Amended on July 1, 2020 to add CARES Act Funds to the FY2019 Annual Action Plan

2nd Amendment on March 1, 2021 to add ESG CV and CDBG CV funds to the FY2019 Annual Action Plan

Amendment on May 10, 2020 to remove FY 2020-21 ESG CV funds from the FY2019 Annual Action Plan. These funds are included in the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan.

# **Executive Summary**

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

#### 1. Introduction

The FY 2019-20 Action Plan is part of the 2015 Sonoma County Consolidated Plan covering FYs 2015-2016 through 2019-2020. The Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive certain federal housing, homelessness, and community development funds. Pursuant to a Joint Powers Agreement, the Sonoma County Community Development Commission (Commission) administers these funds on behalf of the HUD-designated Urban County entitlement jurisdiction, consisting of the County of Sonoma, the Town of Windsor, and the cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, and Sonoma. HUD funds received by the Urban County are Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funds. The projects and programs using these funds will be carried out either directly by the Commission or through funding provided to other governmental or nonprofit agencies, to benefit low-income households by addressing the goals and objectives enumerated in the Consolidated Plan and summarized below.

The administration of HOME and CDBG for capital projects and for fair housing services are guided by funding policies set annually by the Commission with input from its advisory committees. The Commission uses a Community Development Committee (an appointed advisory committee made up of representatives from each supervisorial district, Housing Choice Voucher tenants, and a representative from the Human Services Department) and a Cities and Towns Advisory Committee, (an advisory committee made up of representatives from all Cities and Towns in the Urban County) to set these annual policies.

The administration of the CDBG homeless services set-aside, ESG and certain local and state funds for homeless services is guided by funding policies set annually by the Leadership Council, the governing body for HOME Sonoma County, the county's homeless system of care.

Once recommendations are made for HOME, CDBG and ESG by the Community Development Committee, Cities and Towns Advisory Committee and Leadership Council, these are incorporated into the annual Action Plan for adoption by the County Board of Supervisors.

For FY 2019-2020, the policies set aside funds for administration and the balance of funds are awarded through competitive processes in which eligible projects and programs applied for funding awards to meet the Consolidated Planning goals. The selection and scoring criteria for how goals would be met were set in the annual policies and in two separate Notices of Funding Availability: one for Capital Projects and one for Homeless Services and a Fair Housing Services set-aside.

The Commission's advisory committees made preliminary funding recommendations based on staff's review and analysis of the applicant projects and programs in two public meetings held in March 2019.

#### 2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The CDBG & HOME Funding Policies further the five-year goals set out in the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan, and have been amended to utilize Disaster Waivers granted by HUD that allow for targeting funds to the highest needs following the October 2017 fires.

Renters were disproportionately impacted by the fires, in particular low- and very-low income renters who did not have access to FEMA assistance or insurance. In addition to those renters whose homes were destroyed, the extremely tight housing market displaced many renters, causing them to leave the area, become precariously housed, or become homeless.

To be responsive to both the long-term goals and the emerging community needs following the October 2017 fires, in the FY 2019-2020 Notice of Funding Availability, the Commission established three overarching objectives, or urgent community needs:

- 1. Serve the maximum number of people at the lowest incomes
- 2. Leverage public funds <u>or</u> meet a particular community need that cannot be met by other funding sources
- 3. Expedite creation of as many new rental housing opportunities as possible in *areas of opportunity* or improve access to important community assets in low-income communities, in particular, racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty.

The projects recommended for funding this year are the most competitive proposals that adhere to the basic Threshold Criteria, rank well under the Selection Criteria, and best meet these urgent community needs.

Because the Sonoma County Community Development Commission serves as the Housing Authority for the County, and because it administers various federally funded community development and housing programs, it is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to regularly conduct an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice in the public and private sector. This year, the Commission set aside \$175,000 for Fair Housing-Related Services. This set-aside is to fund the Commission's requirements to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing, following the recommendations for a Fair Housing Service Provider found in the 2011 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing and best practices in a Fair Housing Program.

The FY 2019-2020 Funding Policies for Homeless Services incorporated the Sonoma County 2015 Consolidated Plan goals and objectives for use of CDBG and ESG federal homeless services funding: to promote effective and proven strategies for homelessness prevention and intervention county-wide. The policies sought to create a collective impact on key System Performance Measures such as decreasing the length of homeless episodes, increasing placements in safe housing for those living outside and in permanent housing for all homeless persons, reducing the percentage of people placed in permanent housing who return to homelessness; decreasing the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time; increasing incomes; and overall reducing the total number of people experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County.

#### 3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Sonoma County has a longstanding history of being a very expensive housing market, especially in comparison to median household incomes. The impact of the October 2017 fires has only exacerbated the cost of housing in the County.

Thus, consistent with earlier Consolidated Plans for the Urban County, rental housing affordability – including building new and retaining existing affordable housing stock remain top priorities. For the remainder of the 2015 Consolidated Planning period, funding the development of permanently affordable housing, with a priority for serving extremely low and very low-income renters, will be the focus of activity.

Due largely to the disparity in housing rents versus household incomes, Sonoma County has experienced an extremely high rate of homelessness. Since the October 2017 fires, vacancy rates have dropped, and rents have skyrocketed. Despite persistent reductions in homelessness since 2011, in 2018 the number of people experiencing homelessness went up 6% to nearly 3,000 people. The housing shortage following the fires played a role in this increase. The funding of homeless intervention and prevention programs make up a large percentage of the "portfolio" of past performance and remains a top objective.

In the past, the Urban County members have prioritized the use of CDBG funds for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) retrofit projects, which largely consisted of removing architectural barriers identified in existing public buildings and infrastructure. This use of CDBG funds is highly effective because ADA retrofit projects can generally be successfully scaled, phased, or both based on funding availability. During the last Consolidated Plan period, July 2010 to June 2015, over \$3M aggregate in ADA project funds were awarded to 46 different projects sponsored by the eight participating jurisdictions. During the 2015 Consolidated Plan period to date (July 2015 through June 2020), over \$2.1 M in aggregate ADA project funds were awarded to 24 different projects sponsored by the eight participating jurisdictions. These projects include sidewalk "curb cuts" and other path-of-travel retrofit projects along roadsides; library, park, and community center restroom ADA renovations; and community facility ADA retrofit upgrades. The infrastructure improvement projects awarded funds in FY 2019-2020 were all in LMI neighborhoods, serving to connect LMI neighborhoods to existing community amenities.

#### 4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

A draft of the FY 19-20 Action Plan was made available to the public from March 29, 2019 – April 29, 2019. A notice was published in the Press Democrat and bilingual newspaper, *La Voz*, and public service announcements in English and Spanish were sent to local radio stations to announce the availability of the draft. The draft was also distributed via email to a broad list of stakeholders. Copies were made available in three public locations: the Sonoma County Community Development Commission, The Board of Supervisor's office, and the Main Branch of the Sonoma County Library as well as made available on the homepage of the Sonoma County Community Development Commission website.

Citizen participation was present throughout the process of drafting the Action Plan:

The Commission's two advisory committees reviewed all staff reports for Capital Project and Fair Housing Set-aside proposed projects and programs and discussed staff recommendations in widely-publicized and well-attended public meetings on February 20,, 2019, March 20, 2019, and April 17, 2019. During the meetings, the committees took public comment from all applicants and members of the public. At the April 17th hearing, both advisory committees voted unanimously to recommend the funding decisions to the Board of Supervisors.

The HOME Sonoma County Performance Measurement and Evaluation Task Group, made up of nine impartial but knowledgeable reviewers, discussed staff reports and evaluated all homeless services project proposals on March 15, 2019. The Performance Measurement and Evaluation Task Group's initial funding recommendations, along with staff reports, were forwarded for review by the HOME Sonoma County Leadership Council. The Leadership Council discussed the funding recommendations at a widely-publicized and heavily-attended public meeting held on March 22, 2019. The Council made recommendations for all projects in categories to be funded by CDBG and federal ESG but had to table additional decisions about how to use one-time capital projects funding until a future meeting.

Another opportunity for public comment and input was a concurrent public hearing of the Community Development Committee and the Cities and Towns Advisory Committee held on April 17, 2019. At this meeting, the two committees made final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding adoption of the Action Plan. The Action Plan was adopted by the Board on April 30, 2019.

#### 5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

Oral public comments were received and captured in minutes and notes taken at the public meetings mentioned above. Written comments were solicited, but none were received. Minutes and notes from these meetings are included in the attachment Appendix A: Citizen Participation Comments.

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

All comments were accepted.

#### 7. Summary

See questions 5 and 6 above.

### PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

#### 1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	SONOMA COUNTY	Community Development Commission
HOME Administrator	SONOMA COUNTY	Community Development Commission
ESG Administrator	SONOMA COUNTY	Community Development Commission

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

#### **Narrative (optional)**

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission is the agency charged with administering CDBG, HOME and ESG funding on behalf of the Urban County, a Joint Powers Agreement partnership consisting of the County of Sonoma, the Town of Windsor and the cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, and Sonoma.

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission also acts as the Lead Agency for HOME Sonoma County, the county's homeless system of care/Continuum of Care.

#### **Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

**Felicity Gasser** 

Federal Funding Administrator

Sonoma County Community Development Commission

1440 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

707-565-7507

felicity.gasser@sonoma-county.org

### AP-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

#### 1. Introduction

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission (Commission) houses the Sonoma County Housing Authority and administers all affordable housing finance programs for the County of Sonoma. The Commission also acts as lead agency for the HOME Sonoma County (Continuum of Care) and consolidated homeless system planning and funding effort which comprises numerous funding sources for homeless services county-wide. Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the Commission actively participates in various collective action and community initiatives addressing the needs of lower income members of the community including, but not limited to, ACCESS Sonoma and Upstream Investments. Because of these existing roles, the Commission is well-positioned to consult with private and public agencies about Consolidated Plan matters since the appropriate agency-to-agency relations are already in place.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

The Commission is an agency of County government and is charged by the Board of Supervisors with closely collaborating with other relevant County government departments including, but not limited to, the Department of Health Services and the Human Services Department. With these two agencies and other County departments, the Commission is engaged in a comprehensive Safety Net Initiative known as ACCESS Sonoma to improve service delivery to County residents who are shared clients of these departments. Similarly, the Commission routinely works closely with the City of Santa Rosa Housing and Community Services Department and Housing Authority. Over the past two years, the County has redesigned its homeless system of care, replacing the prior Continuum of Care Board with a new leadership structure and branding it HOME Sonoma County. The HOME Sonoma County Leadership Council acts as the Continuum of Care Board, and is comprised of two members of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, two members of the Santa Rosa City Council, one member of the Petaluma City Council, one member with lived experience of homelessness, and three additional subject matter experts selected by a Technical Advisory Committee. The Technical Advisory Committee is a 25-member body comprised of senior leaders with subject matter expertise (e.g., nonprofit providers, County department heads, and other key stakeholders), whose role is both to provide informed guidance to the Leadership Council and to implement the Leadership Council's strategic plans to reach functional zero homelessness in Sonoma County. This structure is designed to improve coordination with health, mental health and service agencies. Concurrently, through its role as administrator for numerous homeless services funding streams, the Commission maintains strong relationships with the majority of the community's non-profit agencies providing homeless services and affordable housing. The Commission has regular contact with the County of Sonoma's planning and land use department, Permit Sonoma, to enhance affordable housing program coordination. Additionally, the Commission cooperates with the Economic Development Board and the Workforce Investment board as members of the countywide initiatives: Health Action and Upstream Investments.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The Commission acts as lead agency for HOME Sonoma County (the new name for the local Continuum of Care), and as such fully integrates its roles as a funder of homeless housing and community services, Homeless Management Information System lead agency, Coordinated Entry grantee, and administrator of state homeless services funding, into that work. The Commission's Housing Authority also administers Continuum of Care Tenant Based Rental Assistance and other special vouchers, working closely with HOME Sonoma County/Continuum of Care staff to provide seamless linkage to housing for persons experiencing homelessness. As Coordinated Entry grantee, in 2019 the Commission has brought statefunded technical assistance to evaluate the local implementation of Coordinated Entry. The Commission also furthers contracting strategies that support the transition to a Housing First system of care to comply with other federal and state mandates. This includes increasing the expectation that providers use the Housing First model as a best practice through technical assistance and review of quarterly reporting.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The division within the Commission that is assigned responsibility for ESG program administration also acts as lead agency for HOME Sonoma County (the Continuum of Care), as well as for the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Funding prioritization, policy and standards development, and funding administration are fully integrated. The HOME Sonoma County Performance Management and Evaluation Task Group evaluates and scores project applications eligible for ESG dollars in an annual consolidated competitive process, as well as for Continuum of Care funding. In addition, through joint staffing of the HOME Sonoma County Leadership Council and Technical Advisory Committee and as administrative entity for the State Department of Housing and Community Development, the Commission coordinates with the cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma and with the State to allocate ESG funding for communities not receiving direct ESG funding that lie within the HOME Sonoma County geography. Commission staff regularly coordinate with both staff and civic leaders in the cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma, as well as Sonoma County Board of Supervisors members and elected leaders from the seven small cities and town in the Urban County through study sessions, formal presentations, and informal consultations on the implementation of their Consolidated Plans and related matters of concern.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	BURBANK HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Agency is a recognized leader in affordable housing development and policy recommendations. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was improved coordination with a regional affordable housing provider.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Fair Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California is the CDBG funded Fair Housing provider for the Urban County. The agency has provided training on Fair Housing and consulted with the Commission on preparing the 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on fair housing issues within the Urban County.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF SANTA ROSA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Overall Plan

	Briefly describe how the	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public
	Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or	meetings or direct communication. The Commission regularly coordinates with the City on the administration of housing programs. The anticipated outcome of
	areas for improved coordination?	the consultation was to ensure continued coordination and to dovetail with the City's Consolidated Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing and CDBG-DR planning process, in particular following the October 2017 wildfires that put added pressure on the housing market and on social safety net services.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Sonoma
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Overall Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact as a member of the Urban County Joint Powers Agreement partnership. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on housing and homelessness conditions and non-housing special needs within the City, in particular following the October 2017 wildfires that put added pressure on the housing market and on social safety net services.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Cotati
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact as a member of the Urban County Joint Powers Agreement partnership. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on housing and homelessness conditions and non-housing special needs within the City.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Town of Windsor
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact as a member of the Urban County Joint Powers Agreement partnership. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on housing and homelessness conditions and non-housing special needs within the Town.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMITTEE ON THE SHELTERLESS (COTS)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was improved coordination with a regional homeless services provider.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF PETALUMA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. The Commission regularly coordinates with the City on the administration of housing programs. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was to ensure continued coordination and to complement the City's FY 2019-2020 Action Plan and coordinate on preparation of an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	West County Community Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Agency is recognized leader in providing senior, family, and homeless services in West Sonoma County. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues affecting seniors, families, and chronically homeless persons within the Urban County.

10	Agency/Group/Organization	Sonoma County Vet Connect, Inc
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Veterans Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication.  Agency assists veterans with accessing services. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on housing and homelessness issues affecting veterans within the Urban County.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Business Leaders

		T
	What section of the Plan was addressed by	Housing Need Assessment
	Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public
	Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What	meetings or direct communication. Agency is a recognized leader in providing
	are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or	homeless services and services for low-income households and seniors. The
	areas for improved coordination?	anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing
		issues within the Urban County and agency leadership of specific coordination
		projects such as Coordinated Entry and county-wide street and encampment
		outreach.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Cloverdale Community Outreach Committee
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
		Services - Housing
		Services-Elderly Persons
		Services-Persons with Disabilities
		Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
		Services-homeless
		Services-Health

		T
	What section of the Plan was addressed by	Housing Need Assessment
	Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public
	Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What	meetings or direct communication. Agency provides emergency shelter,
	are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or	transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. The anticipated
	areas for improved coordination?	outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness within the Urban
		County.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Reach for Home
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
		Services - Housing
		Services-Children
		Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
	Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the	Invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication.
	Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What	Agency provides rapid re-housing, transitional housing and street outreach
	are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or	services in the Windsor, Healdsburg, and Geyserville Areas. The anticipated
	areas for improved coordination?	outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness issues within the Urban
		County.

14	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Cloverdale
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact as a member of the Urban County Joint Powers Agreement partnership. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on housing, homelessness conditions, and non-housing special needs within the City.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Healdsburg
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact as a member of the Urban County Joint Powers Agreement partnership. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on housing, homelessness conditions, and non-housing special needs within the City.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF ROHNERT PARK
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local

1		
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact as a member of the Urban County Joint Powers Agreement partnership. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on housing, homelessness conditions, and non-housing special needs within the City.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY HOUSING SONOMA COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Agency is a recognized Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) with expertise in affordable housing development, especially special needs housing. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was improved coordination with a regional affordable housing provider.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	CALIFORNIA HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
•	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF SONOMA COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Agency provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues within the Urban County.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Agency provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing for persons with severe and persistent mental illness. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues within the Urban County.

21	Agency/Group/Organization	Legal Aid of Sonoma County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Education Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness prevention and housing issues within the Urban County.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	SOCIAL ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Agency provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing with a focus on youth. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues within the Urban County.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	The Living Room
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues within the Urban County.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Verity
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the  Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What  are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or  areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Partner in a Homeless Victim Assistance project. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness issues within the Urban County.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	YWCA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Partner in a Homeless Victim Assistance project and operates a Safe House. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues within the Urban County.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	Health Action
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Commission participation allowed cross-sector collaboration to strengthen development of other possible housing funding sources, particularly related to the nexus between health and housing
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Lower Russian River Homeless Task Force
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues in West County.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Sonoma Overnight Support
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy				
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Agency provides emergency shelter. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on homelessness and housing issues within the Urban County.				
29	Agency/Group/Organization	Petaluma People Services Center				
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing				
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis				
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings and direct communication. Agency provides matching services for homeowners and renters, particularly focused on seniors, who want to share their homes or are in need of housing. The anticipated outcome of the consultation was input on innovative affordable housing strategies within the Urban County.				
30	Agency/Group/Organization	La Luz				
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Employment				
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy				

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives from La Luz are engaging in identifying community development needs and opportunities in the Sonoma Valley, in particular, to benefit populations and neighborhoods that have experienced a historic lack of investment of public dollars. La Luz is also helping to engage the community to prepare the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing.
31	Agency/Group/Organization	DSLC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing contact with DSLC about serving the disabled and elderly population. Anticipated outcome is improved ADA access, especially in their homes, for seniors and people with disabilities.
32	Agency/Group/Organization	Boys & Girls Club of Central Sonoma County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing and regular contact and invited to provide Plan input through public meetings or direct communication. Additionally, specific communications about the potential for facilities renovations to provide programs for low-income, school-aged children.
33	Agency/Group/Organization	Satellite Affordable Housing Associates
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	In communications regarding entitlement challenges, effective use of county funding, tax credits, and constructions cost challenges. Additional relationship through a development disposition agreement for the development of lowincome housing.
34	Agency/Group/Organization	Midpen Housing Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	In communications regarding entitlement challenges, effective use of county funding, tax credits and other gap financing, and constructions cost challenges. Additional relationship through a development disposition agreement for the development of low-income housing.
35	Agency/Group/Organization	USA PROPERTIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	In communications regarding entitlement challenges, effective use of county funding, and constructions cost challenges. Existing exclusive negotiating agreement in place to develop affordable by design units.
36	Agency/Group/Organization	Build SF
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment			
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	In communications regarding entitlement challenges, effective use of county funding, and constructions cost challenges. Site specific needs associated with environmental clean-up.			
37	Agency/Group/Organization	EAH Housing			
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing			
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment			
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	In communications regarding entitlement challenges, effective use of county funding, and constructions cost challenges.			

# Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

All groups were either consulted or invited to participate in the Plan process. There was no decision to exclude any group.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
	Sonoma County Community	The Continuum of Care is hosted and staffed by the Community Development
Continuum of Care	Development Commission	Commission, so plans and goals are designed to be consistent and complementary, if
		not interchangeable.

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

Narrative (optional)

#### **AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)**

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

From March 29, 2019, through April 29, 2019, the Draft FY 2019-20 Action Plan was made available to the public. A notice was published in the Press Democrat and bilingual newspaper, La Voz, and public service announcements in English and Spanish were sent to local radio stations to announce its availability. Copies of the draft were made available at the Sonoma County Community Development Commission office, the Sonoma County Public Library Main Branch and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors office, and on the Sonoma County Community Development Commission website. The Draft Action Plan was distributed via email to a broad list of stakeholders as well. Public meetings of the Community Development Committee and Cities and Towns Advisory Committee were held on February 20, 2019, March 20, 2019 and April 17, 2019. The public was invited to provide written or oral comment during the 30-day comment period and each public meeting was noticed via email to almost 2,000 subscribers. All public hearings were noticed in the Press Democrat and bilingual newspaper, La Voz.

A Public meeting of the Community Development Committee and Cities and Towns Advisory Committee was held on August 19, 2020. The ESG-CV2 Budget was approved by the committees and submitted for approval to the Board of Supervisors on November 10, 2020.

A Public meeting of the Community Development Committee and Cities and Towns Advisory Committee was held on April 20, 2020. The committees voted to recommend Board of Supervisors approval of a new Substantial Amendment to this Action Plan to remove the FY 2020 ESG and ESG-CV funds, as they are included in the FY 2020-21 Action Plan.

From October 19th, 2020, through October 23, 2020, the Draft FY 2019-20 Action Plan Substantial Amendment was made available to the public. A notice was published in the Press Democrat. Copies of the draft were made available on the Sonoma County Community Development Commission website. The Draft Action Plan substantial Amendment was distributed via email to a broad list of stakeholders as well. A Public meeting of the Community Development Committee and Cities and Towns Advisory Committee was held on October 21, 2020. The public was invited to provide written or oral comment during the 5-day comment period and each public meeting was noticed via email to almost 2,000 subscribers. All public hearings were noticed in the Press Democrat.

# **Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Or der	Mode of Outr each	Target of Outr each	Summary of response/attend ance	Summary of comments rece ived	Summary of com ments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broa d community	Attendance by 76 members of the public.	See AP-05 for a summary of public comments received.	N/A	
2	Broad Email Distribution	Non- targeted/broa d community	No written comments received.	No comments received	N/A	
3	Public Service Announcemen t	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Non- targeted/broa d community	No response	No comments received	N/A	
4	Internet Outreach	Non- targeted/broa d community	No response	No comments received	N/A	http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC/ News/FY-2019-2020-Draft-Action- Plan-Now-Available-for-Comment/
5	Internet Outreach	Non- targeted/broa d community	no response	no comments received	N/A	https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC /Plans-Policies-and-Reports/

Sort Or der	Mode of Outr each	Target of Outr each	Summary of response/attend ance	Summary of comments rece ived	Summary of com ments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
6	Newspaper Ad	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Non- targeted/broa d community	no Response	no comments received	N/A	
7	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broa d community	no response	No comments received	N/A	https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Community-Development-Community-Development-Community-Development-Committee-Meeting-August-19-2020/
9	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broa d community	no response	no comments received	N/A	https://sonoma- county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx #

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

# **Expected Resources**

### **AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)**

#### Introduction

The impact of the October 2017 fires on the local housing market increased the importance of a comprehensive strategy by which Sonoma County communities rebuild lost homes, build new affordable housing, and prepare for an anticipated wave of people experiencing homelessness.

During the fires, more housing was lost in one night than had been created in the County over the 7 years prior. Of the homes destroyed, 61% were owned, and 39% were rented. At least 2,200, or 40%, of the displaced households, were low income. The impact of the fires on the rental market has put many low-income renters at risk of displacement. Approximately 2,200 renter households were directly displaced by the fires, and more than 10,400 people are currently living in precarious housing situations because they were displaced either by the fires or because of the economic impact of the fires. Renters who were displaced by the market have no access to disaster-related resources for assistance. Furthermore, the wave of the impact is ongoing, and even a year and a half after the event we have yet to see the full impact on this population. However, there are already some early indicators: Rents for surviving units rose substantially as the County experienced a simultaneous plunge in supply and influx of new demand as newly displaced residents scrambled to find vacant and affordable units. Many owners who lost their primary residence moved into another unit they owned, evicting the existing tenants and creating a second wave of displacement.

For Fiscal Year 2019-2020, HOME Sonoma County received \$12.1 million in Homeless Emergency Aid Program funds from a new State Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, and also had additional state funds from the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program, private "Housing Innovation" funding from the Partnership HealthPlan of California, and one-time local funds to develop system infrastructure in the underserved Sonoma Valley. The Commission strategically leveraged these one-time funds to build core homeless services infrastructure and to increase homeless services capacity and housing supply, by adding them to the Commission's annual consolidated funding process. A total of nine different funding streams, totaling approximately \$14.1 million, were awarded through this competitive process under the auspices of HOME Sonoma County. The funding policies guiding this competition targeted using new funds to enhance existing services to adequately serve the most vulnerable persons coming from Coordinated Entry, capital development of more than 150 new permanent supportive housing

beds, and expanding rapid re-housing capacity.

# **Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	cted Amou	nt Available Y	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,861,440	256,000	0	2,117,440	0	CDBG will be used for a variety of purposes including housing and homelessness projects and programs, and neighborhood infrastructure projects.

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	cted Amou	nt Available Y	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	
HOME	public -	Acquisition						HOME funds will be used to
	federal	Homebuyer						provide permissible tenant-
		assistance						based rental assistance, and
		Homeowner						affordable housing development.
		rehab						The CHDO set-aside has been
		Multifamily						suspended to maximize the
		rental new						flexibility of HOME dollars to
		construction						provide housing to persons
		Multifamily						displaced by the October 2017
		rental rehab						fires, so these funds can be
		New						awarded to any HOME eligible
		construction for						project.
		ownership						
		TBRA	806,709	14,000	0	820,709	0	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid rehousing (rental assistance) Rental						ESG funds will be used for homeless shelters and rapid rehousing programs for homeless persons.
		Assistance Services Transitional housing	157,759	0	0	157,759	0	

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	cted Amou	nt Available Y	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of		Annual	Program	Prior Year	Total:	Amount Available	
	Funds		Allocation:	Income: \$	Resources:	\$	Remainder	
			<b>,</b>	*	•		of ConPlan	
							\$	
Competitive	public -	Admin and						CoC funds will be used almost
McKinney-	federal	Planning						entirely for permanent
Vento		Housing						supportive housing projects that
Homeless								currently serve 242 homeless
Assistance Act								persons, and will increasingly be
								dedicated to chronically
								homeless populations. New this
								year, CoC funds support 30
								dedicated beds for victims of
								domestic violence who are
								experiencing homelessness.
								Additionally, a portion of funds
								will continue to be used to
								support system infrastructure
								costs such as HMIS data systems,
								Coordinated Entry, and CoC
			3,624,821	0	0	3,624,821	0	planning and management.
Section 8	public -	Rental						Section 8 funds are used for
	federal	Assistance						tenant based and project based
								vouchers and are administered
								by the Sonoma County Housing
			33,627,100	0	0	33,627,100	0	Authority.

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	cted Amou	nt Available Y	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	
Other	<del>public -</del>	Other						ESG-CV funds to be used to
	federal							prevent, prepare for and
			<del>7,162,916</del>	0	0	<del>7,162,916</del>	0	respond to the Coronavirus
Other	public -	Rental						CDBG-CV funds to be used to
	federal	Assistance						prevent, prepare for and
		Other						respond to the Coronavirus
								CDBG-CV3 funds will be for
			2,963,500	0	0	2,963,500	0	rental assistance

Table 54 - Expected Resources - Priority Table

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

Federal funds will be leveraged with local, state, and private funds within individual projects and initiatives for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The County of Sonoma has invested more than \$25,714,000 in the past four years and is expected to contribute significant funds in the final year of the plan. These resources provide gap financing for affordable rental development projects that often use federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits and a standard combination of other private debt and equity sources. Lantana Place Homes was awarded \$500,000 for an affordable homeownership opportunity for 48 low and moderate income households. Roseland Village was awarded \$2,000,000 for 48 low- and very-low income multifamily housing. Boyd Street Apartments received \$1,500,000 to help build 47 multi-family rental units. Link Lane was awarded \$200,000 to help create special needs housing for 3 individuals. COTS was awarded \$196,596 for site specific renovations. Reach for Home was awarded \$600,000 to use as matching funds to serve persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. West County Community Services will use \$319,000 for site specific plans and renovations. Danco Communities was approved for \$598,404 for a 51 unit homeless housing project. Catholic Charities was awarded \$1,000,000 for Caritas Homes a 128 unit permanent, supportive housing targeting low- and very-low income households. Local resources also help fund a variety of services designed to mitigate homelessness. For example, allocations totaling \$1,070,000 in County discretionary funds supported efforts not eligible for other funding streams, such as subrecipient administrative costs, significant expansions of

the Coordinated Entry System and street outreach, permanent supportive housing operations, a homeless court program, and winter shelters. State funds totaling \$12,098,636 were additionally leveraged with allocations to to rapid re-housing, new permanent supportive housing (capital projects and operations), and capital improvements to existing infrastructure. Approximately \$400,000 in Partnership HealthPlan of California funding was also leveraged to provide rapid re-housing to Medi-Cal participants and for capital development of new housing for homeless youth.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurmay be used to address the needs identified in the plan					
Discussion					

## **Annual Goals and Objectives**

## **AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives**

### **Goals Summary Information**

Sort	Goal Name	Start	End	Category	Geographic	Needs Addressed	Funding	<b>Goal Outcome Indicator</b>
Order		Year	Year		Area			
1	Affordable	2015	2020	Affordable		Affordable	CDBG: \$702,461	Rental units constructed: 64
	Housing			Housing		Housing	HOME: \$726,038	Household Housing Unit
							ESG: \$0	Rental units rehabilitated: 66
							Competitive	Household Housing Unit
							McKinney-Vento	Tenant-based rental
							Homeless Assistance	assistance / Rapid Rehousing:
							Act: \$0	2928 Households Assisted
							Section 8:	
							\$33,617,213	
2	Homelessness	2015	2020	Homeless		Homelessness	CDBG: \$402,171	Public Facility or
							HOME: \$0	Infrastructure Activities other
							ESG: \$145,927	than Low/Moderate Income
							Competitive	Housing Benefit: 2200
							McKinney-Vento	Persons Assisted
							Homeless Assistance	Tenant-based rental
							Act: \$3,624,821	assistance / Rapid Rehousing:
							Section 8: \$0	11 Households Assisted
								Homeless Person Overnight
								Shelter: 867 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Non-Housing	2015	2020	Non-Homeless		Non-Housing	CDBG: \$622,178	Public Facility or
	Community			Special Needs		Community	HOME: \$0	Infrastructure Activities other
	Development			Non-Housing		Development	ESG: \$0	than Low/Moderate Income
				Community			Competitive	Housing Benefit: 8095
				Development			McKinney-Vento	Persons Assisted
							Homeless Assistance	Public service activities other
							Act: \$0	than Low/Moderate Income
							Section 8: \$0	Housing Benefit: 550 Persons
								Assisted

Table <u>6</u>2 – Goals Summary

### **Goal Descriptions**

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	Increase and preserve the housing stock that is affordable, safe, and accessible for low-, very low-, and extremely low-income families and individuals, including those with special needs and those who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.
2	Goal Name	Homelessness
	Goal Description	Promote effective and proven strategies for homelessness prevention and intervention county-wide.
3	Goal Name	Non-Housing Community Development
	Goal Description	Assist in creating and/or replacing infrastructure systems and public facilities that meet the needs of lower income people, people with disabilities, and other special needs subpopulations county-wide; and b) Promote the well-being and economic integration of lower income persons.

### **Projects**

### **AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)**

#### Introduction

In FY 2019-2020, Sonoma County will receive \$1,861,440 in CDBG funds. CDBG funds will be used for housing, fair housing services, homeless services, public improvements, and public facilities, all of which must be awarded for projects and programs that affirmatively further fair housing. Federal regulations impose a 15 percent maximum cap on funding to be expended for public service activities. Administrative costs are limited to 20 percent of the total CDBG funding and 20 percent of program income received.

In FY 2019-2020, Sonoma County will receive \$806,709 in HOME Program funds. HOME funds will be used for new rental construction, housing rehabilitation, and tenant-based rental assistance. Federal regulations require a minimum of 15 percent of each year's HOME allocation to be set-aside for projects sponsored by CHDOs. However, this CHDO set-aside was waived following the October 2017 fires for up to two years, including FY 2019-2020. Operational support for approved CHDOs with a currently active project is allowed as an eligible activity, limited to 5 percent of the total HOME award or \$50,000, whichever is less, but no funding was awarded in this category since no eligible CHDO project was submitted.

In FY 2019-2020, Sonoma County will receive \$157,759 in ESG funds. This year, four proposals are recommended for funding—two for homeless shelters and two for rapid re-housing programs.

### **Projects**

#	Project Name
1	Burbank Housing - Caritas Homes
2	City of Healdsburg - Victory Studios/Apartments Rehabilitation
3	Sonoma County Housing Authority - Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
4	Disability and Legal Services Center
5	City of Sebastopol - Park Village Apartment Rehabilitation
6	Burbank Housing - Sea Ranch Rehabilitation
7	Catholic Charities - Caritas Center
8	Fair Housing Services Program
9	City of Healdsburg - Sidewalk Accessibility Improvements
10	City of Sebastopol - Bodega Avenue Accessibility Improvements
11	COTS - Mary Isaak Center
12	YWCA Safe House
13	CDBG Reserve

#	Project Name			
14	CDBG Direct Delivery			
15	ESG19 Sonoma County			
16	CDBG - General Administration			
17	HOME - General Administration			
18	ESG - General Administration			
19	HOME Reserve			
20	CV-CDBG Coronavirus Response			
21	ESG20 Sonoma County			
22	CDBG CV Admin			

Table 73 - Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

## **AP-38 Project Summary**

**Project Summary Information** 

1	Project Name	Burbank Housing - Caritas Homes
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$161,918
	Description	Caritas Homes, a 64-unit affordable rental housing project, is expected to be completed in 2021. The project is part of the larger Caritas Village redevelopment project in downtown Santa Rosa being developed in conjunction with Catholic Charities. Approximately half of the newly constructed units will be reserved for chronically homeless individuals. It is anticipated that Caritas Homes, Phase 1, would house about 111 residents at any given time.
	Target Date	12/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	64 rental housing units for homeless and chronic homeless individuals.
	Location Description	465 A Street, Santa Rosa, CA
	Planned Activities	Predevelopment
2	Project Name	City of Healdsburg - Victory Studios/Apartments Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$250,000
	Description	The City of Healdsburg will rehabilitate 11 existing units at the Victory Studios/Apartments. The project will make needed improvements to the exterior and interior of the Victory Studio/Apartments that currently serve 9 low-income and 20 extremely low-income residents.
	Target Date	6/30/2020

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	11 rental housing units
	Location Description	306/308 East Street, Healdsburg CA 95448
	Planned Activities	The following improvements are proposed: new roofs, solar panels, tankless water heaters, new appliances (stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers, and microwave ovens), exterior and interior painting, on-site drainage improvements, air-conditioning for the 2-bedroom units, stackable washers and dryers in each unit, fencing along the southern and northern property lines and ADA improvements to the property.
3	Project Name	Sonoma County Housing Authority - Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$270,000
	Description	TBRA provides a two-year contract to each household with the purpose of stabilizing them in existing housing or providing them with access to housing when they are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	38 very low-income renter households
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	\$270,000 will ensure that the 38 households currently receiving TBRA maintain stability in their housing while other rental assistance is secured or until a permanently affordable unit is identified for the client household to move into. All households being served are on fixed incomes and in need of permanent rental assistance or a permanently affordable unit in order to maintain housing stability.
	Project Name	Disability and Legal Services Center

4	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	The Housing Access Modification program ensures that low-income households with disabilities maintain the ability to remain in their homes by adding improvements that make homes accessible.
	Target Date	12/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6 rental units rehabilitated
	Location Description	Urban County
	Planned Activities	Modifying the homes of senior veterans and people with disabilities for access needs, including improvements such as installation of ramps, roll-in showers, grab bars, porch lifts and flashing light alert systems.
5	Project Name	City of Sebastopol - Park Village Apartment Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$45,000
	Description	Renovating a vacant building in Park Village into two apartments. Park Village provides permanent supportive housing for low-/very low-/extremely low-income households.
	Target Date	2/28/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2 rental units rehabilitated
	<b>Location Description</b>	6665 Sebastopol Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

	Planned Activities	Rehabilitation of two apartments at Park Village in the City of Sebastopol.
6	Project Name	Burbank Housing - Sea Ranch Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$576,949
	Description	The proposed project objective is to preserve the housing stock that is affordable, safe, and accessible for low and very-low income families and individuals of which there is a very low supply in this region of the County.
	Target Date	11/1/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	45 rental units rehabilitated
	Location Description	326 Haversack, Sea Ranch, CA 95497
	Planned Activities	Replacement of roofs on 16 residential buildings, gutter replacement on 16 residential buildings, and roof replacement on 45 sheds.
7	Project Name	Catholic Charities - Caritas Center
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$300,000
	Description	Caritas Center will integrate comprehensive homeless services and programs in a central location, allowing Catholic Charities to serve more clients with substantially-enriched offerings. Caritas Center will include new facilities to expand emergency housing for families, increase the clients served by the homeless day center, host rapid rehousing, coordinated entry, and homeless services outreach, and incorporate the Nightingale respite program.
	Target Date	1/30/2022

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2,200 households
	Location Description	465 A Street, Santa Rosa, CA
	Planned Activities	Predevelopment
8	Project Name	Fair Housing Services Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Non-Housing Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$205,000
	Description	A robust fair housing services program that includes contracting with a HUD-Certified Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) and an agency that provides eviction defense legal services.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	550 households
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	Complaint intake, complaint investigation, testing for fair housing violations and meritorious claims, education and training targeted to small landlords, education to tenants about their rights, serves as an advocate to help protected classes find housing, language services such as translating leases, serving as a counselor to help low income and disabled residents locate affordable rental housing and better understand their fair housing rights, provide seminars with residents who are most vulnerable to fair housing discrimination which focus on common issues, eviction prevention and defense, and a telephone hotline support offering landlord-tenant mediation and information.
9	Project Name	City of Healdsburg - Sidewalk Accessibility Improvements
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Non-Housing Community Development

	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development	
Funding  Description		CDBG: \$140,000	
		The project will improve sidewalk accessibility in a low-income neighborhood that lacks connectivity on par with more affluent neighborhoods within the City of Healdsburg.	
	Target Date	12/31/2020	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities 4,230 low-income individual		4,230 low-income individuals in the served census tracts	
	Location Description	Census tracts: 060971539024 and 060971539021	
	Planned Activities	Remove 11 existing concrete sidewalk ramps at street intersections, while replacing them with ADA compliant ramps to improve pedestrian travel.	
10	Project Name	City of Sebastopol - Bodega Avenue Accessibility Improvements	
	Target Area		
	Goals Supported	Non-Housing Community Development	
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development	
	Funding	CDBG: \$146,040	
	Description	Bodega Avenue Improvement Project will include 3 sidewalk gap closures, pavement rehabilitation, and addition of bicycle lanes	
	Target Date	1/31/2020	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,545 low-income individuals in the served census tracts	
	<b>Location Description</b>		
	Planned Activities	Preparation of design plans and bid packages	
11	Project Name	COTS - Mary Isaak Center	
	Target Area		
	Goals Supported	Homelessness	

	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$52,171
	Description	100-bed emergency shelter for single adults
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	332 single adults
	Location Description	900 Hopper Street, Petaluma, CA
	Planned Activities	This award, supplemented by \$157,440 in State HEAP funds, the Mary Isaak Center will provide overnight accommodations and case management aimed at placing participants in permanent housing. Case management will facilitate participants' ability to find permanent housing and increase income from any source at program exit. Services will provide an array of support, including mental health, hot meals, financial management, self-sufficiency training, substance abuse recovery, integrated health care, transportation, and other services as needed. Every effort will be made to place participants in permanent housing as quickly as possible.
12	Project Name	YWCA Safe House
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	YWCA's Safe House provides refuge in a confidential location for adults and children fleeing domestic violence. It is the only state-designated domestic violence shelter in Sonoma County, and part of the HOME Sonoma County homeless system of care.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	135 Households

	Location Description	Confidential Safe House
	•	
	Planned Activities	Safe House helps to reduce the frequency and length of homelessness using proven practices such as bilingual case management, legal assistance, Upstream's Tier 1 evidence-based practices (Motivational Interviewing/Triple P), and financial safety planning and education in order to immediately increase participant's employment and benefit income prior to exit. Safe House uses proven intervention approaches to ensure the majority of victims are empowered as they seek a safer future, secure permanent housing, and increase income.
13	Project Name	CDBG Reserve
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$88,085
	Description	These funds are held in reserve for use in the case of cost overruns or if the federal allocation of CDBG funding is less than estimated.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
14	Project Name	CDBG Direct Delivery
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,512
	Description	These funds are for direct delivery costs incurred by the Commission staff including costs associated with Environmental Reviews and Labor Compliance for specific projects.
	Target Date	

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities  Location Description  Planned Activities	
15	Project Name	ESG19 Sonoma County
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	ESG: \$145,927
	Description	Catholic Charities, Rapid Re-Housing: Housing location, housing-focused case management, and rental assistance to help persons experiencing homelessness to re-enter housing.COTS, Rapid Re-Housing: Housing location, housing-focused case management, and rental assistance to help persons experiencing homelessness to reenter housing. Catholic Charities, Family Support Center: The Family Support Center (FSC) is a 138-bed emergency shelter dedicated to serving homeless families with children, with the primary aim of exiting these most vulnerable families into permanent housing as rapidly as possible.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Tenant-based Rental Assisance – households assisted: 11  Homeless Person Overnight Shelter – persons assisted: 332
	Location Description	Catholic Charities, Rapid Re-Housing: 465 A Street, Santa Rosa, CA  COTS, Rapid Re-Housing: 900 Hopper Street, Petaluma, CA  Catholic Charities, Family Support Center: 465 A Street, Santa Rosa, CA

	Planned Activities	Catholic Charities, Rapid Re-Housing: With \$29,915, 5 households will be assisted to locate and retain permanent housing. This amount will be supplemented by \$170,085 of combined LMIHAF, State ESG, and HEAP funds, which when combined with the ESG award will assist 47 households.  COTS, Rapid Re-Housing: With \$29,915, 6 households will be assisted to locate and retain permanent housing. The ESG allocation alone is enough to assist 6 households. This amount will be supplemented by \$234,085 of combined LMIHAF, State ESG, and State HEAP funds which when combined with the ESG award will assist a total of 40 households.  Catholic Charities, Family Support Center: With \$86,097,
		supplemented by \$88,903 in local and State HEAP funds to total \$175,000, the Family Support Center will provide overnight shelter to 400 persons. Services are voluntary, individualized, and participant driven. The primary focus is to move into permanent housing as quickly as possible. FSC parents are assisted by the agency's Housing Navigators and Rapid Re-Housing program to maximize access to housing, rent, and utility financial assistance, and related housing support services. Child-centered services provided in parallel with this focus are Positive Parenting education and coaching, school transportation, and support.
16	Project Name	CDBG - General Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Homelessness Non-Housing Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Homelessness Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$372,288
	Description	General Administration costs for CDBG projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2020

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
17	Project Name	HOME - General Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$80,670
	Description	General Administration for HOME-funded projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	General administration
18	Project Name	ESG - General Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	ESG: \$11,831
	Description	General administration for ESG-funded projects
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A

	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	General administration.
19	Project Name	HOME Reserve
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$58,121
	Description	
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	<b>Location Description</b>	N/A
	Planned Activities	N/A
20	Project Name	CV-CDBG Coronavirus Response
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$2,370,800
	Description	Activities to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus CDBG-CV the CDC will use \$2,370,800 direct services.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Rental assistance will be provided for up to three months for 266 households that do not have access to other COVID-related emergency funds that are economically impacted by COVID-19.
	Location Description	Countywide

	Planned Activities	Emergency rental assistance for households economically impacted by COVID-19	
21	<del>Project Name</del>	ESG20 Sonoma County	
	<del>Target Area</del>		
	Goals Supported	Homelessness	
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness	
	Funding	ESG: \$163,560 ESG-CV: \$7,162,916	
	<del>Description</del>	\$564,000 in ESG-CV for COVID-19 Rapid Rehousing to benefit 12 households, \$6,598,916 in ESG-CV2 funds separated out as follows; Administration \$659,891, Rapid Re-Housing \$1,994,000, Emergency Shelter Augmentation \$1,185,592, Non-Congregate Shelter Operations \$1,339,811, HMIS Support \$230,000, and Street Outreach \$1,189,622, and \$163,560 in 2020 ESG Funds for Rapid-Rehousing and shelter services. No more than 60% of the \$163,560 will go to the Catholic Charities' Family Support Center, while the remainder will go to Rapid-Rehousing programs.	
	Target Date		
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Eighty Six households will be provided with 18 months of rental assistance, including housing navigation services and case management.  Non-congregate emergency shelter — 180 individuals; Emergency	
	Location Description	Shelter augmentation - 400 Individuals	
	Planned Activities	Countywide  Rapid Rehousing, housing navigation, and case management.	
2 <u>1</u> 2	Project Name	CDBG CV Admin	
	Target Area		
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Homelessness	
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Homelessness	
	Funding	CDBG: \$592,699	
	Description	Admin expenses used for the Coronavirus CDBG funds	
	Target Date	6/30/2021	

Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Admin expenses
<b>Location Description</b>	
Planned Activities	Admin expenses

### AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

# Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

This FY 2019-2020 Action Plan, Year 5, encompasses activities undertaken by the County of Sonoma, as well as the seven municipalities comprising the HUD entitlement Urban County: Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Sonoma, and Windsor. Sonoma County does not dedicate funds to target areas.

### **Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

**Table 84 - Geographic Distribution** 

### Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The Urban County jurisdictions share CDBG funds for capital projects and economic development programs in rough proportion to the number of low-income residents living in each area. Particular attention has been paid this year on tracking the geographic distribution of these dollars, and in the 2020 Consolidated Plan, a focus on communities that have experienced historic disinvestment of public resources will be prioritized.

#### Discussion

### **Affordable Housing**

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	88
Non-Homeless	86
Special-Needs	4
Total	178

Table **96** - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	49
The Production of New Units	64
Rehab of Existing Units	65
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	178

Table 107 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

### **Discussion**

Habitat for Humanity will construct Duncan Village in Windsor - 16 homes for purchase by low-income households. Satellite Affordable Housing Associates will construct Altamira Apartments in Sonoma, 47 rental homes affordable to extremely low-, and very low-income households and one manager's unit. Sonoma County Affordable Housing, Inc. will rehabilitate Riverfield Homes in Healdsburg, 17 rental homes affordable to extremely low- and very low-income households and one manager's unit. The City of Sebastopol will rehabilitate two rental apartments at Village Park Mobile Home Park, affordable to low-income households. At least one of the apartments will be made available to disabled persons, and both will serve homeless households. DSLC will operate a Housing Access Modification program installing ADA upgrades to 5-6 homes. The Commission in its role as the Housing Authority will provide tenant-based rental assistance to 38 vulnerable households. Catholic Charities and COTS Rapid Rehousing programs will provide tenant-based rental assistance to 11 homeless households.

### **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

#### Introduction

Sonoma County's 2011 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice cited the lack of affordable housing as a barrier for low-income persons to find adequate housing. The shortage of affordable housing has only become worse since the October 2017 Sonoma Complex Fire. While the Sonoma County Housing Authority (Housing Authority) has no public housing, the Commission will continue to use its Housing Choice Voucher Program, CDBG and HOME funding to support projects that increase the supply and improve the conditions of affordable housing for lower-income persons. The Housing Authority will continue to pursue all new voucher opportunities that become available.

### Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

The Urban County does not operate public housing. During the next year, the Commission will continue to address the priority housing needs discussed in the 2015 Consolidated Plan. The County will primarily focus resources on rental housing development and preservation. As opportunities arise, the County also will devote resources to affordable homeownership opportunities for lower-income first-time homebuyers.

# Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

The Urban County does not own or operate public housing units. The Sonoma County Community Development Committee (the advisory board to the Sonoma County Community Development Commission and the Sonoma County Housing Authority) includes two Section 8 participants and serves as the Housing Authority's resident advisory board.

# If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

HUD has consistently designated the Sonoma County Housing Authority as a "high performer" agency.

### Discussion

# AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i) Introduction

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission combines ESG, allowable CDBG Public Services funds, Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP), California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH), a one-time private "Housing Innovation" allocation, and \$1,320,000 in local funding allocations into a consolidated funding process for Homeless Services programs. Homeless services funding priorities focus on interventions that demonstrably impact the Continuum of Care's Systemwide Performance Measures.

The Commission staffs the HOME Sonoma County Leadership and Technical Advisory Committees, which comprise the local Continuum of Care. In addition to the funding cycle described above, another \$3.7 million annually in Continuum of Care funding is used annually to address homelessness. As Lead Agency for HOME Sonoma County and the only ESG entitlement jurisdiction in Sonoma County, the Commission has entered into an agreement with the California Department of Housing and Community Development to act as Administrative Entity for a \$219,283 allocation of Balance of State ESG funds (for the non-ESG entitlement jurisdictions of Santa Rosa and Petaluma) plus CESH, a State-funded program with eligible uses similar to ESG, currently estimated at \$457,360 for FY 2019-20.

Approximately \$5 million in additional private funds supplement these government funded activities. In addition, a private donor contributes \$600,000 annually to a homeless prevention fund operated by an awardee; that single donor has contributed over \$7 million to date.

# Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

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

In 2015, the Sonoma County Community Development Commission launched the Homeless Outreach Service Team (HOST), a street outreach effort in cooperation with HOME Sonoma County's implementation of Coordinated Entry. The street outreach teams utilize the same evidence-based screening tools that are being used by Coordinated Entry and directly connect participants with Coordinated Entry for housing placement, as well as with benefits and health resources. The standard screening and assessment tools prioritize resources to the persons with the most acute health needs and the longest periods of homelessness. In FY 2019-20, \$220,885 in combined State and local funds have been added to the project to enable the HOST Team to reach 700 unsheltered persons throughout the Urban County, including underserved areas such as the Sonoma Valley; outreach to transition age youth has been expanded to serve up to 500 unsheltered youth with \$304,217 in combined State and local funds. In addition to these investments, \$150,000 has been allocated to targeted outreach activities in rural areas of the Urban County (along the Russian River in Healdsburg and Guerneville, and

covering four small North County communities).

### Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The focus of Sonoma County's emergency shelter and transitional housing programs is establishing safety through trauma-informed care, to stabilize and more quickly house participants. In FY 2019-20, CDBG funds will support 332 single adults at the 100-bed Mary Isaak Center Emergency Shelter and 135 women and children at the YWCA's 27-bed domestic violence safe house. In addition, ESG, local, and State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds are allocated to support 400 children and their families at Catholic Charities' 138-bed Family Support Center. In FY 2019-20, the Commission will use local and State funds to support 500 single adults at Catholic Charities' 213-bed Samuel Jones Hall, 91 women and children at Community Action Partnership's 22-bed Sloan Women's Shelter, 52 homeless single adults with mental health challenges at Progress Foundation's 6-bed Peer Respite Program; 100 youth at Social Advocates for Youth's 12-bed TAY Emergency Shelter. In addition, the Commission will use local and State HEAP funds to support winter shelter expansions offered by Catholic Charities' Family Support Center, COTS, Sonoma Overnight Support (City of Sonoma), Social Advocates for Youth, and West County Community Services in unincorporated Guerneville—all of which serve the Urban County.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

Permanent supportive housing is the key service intervention for chronically homeless persons and for ensuring they do not become homeless again. Permanent supportive housing is also the Sonoma County system of care's greatest need, and therefore the homeless services competitive funding cycle prioritizes permanent supportive housing capital development, services, and operations above all other uses, as long as these are eligible expenses. In FY 2019-20, the Community Development Commission has allocated ESG, along with local and State funds, for two Rapid Re-Housing projects (operated by Catholic Charities and COTS) that will serve up to 87 households. Local and State funds will support Rapid Re-Housing assistance for another 109 households throughout the Urban County. Local and State HEAP funds will additionally pay for the cost of services and housing operations at eight permanent supportive housing projects serving 257 persons in Santa Rosa, Cotati, Rohnert Park, Cloverdale, and Sebastopol in Rohnert Park. The Commission will fund supportive services and housing operations provided by Catholic Charities, Community Support Network, COTS, Reach for Home, and West County Community Services. In addition, the Commission acts as collaborative applicant for \$3.7 million in Continuum of Care funding, which supports permanent supportive housing for approximately 240

formerly chronically homeless persons throughout Sonoma County.

In March 2018 the Housing Authority instituted a referral program providing streamlined accessibility to households registered with Sonoma County Coordinated Entry. Households referred by Coordinated Entry for this program are provided an opportunity to receive a Housing Choice Voucher.

In July 2018 the Housing Authority instituted a move-on program to free up beds in permanent supportive housing facilities. The people who are "moved-on" are provided with a Housing Choice Voucher, freeing up a PSH bed for another chronically homeless individual or family in need of supportive services.

Finally, the Housing Authority initiated a new Continuum of Care funded permanent supportive housing program targeting homeless individuals with chronic health conditions. In partnership with federally qualified health care centers and a contracted housing navigator, the Housing Authority is seeking to house 12 households through this program in calendar year 2018-19.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The County, Cities and local nonprofit agencies offer a range of programs that provide financial and other assistance to those who are at-risk of becoming homeless due to financial emergencies, loss of existing dwelling units through inaccessibility by persons with mobility impairments, natural disasters, or unabated deterioration. For FY 2019-20, the Commission will use local funds and CDBG program income for housing rehabilitation that will assist low-income households to stay in their homes. Through its consolidated homeless services competition, the Commission also allocated State and local funds for the Homelessness Prevention/Diversion program that Catholic Charities operates alongside the Coordinated Entry System, which will serve 350 households. In addition, the Commission is allocating additional local funds for staffing for the HCA Family Fund (a rental assistance and financial education program operated by Community Action Partnership, serving 225 households annually), as well as local and State funds for a Homelessness Prevention program operated by COTS and another serving transition-aged youth operated by SAY. Together these will serve approximately 240 households. Lastly in this area, in FY 2019-20 the Commission will continue and expand its support for an effort to improve the housing stability of seniors by matching homeless and at risk persons with seniors who have rooms to rent (SHARE Sonoma County – projected to serve at least 210 seniors in in FY 2019-20).

In FY 2019-20, the Commission will continue its involvement in ACCESS Sonoma, a County Interagency Multi-Disciplinary Team streamlining services for shared clients, in collaboration with the County

Departments of Health Services, Human Services, Child Support Services and Probation.

#### Discussion

The County of Sonoma, as outlined in the Sonoma County Strategic Plan (http://www.sonoma-county.org/strategic), endeavors to enhance the capacity of County programs and community systems to more effectively meet the changing needs of individuals, families, and communities in Sonoma County by following the concept of "upstream investments." Upstream investments are defined as opportunities to provide prevention or intervention assistance before more expensive consequences develop. By prioritizing homeless and supportive housing programs and expanding the use of evidence-based practice, the Commission and the Continuum of Care are supporting this concept. Currently, the Continuum of Care is leading permanent supportive housing providers through an evaluation of their implementation of evidence-based Housing First practices.

In 2017, the Commission contracted with a homeless services planning consultant to lead a community engagement process to inform a redesign of the homeless service system. The system redesign was prompted by funding reductions and a new State law requiring incorporation of Housing First practices into the local system of care. An Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness was established late in 2017 to design a new Continuum of Care Board and to guide a transition into a more unified and targeted homeless system of care. Late in 2019, the HOME Sonoma Leadership Council was established consisting of nine members, of whom five are elected officials.

## AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

#### Introduction:

Sonoma County's 2011 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice cited the lack of affordable housing as a barrier. The Commission will continue to use its CDBG and HOME funding to support projects that increase the supply and improve the conditions of affordable housing for lower-income persons.

In a 2019 study, the California Housing Partnership Corporation found that 76% of Sonoma County's lowest-income renters are severely rent burdened, leaving little left for food, transportation, health or other essentials. The poverty rate in Sonoma County rises from 10.3% to 17.9% when adjusted for housing costs and social benefits. The California Housing Partnership Corporation estimates that Sonoma County needs 16,296 new affordable rental homes to meet current demand. This number represents the approximate number of renter households currently living in overcrowded conditions or facing severe housing cost burdens.

As mentioned in the Market Analysis of the 2015 Consolidated Plan, the State of California requires each jurisdiction's General Plan Housing Element to identify constraints to housing development and to identify measures the jurisdiction will undertake to ameliorate those constraints. SP- 55 of the Consolidated Plan provides a list of the type of measures likely to be undertaken by one or more of the individual jurisdictions. Because the Urban County is comprised of eight different jurisdictions, seven municipalities plus the County of Sonoma, it is not possible to identify the cumulative measures planned by the eight jurisdictions for FY 2019-2020. However, each jurisdiction has a Housing Element that identifies its various programs and actions steps specific to their communities. The websites for these Housing Elements are listed in MA-40 and SP-55 of the Consolidated Plan.

Over the coming year, the Cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma and the Urban County, which includes the unincorporated county and the seven smaller cities will all be partnering to prepare an Analysis of Impediments that looks at barriers to fair housing and affordable housing Countywide.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

The Commission ensures compliance with the Federal Fair Housing Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 for all new housing construction projects. This includes that, at a minimum, five percent of the total dwelling units or at least one unit in a multifamily housing project, whichever is greater, shall be made accessible for persons with mobility impairments. A unit that is on an accessible route and is adaptable and otherwise in compliance with the standards set forth in § 8.32 is accessible for purposes of this section. An additional two percent of the units (but not less than one unit) in such a

project shall be accessible for persons with hearing or vision impairments.

In addition, the Commission requires all projects receiving HOME funds to adhere to the requirements of 24 CFR 92.351 and to follow its affirmative marketing procedures and requirements for rental and homebuyer projects containing 5 or more HOME-assisted housing units. Affirmative marketing steps consist of actions to provide information and otherwise attract eligible persons in the housing market area to the available housing without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, familial status or disability.

Furthermore, Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department, known as Permit Sonoma, uses a number of tools to remove barriers to affordable housing: A Reasonable Accommodation Ordinance, in place for more than 10 years, allows exceptions and modifications to standards and policies for siting, development, and use of housing that gives persons with disabilities equal access to housing of their choice; local Density Bonuses for affordable housing and housing that incorporates Universal Design; an Affordable Housing Program that requires all new development contribute to development of new affordable housing, through on-site construction, payment of fees, or the equivalent; repeal of a Growth Management Ordinance that was hindering new affordable housing development; and streamlined provisions for accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units making it easier to build both, which will contribute to the affordable housing stock.

Over the next six months, the Urban County and Cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma will be preparing an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) report. Part of the AI includes setting Fair Housing Goals and Priorities. These new goals and priorities will be reflected in the 2020 Consolidated Plan.

#### Discussion:

### **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

#### Introduction:

All of the projects recommended for funding under this FY 2019-2020 Action Plan address one or more of the obstacles to meeting underserved needs delineated in the Consolidated Plan. The projects recommended for funding in FY 19-20 also take into account the impact of the October 2017 fires on vulnerable populations. Also, the County of Sonoma has committed County General Funds to support programs that serve the needs of the most vulnerable in the community through the Community Services Fund (CSF) program and the County Fund for Housing (CFH). In addition, the Community Development Commission has allocated the maximum amount of income from its former redevelopment assets that are allowable under State Redevelopment Law to rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention services. Projects and programs recommended for funding demonstrate efficiencies to best utilize the decreasing amounts of funding available to support their endeavors. Affordable housing projects recommended for funding are based on readiness to proceed and innovative approaches to overcoming regulatory barriers and provide or preserve both rental and homeownership housing opportunities for lower-income persons, especially households at risk of homelessness. Housing rehabilitation projects serve low-income homeowners, who are often elderly or disabled. Loans provided to these households help to keep them from becoming homeless and preserve the existing affordable housing stock. Emergency rental assistance and family self-sufficiency activities enable lower-income individuals and families to obtain and retain rental housing in the high-priced market in Sonoma County. The high cost of housing is a contributing factor in the County's homeless population, especially following the October 2017 fires which exacerbated an already tight rental market. The emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance recommended for funding assist those in need to move as quickly as possible towards stable, permanent housing.

#### Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

In response to Sonoma County's overheated housing market, low vacancy rates for rental housing, high cost of home ownership, and a much higher than normal percentage of homeless residents needing housing in our jurisdiction, and the post-fire recovery needs impacting our community, the Commission has a more important charge than ever to meet the needs of those who are underserved in our community.

The 2018 Homeless Count showed that the total number of people experiencing homelessness on any given night in Sonoma County has gone up by 6% after 7 years of steady declines. For the first time this year, the Commission's Homeless Count included a telephone survey to learn about people who are living in unstable situations. These are people who are couch surfing or doubled up, or who have no lease. People living in these situations are the most at risk of becoming homeless. The study showed that approximately 21,400 County residents are living in these unstable situations – more than 4% of the population. One half of these lost their housing as a direct result of the fires or due to the fires'

economic impact. The annual homeless count, along with the new telephone survey suggest a new wave of people are already becoming homeless as they exhaust their resources following the fires. Thousands more are at risk.

On July 10, 2018 the Board of Supervisors declared a homeless state of emergency in Sonoma County. This gave the County access to \$12.1 million in Homeless Emergency Aid Program funds from the State of California and responded to the increase in the population who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. These one-time funds multiplied the amount of funding available for homeless services across Sonoma County; allocations included \$7.2 million dollars for capital improvements for permanent supportive housing and shelter projects.

This year, under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the Commission has set the following objectives for the upcoming year. The Commission will:

- 1. Engage County departments, cities, and community partners in efforts to strengthen the social safety net and alleviate the causes and conditions of homelessness. Refine approaches to coordinated entry, homeless services, and prioritize funding for rapidly re-housing those who fall into homelessness. Reinforcing a "housing first" approach in all interventions.
- 2. Strengthen the Housing Choice Voucher program's effectiveness by attracting new landlords, and by engaging participants, people on our wait lists, and community partners in a review of policies and practices.
- 3. Increase CDC's ability to spur production of affordable rental housing by engaging developers and cities, collaborating with other County departments, updating funding policies, and proactively setting a production agenda.
- 4. Strengthen CDC's internal systems to aid transparency, improve public engagement, and ensure maximum leverage of scarce public resources.

### Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

In response to Sonoma County's 2011 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice report which cited the lack of affordable housing as a barrier to fair housing choice, the Community Development Commission will continue to use its CDBG, ESG, and HOME funding to support projects that increase the supply and improve the conditions of affordable housing for lower-income persons. In addition, in FY 2019-2020, the Commission has increased its allocation to a robust, fair housing program, that now includes eviction defense. Staff is working with partners to ensure that the scope of contracted fair housing providers is responsive to the needs identified in the 2011 Analysis of Impediments and reflects fair housing program best practices. Furthermore, the Commission has begun its 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing to thoroughly examine fair housing issues in our community including segregation, disparate impact of local policies on protected classes, and disparate access to education,

jobs, and transportation, and housing.

### Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Making housing lead-safe is the most effective strategy to protect children from lead poisoning. The Community Development Commission addresses this through proactively distributing printed information concerning lead-based paint hazards to all residents of housing rehabilitation and rental assistance programs. The Commission's Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Inspectors have received training in visual assessment of lead-based paint hazards and are observant of the existence of this hazard during their property inspections, thereby preventing exposure to lead hazards by identifying the risks before families with children under six years of age move into rental units that are assisted by the Housing Authority.

The Commission's Construction Services Specialists are trained in the identification of lead hazards, proper methods of paint stabilization, interim control, abatement procedures, and testing/clearance reports to ensure compliance with all lead hazard reduction requirements during rehabilitation activities. Additionally, Construction Services is investing in staff training, so the Commission will have a certified lead tester to identify the level of abatement required during future rehabilitation projects. Any dwellings not exempt from HUD's lead hazard reduction provisions (single-room occupancy, dedicated senior housing and housing construction after 1978) renovated under the Housing Rehabilitation Program undergo a lead hazard risk assessment by a state-certified Risk Assessor before the formulation of the project's scope of work. Any identified lead hazards are addressed in the scope of work, and a certified clearance is obtained before the project is considered complete.

The Commission will also ensure compliance with lead hazard reduction requirements by subrecipients of CDBG, and HOME funding used to acquire and/or renovate existing buildings for housing or to undertake residential and re-housing service activities through regular monitoring of those activities.

### Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The Urban County will work to reduce the number of poverty-level families by targeting CDBG, HOME, ESG and local funds to projects that will provide services to foster self-sufficiency, in conjunction with the provision of housing and shelter.

### Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission will engage County Departments, cities, and community partners receiving CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding to carry out the activities in this plan during the next year. The anticipated outcome of this engagement will be a stronger social safety net and progress toward the alleviation of the causes and conditions of homelessness. Among the community partners are health, mental health, and service agencies who are key to fostering development of more supportive housing options throughout the County, and the nonprofit housing

Annual Action Plan

developers with whom they coordinate.

Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the Commission will spearhead initiatives to spur production of affordable rental housing by engaging developers and cities, collaborating with other County departments, updating funding policies, leveraging County-owned property, and proactively setting a production agenda.

The Sonoma County Housing Authority will strengthen the Housing Choice Voucher program's effectiveness by attracting new landlords, and by engaging participants, people on our wait lists, and community partners in a review of Housing Authority policies and practices and will build on existing relationships with local supportive service agencies to improve services offered to the Housing Authority's Family Self-Sufficiency participants. In July 2018, the Housing Authority hired a full-time Landlord Liaison who is dedicated to cultivating relationships with landlords who will provide additional housing opportunities for low-income families served through the various Housing Authority programs.

Through the Homeless System Redesign and the establishment of the HOME Sonoma County, the homeless system of care now has a single regional decision-making body that oversees homeless system policies and funding. This effort increased collaboration among the County, City of Santa Rosa, City of Petaluma, the County Departments of Health and Human Services, and virtually all housing and homeless service providers throughout Sonoma County. These will strengthen the homeless system of care's performance on System Performance Measurements such as reducing the length of homeless episodes, reducing returns to homelessness, increasing placements in permanent housing, and increasing participant incomes.

Specific goals for addressing and preventing homelessness in Sonoma County are outlined in the Continuum of Care's 10-Year Homeless Action Plan 2014 Update, available on the Community Development Commission's website at http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC/Homeless-Services. The 2018 consolidated application for Continuum of Care funds also addressed the needs of homeless people in Sonoma County and can be accessed by contacting the Commission. Additional specific data can be found in the Continuum of Care Homeless Population and Subpopulations Chart in the Additional Files section of this Action Plan.

Finally, the Commission will strengthen internal systems to aid transparency, improve public engagement, and ensure maximum leverage of scarce public resources.

## Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

The Community Development Commission will strengthen relationships with public and private entities to further the objectives of this plan. The Commission has been and will continue improving its data systems in coordination with other service agencies, hospitals, and County departments in the intersection of healthcare and housing. The Commission will improve its engagement with all agencies,

**Annual Action Plan** 

public and private, County departments, as well as the general public and encourage participation in all public meetings and forums it holds. As part of the effort to conduct an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, the Commission will lean on local groups and service providers to do robust outreach in the community.

The HOME Sonoma County Leadership Council in coordination with Commission staff will recommend improved standards for administering ESG funds under the HEARTH Act, will evaluate the implementation of Coordinated Entry, and will invite participation from all local agencies that serve Sonoma County's current and potential homeless population.

#### Discussion:

### **Program Specific Requirements**

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

#### Introduction:

## Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the	
next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	27,955
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the	
year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic	
plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use	
has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	27,955

### **Other CDBG Requirements**

1. The amount of urgent need activities

0

2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.

100.00%

## HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is

as follows:

No other forms of investment will be used in the Fifth Year Action Plan.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

No homebuyer activities are being funded in the Fifth Year Action Plan with HOME funds.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

All units that are being constructed or funded with HOME funds in the Fifth Year Action Plan will be required to have restrictions on the deeds to indicate that units remain affordable for at least 55 years.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

No HOME funds will be used for this purpose in the Fifth Year Action Plan.

## Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.220(I)(4)

- 1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)
  - See the Sonoma County Homeless & Public Services Funding Policies attached. The Continuum of Care (CoC) has developed the attached standards for projects operating with ESG Funding.
- 2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry System (CES) provides entry into housing via numerous access points for individuals, youth, and families experiencing homelessness with a goal of providing participants with their choice of housing, shelter or services within 60 days of program enrollment. Since January 2018, Coordinated Entry has been the primary process for assessing severity of needs and ensuring that people experiencing homelessness can receive assistance in a timely fashion. Coordinated Entry covers the entire geography of the Sonoma County Continuum of Care and is the primary access point for referrals for permanent supportive housing

Annual Action Plan

and rapid re-housing as well as emergency crisis services/emergency shelter. The Commission provides funding to the Coordinated Entry Operator, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa. Primary oversight of the Coordinated Entry System is performed by the HOME Sonoma County Coordinated Entry/Housing First Task Group. The fully compliant Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures adopted by the Continuum of Care Board in January 2018 are attached to this Action Plan.

In spring 2019 the Commission engaged Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc., a HUD technical assistance provider, to perform an evaluation of the Coordinated Entry implementation. The consultants interviewed Commission and Coordinated Entry staff at great length and held more than a dozen focus groups to learn what is working well with Coordinated Entry, and what needs to be improved. The final report from Technical Assistance Collaborative is expected by early July.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission allocates CDBG public service funds and ESG funds (as well as local discretionary funds and a range of State funding) through a single competitive funding process governed by the attached Funding Policies. This allocation and contract administration function is staffed by the Commission's Homeless Services Team, which also provides staffing to HOME Sonoma County (aka the Continuum of Care) and acts as HMIS Lead Agency. Continuum of Care consultation is achieved through a rating and ranking process for all applications that are eligible for ESG funds, conducted by the HOME Sonoma County Performance Measurement and Evaluation Task Group, and staffed by the Commission. HEARTH Act and HOME Sonoma County policies, goals, and objectives—including standards for allocation of ESG funds—are fully integrated into the entitlement fund allocation process.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

This is not applicable. Two representatives on the HOME Sonoma County Leadership Council (governing body/CoC Board) are persons with recent lived experience of homelessness. In addition one member of the HOME Sonoma County Technical Advisory Committee is a person with recent lived experience of homelessness, who has agreed to lead a Consumer Advisory Committee to ensure the perspectives of lived experience are included in all policy-making and funding decisions.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission staff follows the same procedures in monitoring and evaluating all homeless services awards, including those funded with CDBG and ESG

(and local CSF, LMIHAF and State ESG funds). Minimally, all awardees are required to do a 'desktop monitoring' process (respond to an in-depth questionnaire); all CDBG and ESG awardees are monitored on site each year. When ESG-funded programs are monitored, HEARTH Act performance measures and ESG policies and criteria are included in the overall monitoring.

The FY 2019-20 Funding Policies for Homeless Services required scoring of projects based on performance in the areas of temporary or permanent housing placement (for street outreach and day center projects), permanent housing placement (for shelter and rapid re-housing projects), and permanent housing retention (for permanent supportive housing projects). The policies set benchmarks for expected performance based on the 2016 System Performance Measures, broken out by program type as follows:

Street Outreach/Day Center/Coordinated Entry—placement in temporary or permanent housing: 35%

Emergency Shelters—exit to permanent housing: 21%

Rapid Re-Housing—exit to permanent housing: 90%

Permanent Supportive Housing—retention of permanent housing: 90%