

CITY OF LONG BEACH 2005-2010 CONSOLIDATED PLAN



August 2005

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Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the Residents of the City of Long Beach for their invaluable participation in the Consolidated Plan process by attending our Public Hearings and local meetings including making written and oral comments.

The City of Long Beach would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following in the preparation of the Consolidated Plan:

- City of Long Beach, Department of Community Development
- City of Long Beach, Department of Health and Human Services, Human & Social Services Bureau
- City of Long Beach, Community Development Department, Housing Services Bureau
- The Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)
- The Long Beach Housing Development Company (LBHDC)
- The Homeless Services Advisory Commission (HSAC)
- The City of Long Beach Board of Health

- Karen Warner and Associates
- Dennis Thys, Neighborhood Services Bureau Manager
- Beth Stochl, Housing Services Bureau Manager
- Corinne Schneider, Homeless Services Bureau Manager
- Larry Montgomery, Housing Services Bureau Officer
- Susan Price, Homeless Services Bureau Officer
- Tina Dickinson, Geographic Information Systems
- Janet Mullen, Geographic Information Systems
- Susanne Dronkers, Geographic Information Systems
- Antoinette Jeff, Neighborhood Services Bureau
- Alem Hagos, Neighborhood Services Bureau

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2005 – 2010 CONSOLIDATED PLAN**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Long Beach has prepared the 2005 – 2010 Consolidated Plan as a requirement to receive federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) and American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is a strategic plan for addressing Long Beach’s low and moderate income housing and community development needs, and builds upon several other related planning documents, including: the City’s Housing Action Plan, Housing Element, Continuum of Care for Homeless Assistance, Economic Development Initiative and Capital Improvement Plan. The Consolidated Plan provides a five-year road map that explains how and why federal HUD funding for housing and community development activities are expected to be used.

The Consolidated Plan consists of the following major components:

- ✓ Community Participation and Consultation
- ✓ Housing and Household Needs Assessment
- ✓ Community Development Needs Assessment
- ✓ Strategic Plan
- ✓ One-Year Action Plan

A. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATION

Long Beach’s consolidated planning process relied heavily on input from both the public and from agencies which serve the City’s low and moderate income population.

Once the draft Consolidated Plan was completed in May 2005, the City distributed the document for a 30 day public review. The Community Development Advisory Commission public hearing in June 2005 and City Council meeting in July 2005 provided residents a final opportunity to comment on the Plan prior to adoption and submittal to HUD.

B. HOUSING AND HOUSEHOLD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Some of the major findings of the needs assessment include:

- ✓ Long Beach has a very diverse population, where income, education and ethnicity split geographically along from east to west. The eastern portion of Long Beach is home to residents with higher education attainment, higher average income and lower poverty rates than the western part of town.

- ✓ 61% of households are comprised of families. Families with children represent a growing segment of the City's population.
- ✓ 9% of Long Beach residents are over the age of 65, 44% of which have some type of disability.
- ✓ 21% of residents have one or more disabilities, including employment, physical, mental, and sensory disabilities, and/or various conditions which prevent the individual from leaving the home.
- ✓ Median household income is \$37,270, well below Los Angeles County's median of \$42,189.
- ✓ 23% of the Long Beach population is living in poverty. Half of the approximately 103,000 City residents in poverty are children.
- ✓ During the last decade, population increased 7.5%, but new housing increased by less than 1%. This imbalance in population and housing growth translates into lower vacancies, upward pressure on housing prices, and larger household sizes and overcrowding.
- ✓ 20% of the City's renter households are severely overcrowded, defined as greater than 1.51 persons per room.
- ✓ The owner occupancy rate was 41%, well below the County rate of 47% and the State rate of 57%. However, the City's owner-occupancy rate has remained stable over the past two decades (1980-2000).
- ✓ The rental vacancy rate dropped to less than 4%, which puts upward pressure on rents, resulting in households spending more than they can afford.
- ✓ Due to the older housing stock, the City may have over 35,000 low/moderate income households with lead-based paint.
- ✓ Only 10% of Long Beach households earn enough to purchase the median priced single-family home in Long Beach, and one-quarter earn enough to purchase the median priced condominium.
- ✓ In 2000, 46% of renters were overpaying (*more than 30% of income*) for their housing. Approximately one-quarter of renters were spending more than half their incomes on rent.
- ✓ The March 2003 Homeless Count determined that 5,845 persons experience homelessness on any given day in Long Beach.

- ✓ The unmet need for emergency shelter beds in Long Beach:
 - 731 for individuals
 - 1,575 for persons in families with children
- ✓ The City's Continuum Of Care is well coordinated and progress has been made to address homelessness, but there are major challenges to effectively engage and house the chronically homeless and serve all homeless in Long Beach

C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The following highlights some of Long Beach's most critical community development needs:

- ✓ With 66 percent of employed residents working outside of the city and 63 percent of jobs within the city held by non-residents, Long Beach has characteristics of both an economic center and a bedroom community. Long Beach businesses buy and sell services and inputs to businesses throughout the region. Long Beach's strongest economic sectors export goods and services beyond our city boundaries to residents and businesses throughout Los Angeles, California, and the world.
- ✓ Long Beach's economy has shifted from a manufacturing and trade-based economy to one focused on health services, education, tourism, and professional and businesses services.
- ✓ Employment has remained relatively stable over the past 6 years at around 164,000 jobs, as declines in manufacturing (-10,306 jobs) have been offset by increased employment in tourism (+6,541 jobs), retail trade (+3,940 jobs), health care (+7,270 jobs), and professional and administrative services (+7,649 jobs). This employment shift has likely caused, or at least aggravated, the shrinking middle class and increasing rates of poverty, as new jobs pay less on average than lost jobs.
- ✓ The increasing number of families with children has placed added strain on existing recreational and community facilities, and creates a strong demand for youth services in Long Beach.
- ✓ Neighborhood preservation activities, including community outreach, code enforcement, and graffiti abatement, are critical to maintaining the quality of life in the City's residential areas.
- ✓ Given the overall low educational attainment and high unemployment among Long Beach residents, there is a growing need for job training and employment placement, as well for business attraction and support.

D. STRATEGIC PLAN

The Housing and Community Development Strategy is the centerpiece of the Consolidated Plan. The Strategy describes:

- ✓ General **priorities** for assisting households
- ✓ **Programs** to assist those households in need
- ✓ Five-year **objectives** identifying proposed accomplishments.

The Strategic Plan also addresses the following areas:

- ✓ Anti-poverty strategy
- ✓ Lead-based paint hazard reduction
- ✓ Reduction of barriers to affordable housing
- ✓ Institutional Structure/Coordination among agencies

The following summarizes the housing and community development priorities identified in Long Beach's Consolidated Plan, and lists implementation programs for each.

1. Priority Housing Needs

Priority 1A: Provide and preserve safe, decent and affordable housing for Long Beach households with the greatest need

1. Multi-Family Residential Rental Housing Production
2. For-Sale Housing Production
3. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance

Priority 1B: Address substandard conditions and severe overcrowding in Long Beach neighborhoods.

1. Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Loan Program
2. Multi-Family Residential Rehabilitation Loan Program
3. Acquisition/Rehabilitation
4. Residential Rehabilitation in Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Areas
5. Code Enforcement Program

Priority 1C: Encourage owner-occupancy

1. Downpayment Assistance Program for Section 8 Homebuyers
2. Second Mortgage Assistance
3. Acquisition/Rehabilitation of Foreclosed Properties
4. American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI)

Priority 1D: Enhance neighborhood stability

1. HAP Interim Assistance

2. Priority Homeless Needs

Priority 2A: Following a Continuum of Care Model, Provide Supportive Services and Housing for Homeless and Persons At-Risk of Becoming Homeless

1. Emergency Shelters and Services
2. The Multi-Service Center (MSC)
3. Villages at Cabrillo Program

3. Priority Special Needs Populations

Priority 3A: Provide Housing and Supportive Services for Special Needs Populations

1. Service-Enriched Housing
2. Services for Special Needs Populations

4. Priority Community Development Needs

Priority 4A: Retain, Expand and Attract Businesses by Encouraging Development Centered on Small Businesses and Job Creation

1. Economic Development Loan for Jobs Program
2. Micro-enterprise Loan Program
3. Hire-A-Youth
4. Loan Program for Area Benefit
5. Neighborhood Business Investment Program (Target Area)
6. Store Front Improvement Program (Target Area)
7. Small Business Outreach Program (Target Area)
8. Business Revitalization Program (Target Area)
9. Empowerment Zone Support (Target Area)
10. Future Generations Youth Center (Target Area)

Priority 4B: Improve and Provide Public and Community Facilities, and Make Necessary Infrastructure Improvements to Serve Low and Moderate Income Persons and Persons with Special Needs

1. Nonprofit Assistance Program (NAP)
2. Public Facility/Infrastructure Access (Americans with Disabilities Act)
3. Park ADA Development

4. Neighborhood Partners Program
5. Neighborhood Sidewalk Program
6. Sidewalk Replacement Project
7. New Park Development
8. Urban Forestry Program

Priority 4C: Provide needed public and community services for low and moderate income persons and those with special needs

1. Social Service Grant
2. Fair Housing and Tenant/Landlord Counseling
3. Youth Services
4. Code Enforcement/Graffiti Removal
5. Community Education and Empowerment
6. Crime Prevention
7. Planning and Administration

E. ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan describes resources, programs, activities and actions Long Beach will use in the coming 2005 – 2006 fiscal year to implement its strategic plan and ultimately achieve its goals and objectives. Action Plan activities help meet all priority levels listed in the Consolidated Plan. For fiscal year 2005 – 2006, Long Beach will program for expenditure fifteen million in CDBG funds, three hundred eighty-four thousand in ESG funds, seventeen million in HOME funds, and one hundred twenty-eight thousand in ADDI funds.

2005 – 2006 Action Plan Budget

Available Funds	CDBG	ESG	HOME	ADDI	TOTAL
New Entitlement	\$10,042,143	\$384,839	\$5,145,948	\$128,295	\$15,701,225
Prior Year Uncommitted	\$3,828,869	0	\$11,600,745	0	\$15,429,614
Program Income	\$1,200,000	0	\$750,000	0	\$1,950,000
Budget Totals	\$15,071,012	\$384,839	\$17,496,693	\$128,295	\$33,080,839

The Action Plan is updated on an annual basis, and is bound as a separate document from the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan.