adjusted annually) to employees engaged in work related to the City project or service contract. The City of Ashland operates a variety of funding and other assistance programs which, together, strategically address the goals of reducing poverty and improving the self-sufficiency of low-income residents. The activities undertaken in conjunction with this anti-poverty strategy can be separated into two primary areas of effort: human services programs targeted at the continuum of care needs; and affordable housing programs. The City of Ashland provides funding to agencies that address the needs of low income and homeless residents through a Social Service Grant program. The goal of this program is to improve living conditions and self sufficiency for residents by meeting such basic

needs as food, shelter, clothing, counseling and basic health care. The goal is carried out by providing funds in excess of \$100,000 every year to various area agencies whose focus meets one or more of these targeted needs.

The Social Service Grant program is funded entirely with general fund dollars from the City of Ashland budget. The award process is coordinated with the City of Medford and the United Way of Jackson County. Local agencies and organizations providing continuum of care activities in the Rogue Valley coordinate their applications through a Community Services Consortium. The coordination of services and related funding requests through the consortium attempts to insure that the broad range of needs is met without overlap or duplication of service. The second element of the City's anti-poverty strategy targets the development and retention of affordable housing. The City of Ashland has made a serious effort to address the issues of housing affordability.

In 2009-10 the Mayor and City Council identified the goal of creating and implementing an Economic Development Strategy that would incorporate the four objectives:

- Diversifying the economic base of the community
- Supporting the creation and growth of businesses that use and provide local and regional products.
- Increasing the number of family wage jobs in the community
- Leveraging the strengths of Ashland's tourism and repeat visitors.

In July 2011 the Council adopted the economic development strategy in an effort to provide higher wage jobs and economic stability to the Ashland area.

F) Leveraging Resources

While the City itself did not use CDBG funds to leverage other public and private resources, local non-profits have reported the CDBG funds to be essential in obtaining private donations and other public and private grants.

With regard to projects funded in PY 2011 the amount leveraged from other sources totals \$1,046,298. Access, Inc. leveraged Oregon Housing grant funds in the amount of \$941,173 and City SDC deferrals in the amount of approximately \$30,625. The Society of St. Vincent De Pau's Home Visitation Program provided \$64,100 in organizational matching funds and leveraged \$10,400 in funding from other sources. Lastly, Recovery Act funds received by the City through the Community Development Block Grant program which the City used to provide energy efficiency upgrades for low-income homeowners in conjunction with the City's Conservation loan and rebate program leveraged \$1,000 in homeowner contributions. Two of the three units completed in Program Year 2011 received insulation measures from ACCESS, Inc.'s weatherization program. The City does not track or receive information regarding leveraged funds for these activities.

G) Citizen Comments

The availability of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the use of 2011 CDBG funds was advertised in the September 14th 2012, edition of the Ashland Daily Tidings (advertisement enclosed) and was posted continuously on the City of Ashland web site from September 14th, 2011 through September 30th, 2011 for public comment. Additionally the Housing Commission reviewed the CAPER at their September 26th Regular meeting and

held a public hearing to obtain comments. No comments had been received as of 3:00 PM September 27th 2012. The 2011 CAPER document remains archived on the City website. (www.ashland.or.us/cdbgcaper2011)

H) Self Evaluation

a. Impact of Activities on Identified Needs

The City of Ashland Five-Year Consolidated Plan for 2010-2014 includes a list of 14 “Goals” of the community. These goals demonstrate that the highest priority need is the provision of affordable housing. To this end, 65% of the yearly CDBG allocation is directed to this highest priority need. Homelessness and the provision of social services to low and extremely low income households were also identified as a critical need and thus the City maintains a 15% set aside for such activities. Administration of the program utilizes the remaining 20%. Outside of the CDBG Program the City allocates over \$100,000 per year of general funds to address social services, \$250,000-300,000 per year to support alternative transportation (goal 11), and over \$100,000 annually to economic development although only a limited percentage (approximately \$2,000-5,000) of this program can clearly be seen to increase economic opportunities to low income residents.

Ashland is a small-city with limited resources; it is unlikely that each of the fourteen identified goals can be addressed in any single program year. Furthermore, while Ashland experiences a broad range of needs similar to larger communities, the resources and services available to assist low- to moderate-income people in the Rogue Valley is limited and comparable to rural areas.

In recent years the City of Ashland has been very proactive in its approach to tackling the problem of providing affordable rental housing and home-ownership opportunities for low-income households. Through the elimination of regulatory barriers to affordable housing, the imposition of new regulations that promote affordable housing (see Goal 4), and the establishment of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The City continues to look to new and innovative ways to promote, protect and support affordable housing. The City of Ashland continues to offer System Development Charge deferrals for new units affordable to low-moderate income households thereby reducing development costs for affordable housing projects. The City of Ashland is the only city in Jackson County to offer this kind of incentive.

Another priority need which the City has had difficulties addressing is assisting individuals in the transition from homelessness to permanent housing situations. Local non-profit agencies, which provide assistance and homeless prevention services, report that the population of homeless individuals in Ashland and in the Rogue Valley has been increasing since the onset of the nationwide recession. Since the loss of the City’s only organization providing direct services to homeless populations in 2007, the Ashland City Council adopted an Emergency Shelter Resolution in an attempt to provide a resource for the City’s homeless population in extreme weather (see goal # 6). The City will assist in endeavors to develop transitional housing within the city, and would entertain using CDBG funds in supporting an organization that offered emergency and transitional housing. Currently an Ad Hoc Subcommittee appointed by the Council in 2010 is exploring innovative ways to develop more resources for homeless and at risk populations.

In comparing the outcomes proposed in the 2010-2014 Consolidated plan with the actual outcomes for this program year, staff sees that the majority of the outcomes have been met,

such as the number of new rental units, services to homeless populations, and rehabilitation projects

b. Barriers to Fulfilling Strategies

The most obvious barriers to addressing the Priority Needs of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan are a lack of resources and the high cost of housing in the Ashland Community. Due to the current economic climate housing prices have declined throughout the country. This is true of Ashland as well, though the decrease in property values in the Ashland market has been nominal by comparison. The situation has, however, allowed more opportunities for local and regional developers of affordable housing. The median home price in Ashland in June of 2011 was \$272,000, which is still quite high when compared with Jackson County at \$166,000. Property values in Ashland increased more rapidly than the in rest of the state and Jackson County during the housing boom (increasing on an average of over 20% over the past 5 years) and have maintained their values despite the economic downturn.

Ashland's CDBG allocation has decreased annually in recent years,(though Recovery Act funds and the Obama Administration's commitment to fully fund the CDBG program provided a respite from this trend). The Future projections imply that further reductions are possible or even the elimination of entitlement community status. The loss of Federal support for affordable housing places an increasing burden on small communities to address the goals established in the Consolidated Plan with local regulatory controls or local commitment of funding. Although Ashland continues to promote affordable housing through direct financial support and the establishment of regulatory incentives and controls, limited resources and limitations on the extent of regulation allowable under state law reduce options for the City.

c. Improvements

The City of Ashland ranked the Priority Needs of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for 2010-2014 to help address identified needs with the limited resources available for social services and Capital Improvement in the Rogue Valley. Specifically this ranking directs the majority of available CDBG funds to the highest priority need, the provision of affordable housing.

1) Monitoring

Each Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Year the City reviews each CDBG activity that was underway and ranks the sub-recipient's risk factors by assigning points for each of the rating criteria on the form provided. The designated points on the rating form are established to prove a means of quantifying a Risk Factor and are useful as tools in determining the extent of monitoring for a given activity. Other factors, as deemed relevant by the City of Ashland, can be used in establishing a higher or lower risk factor than the numerical rating system. A CDBG monitoring visit may consist of an on-site monitoring or a desk monitoring. All CDBG grantees will be monitored once prior to a contract being administratively closed. The areas monitored may include:

The CDBG staff objectives for monitoring are to determine if grantees are:

- Carrying out their CDBG-funded activities as described in their contracts (as modified or amended);
- Carrying out the program or project in a timely manner in accordance with the schedule included in the CDBG contract;
- Charging costs to the program or project which are eligible under applicable regulations;
- Complying with other applicable laws, regulations and terms of the CDBG contract;

- Conducting the program in a manner which minimizes the opportunity for fraud, waste and mismanagement; and
- Have a continuing capacity to carry out the approved program or project.
- Overall management system, record keeping and progress in activities.

When a grantee is found to be out of compliance, CDBG staff will identify a specific period of time in which compliance should be achieved. Usually the grantee will have 30 days to correct deficiencies. Copies of supporting documentation demonstrating that corrective action has been taken will be required. Additional time for corrective action may be allowed on a case by case basis. Failure by the grantee to correct deficiencies may result in funds being withheld and possible restrictions on future grants.

For the 2011 Program year CDBG staff completed the risk analysis worksheet for the two sub-recipients with open activities. A summary of the monitoring and the cumulative numeric ranking based on the CDBG program risk analysis worksheet is provided for each recipient. As part of the City's annual CDBG Monitoring Program a Risk Analysis was completed in September of 2011 in which the CDBG programs exposure, effectiveness and efficiency was evaluated. None of the sub-recipients of CDBG funds were categorized as 'High Risk' through this analysis. The City elected to conduct monitoring visits with both recipients that had active CDBG funded projects as part of our monitoring strategy for this program year as is outlined more fully below.

- 1.) **Ashland Supportive Housing (ASH):** Staff conducted an on-site monitoring of this project in the 2011 Program Year.
- 2.) **St. Vincent De Paul-Home Visitation Program:** Staff conducted an on-site monitoring of this project in the 2011 Program Year.

III CDBG Program Narrative

The activities undertaken as described in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) were consistent with the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan and the 2011 Action Plan.

The table below shows the projects awarded CDBG funds in Program Year 2011:

CDBG Funded Projects for Program Year 2011

Project ID	Recipient Organization	Activity Name	Location	CDBG Funds	Households or Persons Assisted Annually
2011-1 (Consolidated Plan Goal 14)	City of Ashland	CDBG Administration	city wide	\$37,251*	city wide
2011-2 (Consolidated Plan Goal 8.1 & 8.2)	St. Vincent De Paul	Home Visitation Program-Homeless Prevention	City wide	\$27,938	60 Low-Income Households

2011-3 (Consolidated Plan Goal #8.1 & 8.2)	ACCESS, Inc.	Acquisition and predevelopment of a parcel of land to be developed as 6 units of rental housing affordable to households earning 60% AMI	Tax lot 391 E 11 CB 1035	\$136,142	6 low-income households
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* In program year 2011 the City returned \$2,530.45 in admin funds due to a general fund issue.

Assessment of Relationship of CDBG funds to Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: *To increase the supply of affordable rental housing for extremely low-, low- and moderate-income families. Where possible, give funding priority to those projects that will provide benefits to residents with the lowest incomes.*

Action to meet priority and time-line

The City issued an RFP on January 3rd 2011. The City received five applications in response to this RFP. At a public hearing held on April 5th, 2011, the Ashland City Council directed City staff to award \$136,142 in Capital improvement funds to ACCESS, Inc. to acquire a parcel of land on which to develop six units of affordable housing and \$27,938 to St. Vincent De Paul to provide emergency rental and utility assistance to low-income families facing eviction or shut offs. The City has yet to expend \$27,623 awarded to the City's Public Works Department in 2010 for the installation of ADA crosswalk signals to aid the sight impaired.



These projects will assist the city in meeting several of the goals and outcomes identified in the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan. Specifically Goals 8.1 and 8.2; *Encourage the development of transitional and supportive housing for extremely low- and low-income special needs populations and to provide assistance to non-profit organizations that provide support services for extremely low- and low-income special needs populations.* Goal 6.1 to provide assistance to non-profit organizations that assist the homeless and those at risk of homelessness, provide transition assistance to the homeless and help prevent homelessness. Goal 7; *to provide safe and convenient access to alternative transportation routes,* and Outcomes; Decent Housing 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 SL 1.1: *Accessibility-Availability of improved public infrastructure serving low-moderate income persons.*

Housing Authority of Jackson County (HAJC)

Established in 1969, the Housing Authority of Jackson County is the regional provider of the HUD



Housing Choice Voucher Program, as well as a variety of other state and federally funded rental programs that serve low to moderate income families. Currently the Housing Authority provides housing and related services to 2,243 households in Jackson County. Their mission is: *To provide, develop and preserve decent, safe and affordable housing to families and individuals while coordinating efforts toward self-sufficiency.*

HAJC Snowberry Brook

The Housing Authority of Jackson County was awarded \$345,000 in CDBG funds in Program Year 2008 and \$165,367 in Program Year 2009 to complete public facilities improvements in support of an affordable housing development. The Snowberry Brook project was completed in spring of 2011. The 60 unit development is affordable to households earning 60% of the Area Median Income and below. It is the first Earth Advantage certified multi-family project completed in the City of Ashland. Snowberry Brook is also the first new large scale affordable rental housing development built in the City in over two decades is the first multi-family property built by the Housing Authority in Ashland.

The Housing Authority was awarded over 11 Million in Consolidated Funding Cycle (CFC) grant funds from Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to build Snowberry Brook. These funds had a direct economic impact on employment. The Housing Authority has not taken on any new projects in Ashland during program year 2011.

Ashland Community Land Trust (ACLT)

Ashland Community Land Trust was established in 1998 in an effort to help address Ashland's growing affordable housing crisis. The purpose of the land trust is to create and sustain long-term affordable housing in the city limits of Ashland for low and moderate-income families. The

land trust acquires and holds land, while the improvements are sold or rented to the low-income residents. ACLT consists of a six member volunteer board that works to create new affordable housing units that are deed restricted through a land trust model to insure long term affordability. In the 13 years that the land trust has been in existence they have been able to create and maintain 16 units of affordable deed restricted housing. Their housing portfolio consists of a variety of housing types, from single family ownership units to multifamily rental apartment units.

ACLT Bridge Street

ACLT purchased the property located at 404 and 408 Bridge Street with \$328,800 in CDBG funds during the 2006 program year. The purchase of the property was completed on October 12, 2006. Originally the development of the two ownership units was planned to be a collaboration between ACLT and Rogue Valley Habitat for Humanity, however,



Habitat was unable to undertake the project at that time, so ACLT decided to move forward with the project on their own. Utilizing the expertise of the all volunteer board ACLT was able to finance, design, and complete the two units without the assistance of a partner agency as all of their other projects had utilized in the past. Through the planning and financing process staff worked with ACLT to facilitate the completion of the project. ACLT hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on the completed unit in June at that time both new units had been leased. Currently all four units were being utilized as rental units due to the economic pressures of the current housing market, though ACLT would like to offer them for sale in the future. ACLT has not undertaken or completed any new projects in program year 2011.

ACCESS, Inc.

ACCESS, Inc. has served as the Community Action Agency for Jackson County since 1976. ACCESS, Inc. has also served Jackson County as a Community Development Corporation (CDC) since 1998. In that time ACCESS has developed agency-owned housing and partnered with other non-profits and for-profits in the creation and management of affordable housing for families, seniors and people with disabilities. ACCESS has developed more than 200 units of affordable housing and currently manages many of these units. Including all of the properties held by the Ashland Community Land Trust.

In Program Year 2011, following the recommendation of the Housing Commission, the City Council approved an award to fund ACCESS, Inc.'s Hyde Park acquisition proposal in the amount of \$136,142 to purchase a property located at 2272 Dollarhide Way on which to develop 6 units of affordable housing targeting families and individuals making 60% of the AMI or below



for a period of not less than 60 years. In the Spring of 2012 ACCESS applied for and was awarded funding to build the units from the State of Oregon's Housing & Community Services and the Consolidated Funding Cycle (CFC), which distributes limited grant and tax credit funds for affordable, multi-unit, rental housing development. ACCESS received \$941,173 from the State of Oregon. The new units will

include three 1-bedroom units, two 3-bedroom units, and one 2-bedroom unit to accommodate six families. Rent will range from \$490 to \$660 per month, depending on the unit's size. The building concept is to build a "green" structure and to follow the Earth Advantage Certification path.

The units are expected to be available for rent in summer of 2013, and ACCESS will begin accepting rental applications in spring of that year. The outcomes for this activity are expected to be reported in the 2013 CAPER.

Goal 2: *To increase the homeownership opportunities for extremely low-, low- and moderate-income households. Where possible, give funding priority to those projects that will provide benefits to residents with the lowest incomes.*

The development of affordable home ownership opportunities for low- and extremely low- income households is a high priority for the City of Ashland. In 2007 the City sold surplus City owned property, the proceeds from the sale of this property was applied to the goal of addressing Ashland's Housing needs.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of surplus City property have been applied to the purchase of a .32 acre portion of a 2 acre property owned by the Ashland Parks Department located on upper Clay street at the terminus of Chitwood Lane. In late 2007 the City of Ashland issued a Request for Qualifications for a qualified affordable housing developer to develop five affordable housing units for homeownership. Rogue Valley Community Development Corporation (RVCDC) was chosen. RVCDC worked on developing a plan for the Chitwood property until June of 2010 when that agency decided to withdraw their application citing lack of qualified homeowner's for the project and high construction cost. The City of Ashland City Council voted to transfer the property back to the parks department to be used for park purposes

in exchange for the original purchase price to be dedicated to the Affordable Housing Trust fund to further future affordable housing development.

Groundworks formerly Rogue Valley Community Development Corporation (RVCDC)

Groundworks formerly RVCDC received two prior CDBG awards which resulted in the acquisition of Property during the 2004 CDBG Program Year. Combined the two properties allowed RVCDC to development 15 affordable ownership units in cooperation with the USDA Rural Development Mutual Self Help Program. Through the Mutual Self-help homeownership program homebuyers contributed a significant amount of “sweat equity” to the project in order to lower the purchase price to below \$120,000 per unit.

Groundworks – Rice Park.



Most recently Groundworks was gifted an acre of land located off of Nevada Street in association with an annexation to develop a “green” net zero energy subdivision. The donation of land to RVCDC was completed in order to comply with a condition of approval of the annexation that land sufficient to accommodate 25% of the units as affordable housing be dedicated to an affordable housing provider. Though no CDBG funds were contributed to this project, considerable staff time assisted in compiling an environmental Assessment and in working with

that organization to execute deed restrictions to maintain long term affordability. The City deferred \$53,923.36 in SDC’s for the seven units completed in PY 2010 and deferred approximately \$61,626 in SDC’s for the eight units completed in PY 2011 for an approximate total of \$115,549 in System Development deferrals for all 15 units, further the City council authorized an additional \$38,295.00 in Community Development and Engineering fee waivers, for a cumulative city contribution of approximately \$153,844 in non-collected fees to assist in buying down the overall cost of development. This contribution allowed Groundworks to further reduce the purchase price of each unit by approximately \$10,000. As with the two previously completed projects within the City, (2001 Siskiyou Blvd in 2005, and 795 Park Street in 2008) Groundworks has partnered with USDA’s Self-Help Program to obtain low-interest construction loans for the home-owner/builders to develop the six units intended for this site. All units were made affordable to households earning less than 80% Area median income. Homebuyers also utilized USDA low interest home loans to further reduce the housing cost burden.

Affordable Housing Program

The City of Ashland continues to offer incentives to non-profit and for-profit developers, community development corporations, and public housing authorities to encourage the development of new affordable housing options.

The City also continues to look for ways to create new regulations or amend existing regulations that serve to promote, protect, and maintain the City's affordable housing stock. These incentives and regulations are detailed below.



In 2005-2006 the City passed a resolution (res 2006-13) that established Ashland's Affordable Housing Guidelines as well as the thresholds for a waiver of Community Development fees, and Engineering Services fees for eligible affordable units that are voluntarily provided. These fees amount to 1.85% of a project's valuation. The automatic waiver of these fees for voluntarily provided affordable units amount to a direct subsidy from the City in the average amount of approximately \$1500 - \$2500 per unit.

This program allows the deferral of SDCs for any affordable unit targeted to ownership households earning less than 80% the Area Median Income (AMI), or rental households earning 60% AMI or less. A total of 70 households are currently participating in the program. During the 2011 program year one project received SDC deferrals. The eight units completed in phase two of RVCDC's Rice Park project detailed above.

Density Bonus Program

The City of Ashland offers a density bonus for the voluntary inclusion of affordable housing within a subdivision or multifamily development. No new developments have been applied for which utilized this incentive during the 2011-2012 Program year.

Condominium Conversions

The City allows for the conversion of rental units to saleable units on a sliding scale, where the larger the complex the more rental units must be retained. In cases where an owner wishes to exceed this limitation to create more market rate ownership units the City then requires the provision of affordable housing. The City considers units that are required to be affordable to be added to our inventory only upon the recording of deed restrictions on the property. The Affordable Housing Program parameters under resolution 2006-13 establish that rental units required to be affordable following a condominium conversion shall be available to households earning 80% AMI for a minimum of 30 years. The land use ordinance regulating the conversion of apartments to condominiums was amended in 2007 and was primarily intended to preserve a decreasing supply of rental apartments.

The time period between the initial approval for conversion of an apartment complex into condominiums, and the actual recording of a condominium survey can be lengthy. The corresponding resale restriction covenants (deed restriction) are not imposed until such time as

the condominium survey is completed thus this CAPER will distinguish between those approved and those considered complete.

Total Conversions

In the 2011 CDBG program year no new condominium units were added to the city's affordable housing stock through condo conversions. Currently there are no planning applications pending approval for conversion of existing apartments. Although 71 total units completed or initiated conversion to condominiums in 2006-2007, only three units converted in 2007-2008, and only six in 2008-2009. The rate of condominium conversions has decreased considerably since 2006. This marked reduction in conversions may be attributed to the recent economic downturn in the housing market as well as City initiated ordinance changes instituted to addressing the adverse impacts of such conversions on tenants and on the City's rental housing stock.

Total Affordable Units Added to the Cities Inventory from July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

During the 2011 CDBG program year eight of the Rice Park self help homeownership units were completed and granted Certificates of occupancy.

Goal 3: To maintain the existing affordable housing supply. Where possible, give funding priority to those projects that will provide benefits to residents with the lowest incomes. Also, give funding priority to those programs which retain the units as affordable in perpetuity, or recapture the rehabilitation costs for further use in Ashland.

Technical Assistance

The City provided technical assistance to nonprofit organizations whose mission includes providing affordable housing. This technical assistance includes; providing information on the CDBG program, City zoning regulations, educating agencies on the planning process and providing information on the City's affordable housing programs including deferred systems development charges and density bonuses. The City also aims to direct potential affordable housing developers to other resources such as Rural Development programs and Oregon Housing and Community Services. The City of Ashland has provided technical assistance through the Planning Division as requested and has supported applications consistent with the Consolidated Plan. The City provided assistance to ACCESS, Inc for CDBG funded projects, as well as in preparing applications for proposed developments during the 2011 CDBG program year.

CDBG-R

Through the CDBG-R program the City was able to assist 16 low-income homeowners over a three year period with energy efficiency and conservation upgrades. In conjunction with this program many of the homeowners received necessary home repairs that served to maintain the integrity of the structure while reducing the energy cost burden.

Goal 4: Encourage the development of emergency and transitional housing for homeless families with children and/or individuals.

In 2007, the Ashland City Council approved a resolution setting forth policies and conditions under which the city will provide emergency housing for homeless and other individuals during severe weather conditions. In the event of the need for an emergency shelter during extreme weather, the use of Pioneer Hall or other available city-owned buildings may be used. The temporary shelters are staffed by community volunteers organized and trained by the private citizen.

Ashland experiences “extreme weather” conditions primarily during the winter months where temperatures can drop below 20 degrees, and exposure to the elements can be hazardous to persons without adequate shelter. The provision of such emergency housing in City buildings is a relatively new activity for the City and was initiated because of the loss of ICC the City of Ashland’s emergency services provider. In 2009, the City turned over the responsibility of initiating, staffing, and running the emergency cold weather shelters to the local churches who previously volunteered their space and resources to that purpose.

Expanding beyond previous years severe forecast parameters, the Presbyterian Church committed to hosting a shelter every Sunday from December through February. The choice of Sunday night was made to dovetail with the First Congregational Church’s Monday “Bread together” breakfast and shower offering.

The City continues in its endeavor to develop transitional housing by working regionally with the Jackson County Homeless Task Force, and locally through the Housing Commission and local providers of food, meals, and services to homeless populations. The City of Ashland’s CDBG program would entertain supporting an organization that offered emergency and transitional housing in the former ICCA location or in a yet to be identified property but has not directed resources directly for its development. In 2010 the City formed an Ad Hoc Homeless Steering Committee to work to develop more resources for homeless populations in Ashland. The Committee has been instrumental in created resources such as a 24 hours restroom facility in the downtown, partnering with La Clinica Del Valle and the Methodist church to host a medical/dental van every week, and a “Listening Post” project in which homeless or at risk populations can talk to a volunteer who listens without judgment. Currently the HSC is working toward developing a day-center and more shelter opportunities during the winter months.

No CDBG funded actions were undertaken or completed during the 2011 program year that specifically applied CDBG funds toward the development of emergency or transitional housing.

Goal 5: Support services for homelessness prevention and transition. Where possible, give funding priority to services that are part of a comprehensive approach that improves the living conditions of clients. Safety net services or services that meet basic needs shall only be funded with CDBG dollars if it can be demonstrated that clients receiving those benefits are part of a program that will eventually help them obtain self-sufficiency.

Aside from the CDBG Planning and Administrative funding allocated to provide support for the Housing Program Specialist position in general, and specifically to time spent planning and participating in the 2011 Project Homeless Connect Event, the City funded one CDBG project during the 2011 program year that specifically applied CDBG funds toward the support services for homelessness prevention that focus on better maintaining self sufficiency. The City allocated \$27,938 in social service funds to support the St. Vincent De Paul Home visitation program

which provides emergency rent and utility assistance to low-income households in an effort to avoid homelessness.

The City does allocate over \$100,000 of general fund dollars each year in Social Service grants from the City General Fund. These Social Service grant allocations are listed under the Continuum of Care Narrative, as table 1.2.

Goal 6: To support housing and supportive services for people with special needs. People with special needs include the elderly, the frail elderly, persons with developmental disabilities, persons with physical disabilities, persons with severe mental illness, persons with alcohol or other drug dependencies and persons with HIV/AIDS or related illnesses.

For the 2011 program year the City funded one activity in support of this goal. The City awarded \$27,938 in funding to The St. Vincent De Paul Home Visitation program to assist people with emergency rent and utility assistance. Many of the households who utilize these service fall under the special needs category.

The City will continue to support the development of housing and supportive services for individuals with special needs. The City allocates "Social Service Grants" out of the City's General Fund to address these needs. Through this City Grant Program an annual allocation of \$120,342 was awarded to 20 agencies of which the majority specifically addresses supportive services for people with special needs. This allocation was provided for FY 2010 and FY 2011 for cumulative doubling of the award amounts listed. In total the City contributes \$240,682 over a two year period to the agencies listed in Table 1.3.

Of these awards most notably the Community Health Center was provided \$35,000 annually to provide health care services, Community Works was given a combined total annual award of \$36,120 to provide services including rape crisis counseling as well as temporary shelter for victims of domestic violence. Additionally an annual grant of \$3,000 was provided to OnTrack Inc. to assist in the operating expenses for their drug abuse treatment programs.

Goal 7: To provide safe and convenient access to alternative transportation routes in extremely low-, low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

In previous years the City had made a CDBG commitment to sidewalk improvements in moderate- and low-income neighborhoods by allocating ten percent of the total federal funding for sidewalk improvement and new construction annually in prior years. However the Ashland Consolidated Plan was revised to eliminate this 10% set-aside beginning with the 2002-2003 program year. This limitation on the allocation of CDBG was continued in the 2005-2009 Consolidated Plan and the 2010-2014 Consolidated plan further eliminating the potential to apply CDBG funds to sidewalk improvements exclusively based on qualified low-income neighborhood status.

In the 2008 program year CDBG funds in the amount of \$345,000 were awarded to the Housing Authority of Jackson County to complete public facilities improvements along Clay Street and in program year 2009 the City awarded HAJC \$165,367 to complete public facilities improvements along two new interior streets including sidewalks, and street lighting. To this end the Housing

Authority has spent \$510,367 of their combined 2008 and 2009 CDBG awards to complete those improvements.

During the 2011-2012 program year the City of Ashland provided the Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD) with \$116,946 to underwrite the cost of public transportation by providing reduced bus fares City wide. As the RVTD bus routes transect each of Ashland's low income neighborhoods (Census block groups 0018, 0019, 0020) the reduced fares benefited extremely-low, low- and moderate-income households by lessening the cost of public transportation. The fare reduction was a 50% reduction from fares elsewhere in the Transportation district. This reduction meant fares in Ashland were only \$1.00 versus \$2.00 elsewhere in the valley. Further the City's contribution to RVTD also reduced the fare from \$4.00 to \$2.00 for the Valley Lift program which provides door to door transportation for the disabled and mobility impaired residents of Ashland. Lastly the City purchased \$33,000 in bus passes to be provided to qualified low income senior citizens and participants in Department of Human Services Programs.

The City did not utilize CDBG funds toward this goal in the 2011-2012 program year. The full \$149,946 contribution to RVTD for reduced fares was provided by the City's General Fund.

Goal 8: To make city facilities easier and safer to use for people with disabilities.

The City committed to providing accessibility improvements to City-owned buildings through an agreement with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to improve access to City facilities. The City has completed all improvements outlined in the Department of Justice Agreement to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and received an acknowledgement of compliance in FY 2006 from the DOJ, thereby ensuring those identified City facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. As new facilities are designed and developed, or new standards for accessibility are established, the City will ensure that the accessibility needs of Ashland's residents are addressed

In the 2010 program year the City awarded \$27,623 in CDBG funding to the Public Works Department to make ADA improvements to crosswalks in the downtown area by installing audible beacons. This activity is yet to be completed.

Goal 9: To affirmatively further fair housing.

Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO)

In the 2011 Program year the City undertook several activities to affirmatively Further Fair Housing. The City continued its support to the Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO), working with that organization in partnership with the City of Medford and the Southern Oregon Housing Resource Center to provide education and outreach on a regional level. The City convened a meeting with the Fair Housing Council of Oregon, the Southern Oregon Housing Resource Center, the Southern Oregon Rental Owner's Association, and other community stakeholders where fair housing activities for the 2011 Program year were discussed and coordinated on a regional level. These activities which came out of this meeting included; bringing the Fair Housing Display to the Southern Oregon region for the entire month of April, and bringing it to communities who had not previously had the opportunity to host the display, the display was featured at the Southern Oregon spring home show which has been held since 1983 and sees upwards of 20,000 people annually. Regional providers of housing and legal services discussed training needs and gaps in fair housing compliance and coordinated with the Fair Housing

Council of Oregon around a grant opportunity to provide more Fair Housing presence and compliance in the Southern Oregon region. The Fair Housing Council received notice in June of 2012 that they were awarded funding to provide a .50 FTE employee stationed in the Southern Oregon Region. ACCESS, Inc. has offered to provide office space for this person. The FHCO is currently in the process of hiring for this position and expects them to become active locally in the 2012 Program Year.

The Fair Housing Council identified 15 impediments to Fair Housing Choice in the City of Ashland's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. In Program year 2009 the City initiated action on nine of those impediments. In Program Year 2011 the City continued its work on those activities as well as ongoing education and outreach efforts through targeted trainings and public awareness activities. Though the City is far from accomplishing the goals laid out in the AI, the City is committed to affirmatively furthering fair housing and continuing to work with community partners, citizens, and other jurisdictions on implementing the recommendations included in the AI. The City will report further activities and accomplishments on the goals noted above as well as the remaining unaddressed goals in successive CAPER's. For details regarding the impediments to fair housing choice that were identified in the AI and what steps the City has initiated to remove those impediments please see pages 21 through 26, Section B, entitled Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

In previous years the City has partnered and contracted with the Fair Housing Council of Oregon to offer trainings targeting different groups. The City continues to undertake education and outreach activities alone and in partnership. Some of the outreach activities include the availability and distribution of Fair Housing Brochures which are available in the Community Development building lobby in Ashland and are distributed through the Southern Oregon Housing Resource Center regionally to area housing providers and public buildings such as public libraries and community events such as Project Community Connect and the Multi-Cultural Fair. Lastly City staff coordinates annually with the FHCO and Jefferson Public Radio to provide the opportunity to host the FHCO education and outreach coordinator on a call in radio show to provide community education and outreach. Currently the City is looking at utilizing resources previously targeted to support trainings to be used instead to support a local Fair Housing presence in coordination with the City of Medford, the State of Oregon and HUD through the FHCO.

City of Ashland general funds and CDBG funds (Planning and Administration allocation) were utilized for staff support as well. Lastly, City General Funding through social service grant funds provided \$12,000 over a two year period in support of the Center for non-profit legal services.

Legal Services and CASA

The City of Ashland provided the Center for Non-Profit Legal Services a general fund grant in the amount of \$6,039 explicitly to provide legal assistance for low income Ashland households facing housing discrimination or harassment. Low-income Ashland households facing housing discrimination were able to obtain legal services through the Center for Non-Profit Legal Services that may not otherwise be in a position to pursue legal action. During the 2010-2011 program year the City also provided CASA with a \$2,000 grant to assist them in providing minority residents with an advocate and a resource for housing assistance. These activities attempt to address the enforcement side of Fair Housing in addition to the educational trainings that work preemptively to reduce discrimination before it occurs. The City's social service grant program is a two year grant allocation.

The City did not utilize CDBG funds toward the \$8,000 in grants noted above.

Goal 10: Assure activities assisted by the City are conducted in compliance with state and federal laws that apply to lead-based paint hazards, and the information distributed about lead-based paint is in compliance with current state and federal laws.

Revolving Loan funds from the City's CDBG funded Housing Rehabilitation program were not available to complete repairs on residences occupied by low- to moderate- income homeowners in the 2011 Program Year. The City did complete energy efficiency and weatherization upgrades to three homes occupied by low- to moderate- income homeowners utilizing CDBG-R funds. All projects undertaken were reviewed for environmental review compliance as well as the potential for lead based paint. The City will continue to ensure that when the potential of lead based paint hazards exists on any activity undertaken by the City and funded all or in part by CDBG funds that any and all effected parties will be provided with appropriate information and that proper interim measures or abatement will take place.

Goal 11: To reduce the number of people living in poverty in the City of Ashland.

The City did not use CDBG funds for a specific activity addressing this goal during the 2011 Program year. As mentioned previously in the document the City did award funds to the St. Vincent De Paul Home visitation program that works with homeless and those at risk of homelessness to obtain and maintain housing through rental assistance and case management. Often the volunteers in this program are able to offer such support services as obtaining SSI and SSD, or assisting with job search and employment. Though these activities are not directly captured in reporting data, the service is part of the mission of the Home Visitation program and as such can contribute to a reduction of the number of people living in poverty.

As outlined below the ALIEAP program provides financial assistance to impoverished households and thus improves their living conditions and may function to assist individuals in moving out of poverty.

Ashland Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (ALIEAP)

As the City of Ashland owns and operates the Electric Utility, the City is in the unique position to assist very-low income households in meeting their energy needs, specifically during the winter months when energy costs and use are highest. To this end the City targets assistance to Low-income Ashland utility customers who need help to pay their heating bills over the course of each winter.

Applicants must have an active electric utility account with the City and the Applicant's household income may not exceed 125% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Over the course of the CDBG program year (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012) the City of Ashland provided \$38,398.92 in direct assistance to a total of 274 extremely-low or low-income households, seniors and peoples with disabilities to assist with electric utility bills. The City provided \$28,380.53 to assist 275 extremely-low or low-income households with heating assistance. The City of Ashland also provided a senior discount totaling \$29,248.86 to 48 residents and Disabled Discounts to 73 residents totaling \$18,682.72.

Goal 12: Promote and support activities in the community that improve or provide access to economic opportunities for extremely low- and low-income residents of Ashland.

Although no CDBG funds were directed to address this goal, the City of Ashland granted numerous Economic Development Grants during the 2010 CDBG program year. These grants are a two year allocation and therefore carry over into the 2011 program year. Twenty different organizations received awards, however the majority were granted to organizations supporting the arts (Ballet, theater, singers, etc.).

Home Occupations

Ashland also recognizes the increasing opportunities for low income residents to participate in home businesses, either as a proprietor of services, manufacturer of goods, or through employment at such small home occupations. Between July 1 2011 and June 30, 2012 the City issued 118 Home Occupation permits for new businesses within residences. Home Occupation Permits allow incubator businesses, home based services, and internet based businesses and other such small, residentially compatible, business opportunities for Ashland residents. Given the ability to work out of ones home, expenses typically required for securing commercial property are eliminated. No data is collected on the incomes of applicants for Home Occupation Permits so it can not be determined how effective this is at providing opportunities for low- or extremely-low income households.

Goal 13: Remain aware of the barriers to affordable housing in Ashland, and where it is within the City's ability; take steps to overcome such barriers.

Education and Outreach is a significant role of the Housing Commission and such activities often have the benefit of not just disseminating information, but collecting information as well. Such a dialogue within the City facilitates an awareness of the barriers to affordable housing and highlights mechanisms available to address such barriers. A coordinated effort between the Housing Commission, the Planning Commission, and the City Council took place September 2008 to discuss barriers to affordable housing and what steps can be taken to overcome such barriers and promote the development of affordable and multi-family housing within the City. Several viable ideas came out of that joint meeting and are being explored by the City. In program year 2008 the City also reviewed and completed the Questionnaire for HUD's Initiative on Removal of Regulatory Barriers. The Housing Commission will continue to implement the actions outlined in the adopted Affordable Housing Action Plan, <http://www.ashland.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=1350> specifically; identification of funding methods to support the Trust Fund is a primary goal of the Housing Commission and that body has continued working toward that goal in the 2011 program year. In Program year 2011 the City staff has began an update of the City's Housing Needs Analysis (HNA) which looks at the income and demographics of the City's population in comparison with the type, cost, and availability of the City's housing stock. The last time the City updated the HNA was in 2002, out of that effort the Affordable Housing Action Plan was developed to address the housing inequities identified. Once adopted the HNA will serve as a technical supporting document to the Comprehensive Plan, and will act as a basis for policy discussion and implementation to address concerns of housing availability and affordability.

No CDBG public service or CIP funds were expended toward reducing barriers to affordable housing in Ashland in the 2011 program year. Administrative CDBG funds have contributed to

the support of activities that address the development of affordable housing units funded in whole or in part with CDBG awards.

The City General Fund has provided the funding for addressing the Council goals of establishing a Housing Trust Fund. Further the Land Use modifications that assist in the removal of barriers to affordable housing and the Housing Needs Analysis update will be undertaken utilizing Staff funded through the City General Fund.

Goal 14: To provide institutional structure and intergovernmental cooperation.

The City of Ashland employs a Housing Program Specialist, which assists in providing institutional structure as well as examining and implementing opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation. City of Ashland Staff continues to provide staff support to the City of Ashland Housing Commission. Together the City of Ashland's Housing Commission and the Housing Program Specialist monitor the accomplishments of the City's housing programs, make recommendations to the City Council on housing policy and serves as an advocate for affordable housing in the City's political process. The Commission also provides coordination and continuity to programs to meet housing and community development needs. The Ashland Housing Commission oversees specific affordable housing projects undertaken by the City in partnership with private groups. The Commission promotes cooperation between local non-profit organizations, private interests and governmental agencies for projects in Ashland to insure that the resources are used as efficiently as possible and that there is not duplication of efforts.

The Housing Commission has included in their regular meetings an update on any affordable housing projects that are underway within the City. This allows affordable housing providers an opportunity to express to the commission progress on or obstacles to their developments. This communication will function to assist in educating the Commission as well as provide further opportunity for cooperation between the City and organizations working to address our housing goals.

The Housing Program Specialist sits on the Board of the Southern Oregon Housing Resource Center to assist in regional coordination of that organization's efforts, which include coordinating regional services and affirmatively furthering fair housing. Ashland continues to work with the Jackson County Continuum of Care's Homeless Task force to address affordable housing and homeless issues on a regional level.

For the 2011 Program Year the city utilized \$34,720.55 in Federal CDBG funds for administration of the CDBG Program (after the City returned \$2,530.45 in admin funds due to a discrepancy in the general fund line item allocated for that purpose). Administration of the CDBG program includes staff support of programs and projects that further the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan, provision of technical assistance, and the monitoring of the activities of sub-recipients. City of Ashland general funds are also utilized to contribute toward CDBG program administration as well as staff support of non-profit organizations and intergovernmental cooperation.

Assessments of Efforts to Comply with Grantee Certifications

The City of Ashland's 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan, the City provided Certifications that it will conduct its federally-funded activities in compliance with pertinent federal regulations and requirements. Ashland has followed these Certifications during the 2011 Program year reported herein, and has in good faith carried out the implementation of its Consolidated Plan, not

hindering its implementation either through action or willful inaction. Further, where affirmative action by the City is called for within the certifications (e.g., furthering fair housing, compliance with a community development plan, appropriate use of funds, and compliance with lead paint procedures) this Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report has included a narrative to update the reader on actions taken.

Changes in Program Objectives

There were no changes in program objectives in 2011.