



City of Lawrence

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Consolidated Plan 2023-2027



2024 Annual Action Plan

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This Annual Action Plan provides a basis and strategy for the use of federal funds granted to the City of Lawrence by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs. This Annual Action Plan is part of the [2023-2027 Consolidated Plan](#), and covers the period beginning August 1, 2024, through July 31, 2025. Programs and activities described in this plan are intended to primarily benefit low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Lawrence, neighborhoods with high concentrations of low- and moderate-income residents, and the City as a whole. This plan is the product of public outreach, public hearings, and consultation with many various agencies, groups, and organizations involved in the development of affordable housing, creation of job opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents, and/or provision of services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and homeless persons. A complete draft of this plan has been made available for public review on April 19, 2024, and for a 30-day comment period beginning May 7, 2024, until June 7, 2024. The availability of both the draft plan and the final plan is advertised in the Lawrence Journal-World newspaper and the complete documents are available for review at the City's website: https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/ and in print form in the office of Planning and Development Services.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

Several areas were identified as priorities for the City of Lawrence which will feed into the objectives and the outcomes of the plan moving forward. These areas include:

- *Equity and Inclusion*: The lens of equity and inclusion should be and will be considered as a critical component of decision making regarding CDBG and HOME, as well as other programming that impacts low- and moderate-income persons and affordable housing programming. Policies and procedures need to be identified as part of decision making. Data collection and community education will be a large component of this piece and the City is committed to this area of priority which feeds into all other areas.
- *Affordable Housing*: Affordable housing access is the solution to homelessness and is the end goal for the City. The work of the Housing and Homelessness stakeholders' group has brought together those strategies to bring our community where it needs to be and paints a clear picture of the need and the steps to get there.
- *Systems*: The City is committed to the collaborative work of a community dashboard that provides real-time homelessness and housing services data. This is also an area where HMIS is prioritized, and this includes access to HMIS for all community service providers as currently

only CoC and ESG-funded agencies have access. Quality data is the cornerstone to effective programs and understanding the needs of the community. Strong systems are needed for continued and increased collaboration across the service provider network locally. This priority includes the work of coordinated entry and the by-name list.

- *Emergency Shelter:* The City is committed to high levels of collaboration in the emergency shelter space. The City Commission has allocated City Special Alcohol Fund dollars as well as General Fund dollars to housing and homelessness, and a large part of that is for emergency sheltering and homeless services. The City and the county have a joint resolution that speaks to the collaborative work that both agencies are undertaking. There is an understanding that congregate sheltering is not a best practice, but the reality is that it is a needed piece of the continuum and will continue to serve an important purpose in the system. Other projects coming online include a modular cabin sheltering program, as well as working toward sheltering options for specific populations. Homeless services include street outreach efforts, supportive services, and navigation services.
- *Infrastructure:* Housing and homelessness programs and projects rely on safe access and efficiency of public infrastructure and facilities. Equity and inclusion and systems rely on strong infrastructure of varying levels.
- *Supportive Housing:* While this work has typically been within Douglas County's "lane" the City is committed to helping to secure grant funding and resources for the construction of and the operations for supportive housing. This will not be a high level of focus in this five-year plan for the City, but overall, the City and the county will work in collaboration to bring these units online and help the continuum of housing to keep moving. These supportive housing units and services will be trauma informed and best practice case management based.

Goals and outcomes for 2024 include increasing affordable housing stock (homeowner housing added), maintaining current affordable housing stock (homeowner housing rehabilitation), homebuyer assistance (direct homebuyer assistance), public facility improvements, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, delivery of public services (homeless services, homeless prevention, public service other than housing benefit), affirmatively furthering fair housing (within all projects and activities undertaken), and administration.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The pandemic highlighted some areas in programing that are critical to the citizens of Lawrence and has also created a framework for a more collaborative way of addressing such needs. Since the late 1990's, the City of Lawrence had used the *Step Up to Better Housing* strategy as the basis for funding recommendations made by both the former Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) and the City's own staff review team. The strategy aligned with the Consolidated Plan goals. The Strategy was approved by the City Commission and had been reaffirmed on a yearly basis by the CDAC prior to allocating funding for CDBG and HOME activities and projects. Guided by this strategy, funding was consistently allocated to one of five areas: Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Permanent and Permanent Supportive Housing, Revitalized Neighborhoods, and Community Facilities.

The 2023 program year’s funding priorities saw a change in how those priorities were determined. The City took the [Lawrence City Commission Strategic Plan](#) and the community plan to end homelessness, “[A Place for Everyone](#)” into account when recommending funding. These strategies and public input continued to provide a significant benefit to looking at projects that sustain services in the community that serve low- and moderate-income individuals and families, as well as to effectively meet the three objectives of providing decent, affordable housing, suitable living environments, or economic opportunities. The City of Lawrence Housing Initiatives Division has been effective at providing homeowner improvement programs such as weatherization, comprehensive housing rehabilitation, emergency and furnace loans, and first-time homebuyer rehabilitation. Public service agencies provide reporting on performance measures, and other capital improvement projects such as traffic calming devices and sidewalk gap construction have provided immediate community benefits. The partnership between the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority and the City has produced a highly successful Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program, and the City’s partnership with Tenants to Homeowners (the City’s Community Housing Development Organization) and Lawrence Habitat for Humanity has proven very effective in providing affordable options to homebuyers.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The City provides for and encourages citizens to participate in the development of all the Plans covered by the Citizen Participation Plan. The City further encourages participation by low- and moderate-income persons, and by residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income census tracts and block groups, as defined by HUD. The City will take appropriate actions to encourage the participation of all citizens, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities. A further summary of the citizen participation process can be found in narrative question 1 and table 4 of the AP-12 section of this plan.

The City encourages the participation of local and regional institutions, Continuums of Care, and other organizations (including businesses, developers, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations, and community-based and faith-based organizations) in the process of developing and implementing the Plans. The City encourages the participation of public and private organizations, including broadband internet service providers, organizations engaged in narrowing the digital divide, agencies whose primary responsibilities include the management of flood prone areas, public land or water resources, and emergency management agencies in the process of developing the Plans.

The City encourages, in conjunction with consultation with public housing agencies (PHA), the participation of residents of public and assisted housing developments (including any resident advisory boards, resident councils, and resident management corporations) in the process of developing and implementing the Plans, along with other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas in which the developments are located. The City will make an effort to provide information to the PHA about the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) strategy, and consolidated plan activities related to its developments and surrounding communities so that the PHA can make this information available at the annual public hearing(s) required for the PHA Plan.

The City will explore alternative public involvement techniques and quantitative ways to measure efforts that encourage citizen participation in a shared vision for change in communities and neighborhoods, and the review of program performance, e.g., use of focus groups, social media, and the internet.

The City will provide citizens with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the Plans and on substantial amendments to the Plans and will make the Citizen Participation Plan public. The Citizen Participation Plan will be in a format accessible to persons with disabilities, upon request. The City will take reasonable steps to provide language assistance to ensure meaningful access to participation by non-English speaking residents of the community. The City of Lawrence Housing Initiatives Division (HID) Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan is established pursuant to and in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency," and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Final Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, dated January 22, 2007, and effective February 21, 2007. The current HID LEP Plan is available for public review online at: https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/.

5. Summary of public comments

The public hearing will be held on May 7, 2024. The agenda containing the video link to the comments and the minutes will be attached to the final plan. If any written comments are received, they will be included with this plan submittal to HUD.

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

City Staff will include a summary of all comments received.

7. Summary

Several strategies and plans go into the creation of project and activity selection. These include the Lawrence City Commission's Strategic Plan, the "A Place for Everyone" community plan to end homelessness, Consolidated Plan Priority Needs, and Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) goals. All these plans/factors/needs are attached to this document.

The Outcome Areas as identified by the Lawrence City Commission Strategic Plan include Unmistakable Identity, Strong and Welcoming Neighborhoods, Safe and Secure, Prosperity and Economic Security, and Connected City.

The "A Place for Everyone" plan includes five work areas to be addressed, Equity and Inclusion, Affordable Housing, Supportive Housing, Systems, and Emergency Shelter and Services.

Consolidated Plan Priority Needs for 2023-2027 include: Equity and Inclusion, Affordable Housing, Supportive Housing, Systems, Emergency Shelter and Homeless Services, and Public Infrastructure.

AFH Consolidated Plan goals include: increase affordable housing options (affordable housing, equity and inclusion); explore additional revenue streams for funding the Affordable Housing Trust fund (affordable housing, supportive housing); maintain existing affordable housing (affordable housing, equity and inclusion); commission an updated housing needs market assessment (equity and inclusion,

affordable housing, supportive housing, systems, emergency shelter); and increase homeownership among low-income households and members of protected classes (equity and inclusion, affordable housing.)

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	LAWRENCE	Planning and Development Services
HOME Administrator	LAWRENCE	Planning and Development Services

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

One citizen advisory board, the Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB) recommended allocations for the HOME funding. In order to align programming with the “A Place for Everyone” strategic plan activities, staff has chosen to recommend funding the agencies that were awarded with 2023 CDBG Public Service allocations again in 2024 to continue their ongoing programming in this area. These agencies included Lawrence Community Shelter, the Housing Stabilization Collaborative, and Housing and Credit Counseling. Representatives from the Housing Initiatives Division and the Municipal Services and Operations Department recommended allocations for various homeowner housing rehabilitation programs and infrastructure projects. Funding for 2024 was sufficient to recommend fully funding agency Non-Public Service projects. The City Commission was the ultimate deciding body for final funding allocations that are submitted to HUD with this plan.

The Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB) Purpose:

Established by Ordinance No. 9427, as amended on February 6, 2018, the purpose of the Affordable Housing Board is to:

- Advise the Governing Body regarding issues affecting affordable housing and supportive services in the community;
- Oversee and facilitate the purpose of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which is to support the acquisition, rehabilitation, and development of affordable housing and supportive services so that all persons in the community have access to independent living with dignity;
- Make recommendations to the Governing Body regarding the expenditure of money from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in order to fund projects, as reviewed and approved by the Board, that are consistent with the purpose of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund; and
- Make recommendations to the Governing Body regarding the cultivation and maintenance of steady and various streams of income to fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. However, the Board shall not apply for any grant without prior approval of the Governing Body; nor shall it accept any gift or donation without prior approval of the Governing Body.

Members of the Board shall serve three (3) year terms, except when appointed to complete an unexpired term. As established by the bylaws, the terms of Board members shall be staggered so that no more than one-third of the Board's terms shall expire each year. No member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive full, 3-year terms. All members of the board shall serve without compensation.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Danelle Walters

Assistant Director - Housing Initiatives, City of Lawrence Planning and Development Services

PO Box 708, Lawrence, KS 66044

dwalters@lawrenceks.org

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

The following information is comprised of the agencies that have served on committees, provided direct input or input via other means, CDBG, HOME, Lawrence Housing Trust Fund, and CoC-funded sub-recipients, and delivered the CDBG and HOME services directly. The Consolidated Plan and Action Plan process is a year-round accumulation of reports, discussions, analysis, and observations. All the agencies/groups listed below have had a part in the final product as well as decisions and discussions that happen year-round.

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))

Lawrence has always had a very strong sense of agency collaboration, and this was only enhanced in the wake of the pandemic. The Unified Command structure to disaster response allowed for stakeholders to have conversations and planning efforts that brought a new configuration to working as one. This structure brought together the City, the County, the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department, LMH Health, the Chamber of Commerce, the University of Kansas, and Lawrence Public Schools. Determining needs and responses to the pandemic led to strong collaborations between agencies on projects both in the present and for future needs.

The previous influx of Emergency Solutions Grant CARES funding continued to bring strong coordination in the form of the Coordinated Entry process. Douglas County created a position for the Coordinated Entry Administrator, so focus on the regional Coordinated Entry process is a full-time role. The City joined the Statewide Homeless Coalition, the Lawrence-Douglas County Continuum of Care regional team, service providers, housing providers, and community housing navigators in twice-monthly meetings that worked toward housing the community’s most vulnerable population.

The City’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund projects continued to be part of a larger coordinated effort to bring affordable housing and supportive services to the City. In December of 2022 the following 2023 projects were funded: Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center (\$108,000) for Supportive and Rehabilitative Permanent Supportive Housing Project; DCCCA, Inc. (\$200,000) for the Close to Home Transitional Homes project; Flint Hills Holdings Group, LLC. (\$100,000) for the New Hampshire Lofts project; Wheatland Estates of Lawrence, LP (\$400,000) the Estates of Lawrence; The Annex Group (\$400,000) for Union at The Loop; Independence, Inc. (\$50,000) for the Accessible Housing Program; Senior Resource Center for Douglas County (\$53,000) for the Accessible Safe Housing for Seniors; and to Douglas County for the Housing Stabilization Collaborative (\$350,000).

In addition, the City Commission allocated American Rescue Plan funds in the amount of \$1,160,000 to affordable housing developments, two additional Tenants to Homeowners affordable housing development projects totaling \$1,000,000, a supported housing project for women entering substance abuse recovery programming (up to \$600,000), a supported housing project for those experiencing

homelessness and a serious mental illness (\$900,000), and a modular shelter project for those experiencing homelessness (\$4.5 million).

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.

Lawrence and Douglas County are a part of the Kansas Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC). The BoS CoC consists of eight regions containing 101 counties. Lawrence/Douglas County is its own region within the CoC. Previously Danelle Walters, Assistant Director of Housing Initiatives in the Planning and Development Services Department, served for three years as the Chair of the BoS CoC Committee as well as the regional coordinator for the Lawrence/Douglas County region. The CoC membership committee meets monthly and there are reports heard from each region including Lawrence/Douglas County. In addition, Lawrence/Douglas County is active in the Coordinated Entry process.

Douglas County created a position in 2021 for the Coordinated Entry Administrator. In 2023 this position transitioned to the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition so there is now a full-time point of contact for the region with the coordinated entry process. Beginning in January of 2024 the City has created a division that strictly works with homelessness in the community. This division works directly under the City Manager's office and is titled the "Homeless Solutions Division". The members of that staff work closely with the Continuum of Care and partner agencies to identify service gaps and work with program creation for addressing those experiencing homelessness.

Community service providers and partners meet on a year-round basis regarding Point-In-Time (PIT) homeless count efforts. The PIT numbers are used throughout the community in varying capacities, and because of the efforts of the City and the service providers, the importance and impact of the count are appreciated, and every effort is made to perform an effective and efficient count. In addition, the City of Lawrence is an Emergency Solutions Grant recipient through the State of Kansas and coordination between the City and the CoC is reached in that way as well. Within the community, the numbers received as part of the PIT efforts are implemented into the Community Housing Vision, and gaps are identified from what housing services are available, and what the actual need is. The BoS has not reported any unaccompanied youth in recent years, and the community has placed a special emphasis on homeless families with children. Agencies have examined their programs and resources to serve this particular population. Referral sources are utilized when a particular sector of homeless are unable to obtain resources in Lawrence or Douglas County.

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 City participates in the annual competitive ESG process through the State of Kansas. The City looked at the Coordinated Entry system and the Continuum of Care and identified participating agencies that

meet the eligibility of the ESG programming. This included looking at those providing emergency shelter, street outreach, homeless prevention services and rapid re-housing. After those were identified and agencies submitted application proposals, City staff met with the interested agencies to discuss the collaborative efforts and how each application served a unique piece along the sheltering and housing continuums. The agencies were required to describe the services that they provide and how their service was meeting a specific need/gap in the process, and ultimately how the services provided work together in a collaborative environment. The HMIS system is administered through the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Lawrence
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy Creation of the Consolidated Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Lead Agency. Delivers homeowner improvement programs. Lead-based paint strategy, market analysis, program monitoring and administration. Floodplain management. Consultation with broadband providers.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Lawrence Douglas County Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs 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?	HOME sub-recipient for TBRA program. Meets regularly with HID staff regarding TBRA, Section 8, Moving to Work, and case management. Active participant in Coordinated Entry and Homeless and Housing Stakeholder group. Very active in community partnerships, LIHTC projects, and is also a CoC funded agency with a PSH program. Active participant in AHAB.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Continuum of Care
	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 Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Lead entity for the Continuum of Care (CoC). Lawrence/Douglas County has its own regional planning group for the CoC. Coordinated Entry is conducted every other week with partner agencies in attendance. City of Lawrence has a seat on the CoC Steering Committee.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Affordable Housing Advisory Board
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	City Advisory Board
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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?	Advisory board that recommends funding from the City's Housing Trust Fund. Commissioned a comprehensive housing market analysis in 2018.

5	Agency/Group/Organization	Bert Nash Mental Health Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless Services-Health
	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 Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Participant in CoC regional activities, coordinated entry, transitional housing consultation, Point-In-Time data collection. Participant in creating and implementation of Community Housing Vision. ESG recipient. Provides input on unsheltered homeless and homeless needs gap analysis. Rapid Re-Housing agency, Built for Zero participant.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Lawrence Habitat for Humanity
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	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?	Developer using HOME funds. Provides the department with plans for housing development within the community via the grant application. Active participant in AHAB.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	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?	CDBG sub-recipient. Provides monthly client reporting. Provides housing counseling services for local projects. Provides analysis of needs within grant application.

8	Agency/Group/Organization	INDEPENDENCE, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing 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?	Provides accessibility improvements for disabled renters and owner-occupants. Provides demographics and input to staff regarding their clientele. Participant in Community Health Plan regarding Housing needs.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Lawrence Homebuilder's Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	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?	Work with building codes and standards. Provide input on process as well as gaps and enhancements in the construction of permanent housing in the community. Active participant in AHAB.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SHELTER
	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 Needs - Unaccompanied youth 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?	LCS is the largest emergency homeless shelter in Lawrence. Active participant in the regional CoC effort. CDBG sub-recipient. Reports monthly on demographics of clientele. Coordinated Entry participant. Built for Zero participant. Meets regularly with HID staff regarding needs analysis and recommendations. ESG funded agency.

11	Agency/Group/Organization	TENANTS TO HOMEOWNERS, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	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?	HOME program Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO). Active participant in AHAB. Major partner in Housing Stabilization Collaborative for Homeless Prevention activities.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	DOUGLAS COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Partner to City on Homeless strategies, leads Built for Zero effort, coordination of agency funding, collaboration on pandemic response. Active participant in AHAB.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	THE WILLOW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children 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?	Provide reports to committees on successes and challenges in delivering DV services. Participant in the CoC activities, including PIT data collection. Partner with LDCHA for TBRA program. ESG sub-recipient.

14	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Lawrence MSO
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Completed inventory of City sidewalk conditions and created a sidewalk gap program to address the needs of walkability in CDBG-eligible neighborhoods, as well as other area benefit locations. Consults with HID staff regarding analysis of neighborhood conditions and strategy to repair such areas. Also works with neighborhoods to provide area capital improvements such as neighborhood crosswalks, storm water management, and street repair.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Neighborhood Groups/Associations
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Associations Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Non-Housing Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Low-and moderate-income neighborhoods work directly with Municipal Services and Operations department on neighborhood capital improvement projects.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Lawrence Police Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	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?	Collaboration with the Lawrence Police Department in the Development Services Department includes assistance to staff. Provide input from a public safety viewpoint regarding homelessness issues and additionally provide input on code enforcement issues, including blight and violating properties.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Douglas County Sheriff's Office
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - County
	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?	Provide consultation on re-entry challenges and implemented procedures. Provide input on the specific population leaving incarceration. Active in CoC data collection and meetings as well.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Promise of Lawrence
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	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 Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Active participant in regional CoC efforts. Provide information on their clientele including challenges to reaching permanent housing. Active participant on AHAB. Major partner in Housing Stabilization Collaborative.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Lawrence Memorial Hospital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	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?	Provides detailed reporting on homeless and ER services. Provide consultation on discharge planning.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Lawrence Business Community
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and 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?	Provides input on challenges that the business community faces with homelessness in the downtown business district. Facilitates discussions with community members regarding homelessness.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities of NE Kansas
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	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?	ESG recipient. Active partner with LDCHA in TBRA program. Provides assessment information regarding service delivery in the community.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Local Broadband Providers
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Broadband internet service providers are working with the City on strategic goals centered around broadband and fiber access for the community. Includes Midco.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	Justice Matters
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Regional organization
	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?	Active participant in AHAB meetings, provide research and recommendations to AHAB regarding housing.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	BALLARD COMMUNITY CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Active community collaborator in arena of homelessness and homeless strategy.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Lawrence Douglas County Public Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Major partner in pandemic response, collaborator for CDBG-CV round three funds, partner in the Community Health Plan Affordable Housing planning activities.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	The University of Kansas
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	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?	Provides information on student population regarding housing needs. Active participant in AHAB.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders
	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?	Partner on City Strategic Plan Key initiatives and outcomes. Active participant in AHAB.

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

The vast majority of service providers and agencies in Lawrence that provide services directly pertaining to the Consolidated Planning process have been involved in some type of consultation. Some have been consulted during other meetings and other forums. There have been no agencies purposely left off of communication efforts or meeting invitations. The City of Lawrence works very hard to ensure strong and positive community collaboration. If any groups are identified as not being consulted in some form the City will engage that group going forward in planning processes.

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?
Continuum of Care	Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition	Coordination in terms of homeless program delivery and strategic planning. Technical assistance to grantees, support to applicants.
Plan 2040	Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission	Development, HOME included, abides by the City's Land Use Plan, including but not limited to building codes and zoning requirements.
2024-2028 Kansas Consolidated Plan	Kansas Housing Resources Corporation	The City of Lawrence is an ESG recipient from the State of Kansas, and there have been several community projects that have involved LIHTC that obtain entry-level AHAB recommendations. In addition, the CHDO, Tenants to Homeowners has been a past recipient of State HOME funds. The City of Lawrence has also been a past recipient of NSP and HPRP funding, outlined in this plan.
Transportation 2050	Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization	Long-Range Transportation Plan. CDBG funds are used for sidewalk installation and public facility projects, all affected by the ability to reach the destination agency or area.
A Place for Everyone (community strategic plan)	City of Lawrence, Douglas County, Agency Stakeholders	By 2028, create a system that achieves functional zero through policy, system, and environmental changes resulting in all Douglas County residents having access to the fundamental human right of safe, accessible, attainable, and affordable housing, and which homelessness is a rare and brief occurrence.
City of Lawrence Strategic Plan	City of Lawrence	Outcomes of Unmistakable Identity, Strong, Welcoming Neighborhoods, Safe and Secure, Prosperity and Economic Security, and Connected City.
Douglas County Homelessness Needs Assessment	Douglas County	Provides information on the homeless population of Douglas County, the state of affordable housing, racial disparities, gender disparities, collaborative efforts, lived experience opportunities, and the needs of permanent supportive housing.
City of Lawrence HOME-ARP allocation plan	City of Lawrence	Includes citizen participation and survey that fed into the HOME-ARP allocation plan as well as this consolidated plan.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
2018 Lawrence Housing Market Analysis	City of Lawrence	Housing needs assessment for the City and stakeholders that provides an analysis of household affordability throughout all population segments of the community.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The City of Lawrence regularly consults with the State of Kansas as well as Douglas County government. While the CDBG and HOME funding affect the City itself, importance is placed on effective collaboration with all agencies with the same cause and goals. The goals of the Consolidated Plan and corresponding Annual Action Plans should be, and are, efforts that have the support of the three levels of government in our community. Several CDBG and HOME-funded agencies work with both the City and the County to reach their goals and deliver their services. As Lawrence is the primary City in Douglas County where many of the service agencies are located, County partnerships are crucial to provide the level of service necessary to accomplish goals and serve the greater community. The City has a history of strong partnerships with both the State and County and look to continue those relationships and collaborations moving forward.

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

The City of Lawrence abides by the Citizen Participation Plan most recently updated and adopted in June of 2023. The process makes it possible for anyone who wants to be involved to be able to provide input and have their ideas and recommendations heard. There are two public hearings yearly. Citizens have the opportunity at both public hearings to speak to the staff and assist in planning and creation of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. Public hearings are advertised in the Lawrence Journal-World, through social media channels, via press release, and on the City's website. Every effort is made to reach groups such as residents of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, minorities, non-English speaking persons, persons with disabilities, public housing residents, and other organizations such as the CoC, businesses, development officials, county government, and faith-based organizations. In addition, the Director of Planning and Development Services has frequently met with citizens who have concerns, challenges, or recommendations for community development. Citizen participation is the heart of the consolidated planning process, involving citizens in decisions that directly affect their lives.

The Citizen Participation Plan formally designates structures, procedures, roles, and policies to be followed by program participants. A secondary purpose of this Plan is to implement federal regulations regarding citizen participation for the consolidated planning process described by CFR 24 Part 91.105 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Nothing in this Plan shall restrict the responsibility and authority of the City of Lawrence (City) from developing and executing its Consolidated Plan. The 2024 Annual Action Plan and Investment Summary were made available for review on April 19, 2024. The plan was available on the City's website, https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/ and in the Planning and Development Services office. The first public hearing was held May 7, 2024 and the second public hearing will be held on or around September 9, 2024. The public notice for the spring hearing was published in the April 19, 2024, Lawrence Journal-World, and the 30-day public comment period began on May 7, 2024. The public hearings are both held via Zoom and with an in-person option at the City of Lawrence City Commission Chambers, 6 East 6th Street, Lawrence, KS 66044. Applicant agencies were notified of the process and dates. Staff provided technical assistance to applicants throughout the allocation process, including a review of the application packet for eligibility and correct documentation. The City has resources to assist with those who are non-English speaking, and a complete Limited English Proficiency Plan is available on the website and at the HID offices.

As part of the City's HOME ARP process, staff worked with a consultant who gathered a large amount of public input and data that will be used in this plan.

A Homeless Needs Assessment and a Supportive Housing Assessment were completed in spring of 2022 and had a strong impact on Consolidated Plan efforts for 2023-2027 and subsequent Annual Action Plan documents

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Newspaper legal notice was placed to announce the Public Hearing. Notice ran on April 19, 2024 for the May 7, 2024 public hearing. This was run in the Lawrence Journal World publication. This notice stated the date of the public hearing as well as the date and location of the public comment version of the Consolidated Plan document.	Any comments generated from the newspaper notice of public hearing will be placed in this document as an attachment.	Summary will be included in this final plan.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>The public hearing was held during the City Commission's regular meeting on May 7, 2024. The agenda for this meeting was released on May 2, 2024, and contained a link to the meeting (which was both hybrid and in-person) as well as the public comment document.</p>	<p>If there is public comment received at the public hearing it will be included here.</p>	<p>Summary will be included in this final plan.</p>	<p>https://lawrenceks.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.aspx?Id=1469</p>

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>The City sent the notice of public hearing out via communications pathways including through social media and through press releases. This announcement was to run in the same manner as the newspaper ad that advertised the public hearing date and time of May 7, 2024. This notice stated the date of the public hearing as well as the date and location of the public comment version of the Annual Action Plan document.</p>	<p>If there is public comment received through the City's social media or press release activity it will be included here.</p>	<p>Summary will be included in this final plan.</p>	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Website	Non-targeted/broad community	The draft copy of the 2024 Annual Action Plan was placed on the City's website for public comment on April 19, 2024. The notice of the availability of the document was made on the previously noted Internet Outreach and Newspaper Ad entries above.	If there are public comments received it will be included in this plan.	Summary will be included in this final plan.	https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The priorities and accomplishment goals outlined in this document are based on assumptions about future funding levels for the Consolidated Plan programs. Because these programs are subject to annual Congressional appropriations as well as potential changes in funding distribution formulas or the number of communities eligible to receive entitlement grants, the accomplishment projections and planned activities are subject to change with availability of funding. ***At the time of the creation of this plan, the actual amount of allocation from HUD has not been released. In the case of an increase or decrease from the estimated total, the City will adjust the recommendations evenly across the allocation plan based on the percentage of change.***

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	750,000	150,000	0	900,000	2,050,000	The City will utilize both the City's Strategic Plan as well as the A Place for Everyone Strategic Plan when deriving strategies and priorities for federal funding.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	500,000	30,000	0	530,000	1,500,000	The City will utilize both the City's Strategic Plan as well as the A Place for Everyone Strategic Plan when deriving strategies and priorities for federal funding.

Table 5 - 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

The City continues to identify match contributions for the HOME program. Thus far, match has been provided from projects meeting HUD’s criteria for affordable housing activities (some with partial federal funding and some with no federal funding), including houses built or rehabilitated for sale to income-eligible buyers through the Lawrence Community Housing Trust, and houses built by Habitat for Humanity for sale to income-eligible families. The HOME program match has been obtained primarily from the following sources: (1) cash from non-federal sources for eligible affordable housing projects, such as cash donations from project supporters or grants from state or local government funds; (2) forgone fees and charges for building permits, building permit plan reviews and demolition permits required for such eligible projects; (3) the appraised market value of real property donations for such eligible projects; and (4) the value of donated project design services, donated site preparation services, donated project construction materials and/or donated project labor for such eligible projects. Moving forward, the City

will continue to identify HUD-eligible affordable housing activities, which may include new or additional affordable housing activity providers, and which may also include additional/new HOME program match contribution sources such as grants provided for projects through the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund (supported by a City sales tax initiated in 2018), or forgone fees and charges for items such as City or County taxes, land development fees, or certain City water and sewer utility fees.

For the 2023 ESG program year funds were awarded to the City in the amount of \$175,081.97 which will fund five agencies, the Willow Domestic Violence Center (Emergency Shelter Operations), Lawrence Community Shelter (Emergency Shelter Operations, and Rapid Re-Housing Programming), Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center (Street Outreach), Douglas County Kansas for the Housing Stabilization Collaborative (Homeless Prevention) and Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas - Lawrence (Homeless Prevention Programming, and Rapid Re-Housing Programming). Additional funding was received for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) programming and administrative funding. The City anticipates ongoing applications for ESG funds through the term of the Consolidated Plan.

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

While the City of Lawrence owns a significant amount of property, the City does not own a significant amount of property that is currently served by utilities and is not otherwise designated for use. The City of Lawrence owns several parcels which may have potential for future development for affordable housing. Those have not been vetted and identified at this juncture, however most of these properties would be challenging and, in some cases, not possible to develop due to restrictions. The City continues to explore alternative sites for development and continues working with partner agencies to identify potential tracts for affordable housing development. The City is also researching the benefits of a land trust regarding affordable housing development that would meet needs identified in the plan.

Discussion

The City of Lawrence Affordable Housing Trust Fund continues to be a highly utilized form of affordable housing investment in the community. The City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund has been funded by both Capital Improvement allocations through the City's general fund as well as a voter-approved sales tax initiative. The Trust Fund is estimated to allow for around \$1 million annually of affordable housing funds for use of (but not limited to) the development, rehabilitation, and/or acquisition of affordable housing, and support services. The City's Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB), who makes funding recommendations for the HOME funding also makes the recommendations to the City Commission for Affordable Housing Trust Fund project funding.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Increase Affordable Housing Stock	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$155,000	Homeowner Housing Added: 2 Household Housing Unit
2	Maintain current affordable housing stock	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$295,000 HOME: \$0	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit
3	Provide homebuyer assistance	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 3 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Public facility improvements	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing Emergency Shelter and homeless services Public Infrastructure	CDBG: \$342,500 HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted
5	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$300,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 20 Households Assisted
6	Delivery of public services	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Systems Emergency Shelter and homeless services	CDBG: \$112,500 HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 19 Persons Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 44 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 43 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Administration	2023	2027	Administration	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing Systems Emergency Shelter and homeless services Public Infrastructure	CDBG: \$150,000 HOME: \$50,000	Other: 1 Other
8	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Public Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Other: 1 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Increase Affordable Housing Stock
	Goal Description	HOME - \$155,000 CHDO Set-Aside for acquisition, construction, and/or development of affordable housing (up to two units - addresses to be determined during program year) HOME - \$25,000 Tenants to Homeowners CHDO operating *If CDBG is utilized in 2024, it will be carry-over project funding from the previous program year acquisition activity previously accounted for on prior action plans.
2	Goal Name	Maintain current affordable housing stock
	Goal Description	Maintaining the current affordable housing stock in the community by way of rehabilitation programs and weatherization programs. Comprehensive Housing Rehabilitation - \$185,000 for up to five units. Emergency and Furnace Loans - \$50,000 for up to 10 units. Activity Delivery - \$60,000 for all three programs above.
3	Goal Name	Provide homebuyer assistance
	Goal Description	There are no new projects utilizing homebuyer assistance in the 2024 Annual Action Plan. *If HOME is utilized in 2024, it will be carry-over project funding from the previous program year homebuyer activity previously accounted for on prior action plans.

4	Goal Name	Public facility improvements
	Goal Description	<p>Improvements to building structures for agencies providing services to CDBG-eligible clientele, public infrastructure in CDBG-eligible geographic locations such as roads, sidewalks, pathways, trails, bus stops, parks and park structures, recreational components, restrooms. Acquisition, construction or rehab of facilities for seniors, persons with disabilities, homeless, youth centers, neighborhood facilities, parking lots and parking garages. Solid waste disposal facilities, flood drainage facilities, water and sewer facilities, childcare centers, tree planting, fire stations and equipment, health facilities, abused and neglected children’s facilities, asbestos removal, HIV/AIDS facilities, wind turbines, retaining walls, removal of architectural barriers that assist persons with disabilities.</p> <p>\$196,409 will be allocated to Municipal Services and Operations programming to provide projects in eligible low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and/or areas of Lawrence. This will include activity delivery for staff.</p> <p>\$146,091 will be allocated to GoodLife Innovations, Inc., for the rehabilitation activities for group residential intensive care homes in Lawrence. Includes Activity Delivery.</p>
5	Goal Name	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
	Goal Description	<p>The Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) is the only program in Lawrence that provides permanent housing assistance to homeless individuals and families. To qualify for the TBRA program, the client must meet the definition of literally homeless or be at imminent risk of homelessness, be a homeless youth or families with children, or be fleeing domestic violence. HOME TBRA funds are time limited and usually sufficient to support a family for 24 months.</p> <p>For 2024 TBRA will be allocated \$300,000.</p>

6	Goal Name	Delivery of public services
	Goal Description	<p>The City will focus its Eligible public services such for items such as homelessness services, domestic violence survivor services, affordable housing information and referral services, financial counseling, emergency grant payments for rent and utilities, HMIS or comparable system data services assistance, equity and inclusion programming.</p> <p>Douglas County - Housing Stabilization Collaborative - \$50,300</p> <p>Housing and Credit Counseling - Housing and Financial Counseling - \$3,215</p> <p>Lawrence Community Shelter - Stabilization Services for homeless guests - \$58,985</p>
7	Goal Name	Administration
	Goal Description	Administration of CDBG and HOME programs.
8	Goal Name	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Goal Description	<p>AFH Consolidated Plan Goals for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing include: Increase affordable housing options (affordable housing); explore additional revenue streams for funding the Affordable Housing Trust fund (affordable housing, supportive housing); maintain existing affordable housing (affordable housing); commission an updated housing needs market assessment (equity and inclusions, affordable housing, supportive housing); and increase homeownership among low-income households and members of protected classes (equity and inclusion, affordable housing).</p> <p>Numerous projects support the AFH goals, as listed in section AP-38 Project Summary.</p>

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

One citizen advisory board, the Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB) recommended allocations for the HOME funding. In order to align programming with the “A Place for Everyone” strategic plan activities, staff has chosen to recommend funding the agencies that were awarded with 2023 CDBG Public Service allocations again in 2024 to continue their ongoing programming in this area. These agencies included Lawrence Community Shelter, the Housing Stabilization Collaborative, and Housing and Credit Counseling. Representatives from the Housing Initiatives Division and the Municipal Services and Operations Department recommended allocations for various homeowner housing rehabilitation programs and infrastructure projects. Funding for 2024 was sufficient to recommend fully funding agency Non-Public Service projects. The City Commission was the ultimate deciding body for final funding allocations that are submitted to HUD with this plan.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Home Repair Program - Comprehensive Rehabilitation Loan
2	Home Repair Program – Emergency Loan
3	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
4	Property Acquisition/New Construction
5	Homeless Shelter Services/Case Management
6	Infrastructure
7	Public Services
8	Non-Public Service
9	Homebuyer Assistance
10	Administration

Table 7 - Project Information

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

Several strategies and plans go into the creation of project and activity selection. These include the Lawrence City Commission’s Strategic Plan Outcome Areas, the “A Place for Everyone” strategic plan, and the Consolidated Plan Priority Needs and Assessment of Fair Housing needs. All of these plans/factors/needs are attached to this document.

The Outcome Areas for 2024 as identified by the Lawrence City Commission include Unmistakable Identity, Strong and Welcoming Neighborhoods, Safe and Secure, Prosperity and Economic Security, and Connected City.

Consolidated Plan Priority Needs for 2023-2027 are: Equity and Inclusion, Affordable Housing, Systems, Emergency Shelter, Infrastructure, and Supportive Housing.

AFH Consolidated Plan Goals for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing include: Increase affordable housing options (affordable housing); explore additional revenue streams for funding the Affordable Housing Trust fund (affordable housing, supportive housing); maintain existing affordable housing (affordable housing); commission an updated housing needs market assessment (equity and inclusions, affordable housing, supportive housing); and increase homeownership among low-income households and members of protected classes (equity and inclusion, affordable housing.)

The above projects all align with these outcomes and priorities. The obstacles continue to be a lack of funding for affordable housing, homelessness programs, and social services.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Home Repair Program - Comprehensive Rehabilitation Loan
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Maintain current affordable housing stock Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$215,000
	Description	Comprehensive Rehabilitation Loans may be offered to eligible owner-occupants as funds are available. This program offers deferred loans to income eligible homeowners for necessary rehabilitation to improve energy efficiency, weatherization, and the health and safety of the home. This program may be run as a total rehabilitation project or may be run ala carte to assist eligible homeowners with necessary repairs to bring the home up to code. Projects will be capped at \$75,000 total per address. Additional non-federal funding may become available through the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund as those decisions are made, and funding becomes available through the sales tax initiative. Includes Activity Delivery charges for CDBG projects. \$215,000 for comprehensive housing rehabilitation of up to five units and Activity Delivery costs.
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that Comprehensive Rehabilitation will assist up to five low-income households with rehabilitation needs in the 2024 program year.
	Location Description	Locations will be within the City of Lawrence, and specific locations will be determined by an application process.
	Planned Activities	Comprehensive housing rehabilitation of homeowner units for income eligible households. Zero-interest loans will be in the form of a forgivable loan. This also includes an allotment for Activity Delivery of the program.

2	Project Name	Home Repair Program – Emergency Loan
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Maintain current affordable housing stock Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$80,000
	Description	Emergency Loans may be offered to eligible owner-occupants to make emergency repairs that have an impact on health and safety. Emergency loans are capped at \$10,000 per address. It is anticipated that the 2024 program year will see up to 10 households taking part in the loan program. \$80,000 for the Emergency and Furnace Loan program including activity delivery.
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that up to 10 low-income households will benefit from this program in the 2024 program year. The beneficiaries will be owner-occupant households.
	Location Description	Locations will be in the City of Lawrence and are selected based on an application process.
	Planned Activities	The Emergency Loan program will provide for owner-occupants to make emergency repairs that have an impact on health and safety. Zero-interest loans will be in the form of a forgivable loan.
3	Project Name	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$300,000

	Description	The Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) is the only program in Lawrence that provides permanent housing assistance to homeless individuals and families. To qualify for the TBRA program, the client must meet the definition of literally homeless or be at imminent risk of homelessness, be a homeless youth or families with children, or be fleeing domestic violence. HOME TBRA funds are time limited and usually sufficient to support a family for 24 months, which is the maximum amount of TBRA allowed. For 2024 \$300,000 will be allocated to the TBRA program.
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 20 households will benefit from the 2024 TBRA allocation. This program has a homeless focus so first priority is given to homeless households. The households served will range from single adults/young adults to households with children.
	Location Description	This project is for scattered site housing within the City limits of Lawrence. Locations will depend on where the voucher holders are able to find units.
	Planned Activities	The Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) is the only program in Lawrence that provides permanent housing assistance to homeless individuals and families. To qualify for the TBRA program, the client must meet the definition of literally homeless or be at imminent risk of homelessness, be a homeless youth or families with children, or be fleeing domestic violence. HOME TBRA funds are time limited and usually sufficient to support a family for 24 months.
4	Project Name	Property Acquisition/New Construction
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Increase Affordable Housing Stock Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$155,000

	Description	Financial assistance to agencies to build and develop affordable housing. HOME - \$155,000 CHDO Set-Aside for acquisition, construction, and/or development of affordable housing (up to two units - addresses to be determined during program year); HOME - \$25,000 Tenants to Homeowners CHDO operating funds
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that up to two units of affordable housing will be added to the current inventory of units. The households that will benefit will be at or below 80%AMI.
	Location Description	Project locations will be determined during the program year.
	Planned Activities	Financial assistance to agencies to build and develop affordable housing. HOME - \$155,000 CHDO Set-Aside for acquisition, construction, and/or development of affordable housing (two units - locations to be determined during program year). HOME - \$25,000 Tenants to Homeowners CHDO operating funds.
5	Project Name	Homeless Shelter Services/Case Management
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Delivery of public services Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Emergency Shelter and homeless services
	Funding	CDBG: \$58,985

	Description	The Lawrence Community Shelter provides 24/7 temporary emergency shelter and services to persons and families experiencing homelessness. This includes shelter, a bed, storage space, meals, showers, laundry facilities, access to phone and internet, basic first aid supplies, and medications (for guests in case management). This allocation will fund the Stabilization Services for Shelter Guests Program. Lawrence Community Shelter will provide temporary emergency shelter and/or services to persons and families experiencing homelessness. Eligible expenses include labor, supplies, materials and the cost of operating and maintaining that portion of a facility in which the service is located. Such activities are eligible as a Public Service under 24 CFR 570.201(e). In 2024 the amount allocated is \$58,985
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The goal of the emergency sheltering component is to provide emergency shelter for up to 125 persons on a nightly basis, as well as supporting homeless services and housing navigation services for those experiencing homelessness. This program is to assist with stabilizing shelter guests and provide housing navigation services to those guests (approximately 44 individuals)
	Location Description	The Lawrence Community Shelter - 3655 E 25th Street, Lawrence, KS
	Planned Activities	The Lawrence Community Shelter will provide temporary emergency shelter and/or services to persons and families experiencing homelessness. Eligible expenses include labor, supplies, materials and the cost of operating and maintaining that portion of a facility in which the service is located. Such activities are eligible as a Public Service under 24 CFR 570.201(e). In 2024 the amount allocated is \$58,985
6	Project Name	Infrastructure
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Public facility improvements Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Public Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$196,409

	Description	Improve quality/quantity/access of public improvements that benefit LMI persons. These projects could be a form of any of the following (or similar project providing area benefit): sidewalk gap infill, ADA ramp replacement/infill, crosswalks, bicycle pavement markings and signage, traffic calming devices, accessible curb replacement, sharrows, trails, and walking paths. \$196,409 is allocated to this in 2024 and includes activity delivery.
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This will be determined when the exact locations are decided. The estimated amount of low-mod income population will be based on the census tract and block groups of the area.
	Location Description	To be determined within low-moderate eligible areas in the City of Lawrence.
	Planned Activities	Improve quality/quantity/access of public improvements that benefit LMI persons. These projects could be a form of any of the following (or similar project providing area benefit): sidewalk gap infill, ADA ramp replacement/infill, crosswalks, bicycle pavement markings and signage, traffic calming devices, accessible curb replacement, sharrows, trails, and walking paths. \$196,409 is allocated to this in 2024 and includes activity delivery.
7	Project Name	Public Services
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Maintain current affordable housing stock Delivery of public services Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Emergency Shelter and homeless services
	Funding	CDBG: \$53,515

	Description	<p>Improved access to services for LMI persons. Agency assistance will include direct emergency financial assistance services to individuals and families, credit counseling, budget coaching, case management, and referral services, as well as other related public services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCCI - \$3,215 for Financial Counseling. • Douglas County (Housing Stabilization Collaborative) - \$50,300 for Emergency grant payments for rent and/or utilities paid directly to the provider on behalf of low-income persons.
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCCI is estimating that their grant will assist 19 persons with financial counseling. • Douglas County HSC is estimating that the grant will assist 43 persons with emergency grant payments. <p>The families that will benefit will be low- and moderate-income households that meet the activity requirements. All households will be in the city of Lawrence.</p>
	Location Description	<p>HCCI - 2518 Ridge Court #208, Lawrence, KS 66046</p> <p>Douglas County/HSC - 2518 Ridge Court, Lawrence, KS 66046</p>
	Planned Activities	<p>Improved access to services for LMI persons. Agency assistance will include direct emergency financial assistance services to individuals and families, credit counseling, budget coaching, case management, and referral services, as well as other related public services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCCI - \$3,215 for Financial Counseling. • Douglas County (Housing Stabilization Collaborative) - \$50,300 for Emergency grant payments for rent and/or utilities paid directly to the provider on behalf of low-income persons.
8	Project Name	Non-Public Service
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	<p>Maintain current affordable housing stock</p> <p>Public facility improvements</p> <p>Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing</p>

	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$146,091
	Description	Assistance to public service agencies for capital improvement type activities. Agencies all serve eligible LMI clientele. This amount includes the GoodLife Innovations, Inc. project for rehabilitation of one group home (\$146,091)
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The activity of the group home rehabilitation for GoodLife will assist one group home (two units). These units are occupied by adults with disabilities.
	Location Description	GoodLife Innovations, Inc. - 2113/2125 Delaware Street, Lawrence KS 66046
	Planned Activities	Assistance to public service agencies for capital improvement type activities. Agencies all serve eligible LMI clientele. This amount includes the GoodLife Innovations, Inc. project for rehabilitation of one group home (\$146,091)
9	Project Name	Homebuyer Assistance
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Increase Affordable Housing Stock Maintain current affordable housing stock Provide homebuyer assistance Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing
	Funding	: \$0

	Description	The Homebuyer Assistance Program provides closing costs, down payment assistance, and developer subsidy to income-qualified buyers to fill the gap between what a buyer can finance and what they can afford. The subsidy provided will remain in Trust and will keep the home permanently affordable for future buyers. It is not anticipated that this program will provide this service to any new homebuyers in 2024 but there may be remaining funds from previous program years that will be expended for this activity.
	Target Date	7/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is not anticipated that any 2024 funds will be used for homebuyer programs. There may be remaining funds from previous program years that will be expended for this activity.
	Location Description	Locations would be determined by applications received during the operating program year.
	Planned Activities	The Homebuyer Assistance Program provides closing costs, down payment assistance, and developer subsidy to income-qualified buyers to fill the gap between what a buyer can finance and what they can afford. The subsidy provided will remain in Trust and will keep the home permanently affordable for future buyers. It is not anticipated that this program will provide this service to any new homebuyers in 2024 but there will be remaining funds from previous program years that will be expended for this activity.
10	Project Name	Administration
	Target Area	City of Lawrence
	Goals Supported	Administration Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing Systems Emergency Shelter and homeless services Public Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000 HOME: \$50,000

Description	Administration of HOME and CDBG.
Target Date	7/31/2025
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Administration Only
Location Description	City of Lawrence Housing Initiatives Division - PO Box 708, Lawrence KS
Planned Activities	Administration of CDBG and HOME.

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

Activities will be carried out in the City of Lawrence and will either provide direct benefit to low- and moderate-income clientele, low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, or agencies that provide services to low-mod clientele.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City of Lawrence	100

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

All activities will be carried out in the City of Lawrence and will either provide direct benefit to low- and moderate-income clientele, low-and moderate-income neighborhoods, or agencies that provide services to low-mod clientele. Because the need is community-wide, the City will not be excluding any parts of the community from programming if eligibility requirements are met.

Discussion

Both CDBG and HOME funding will be allocated within the City of Lawrence.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for Number of households to be supported through:

- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- Emergency rental and utility assistance
- Homeowner rehabilitation
- Acquisition/development of affordable housing
- Group home rehabilitation

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	20
Non-Homeless	60
Special-Needs	6
Total	86

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	63
The Production of New Units	1
Rehab of Existing Units	26
Acquisition of Existing Units	1
Total	91

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

One Year Goals for Number of Households by Support Requirement (Table 6):

- Homeless - 20 households of affordable housing will be supported by TBRA assistance.
- Non-Homeless - 43 households will be stabilized by emergency rental/utility assistance, 15 households of homeowner rehabilitation, and 2 acquisition/development households.
- Special-Needs - 2 units of housing (6 individual households) through a group home setting will be assisted with CDBG funding.

One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type (Table 7):

- Rental Assistance - 43 households will be stabilized by emergency rental/utility assistance, as well as 20 households of TBRA assistance.
- Production/Acquisition of New Units - up to 2 units will be produced for households with funding from the 2024 program year in collaboration with the City's CHDO Tenants to Homeowners (one each for production and acquisition).
- The Rehab of Existing Household Units number is pulled from the following programs: Comprehensive Housing Rehabilitation (5), Emergency Loans (10), as well as 2 units (6) of group home rehabilitation.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Lawrence and the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) have a very viable working relationship, and the partnership between the agencies spans beyond Consolidated Plan items. In addition to Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), which continues to have a success rate of 83%, the Housing Authority has a very successful *Moving to Work* program in place. The Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority sees the community as a big picture and not just in relation to the services that they provide. The City and the Housing Authority partnered on the Assessment of Fair Housing, providing a joint submission. The successful partnerships between the Housing Authority and the community will only continue to become stronger.

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

HOME funds will continue to be granted to LDCHA for TBRA.

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

The LDCHA offers a Home Ownership Program through the Resident Services Office. Currently, 37 households in Section 8 voucher programs and public housing are actively working toward their goal of home ownership. The Home Ownership Program features financial literacy case management, monthly workshops featuring our partner organizations, and a savings matching grant program of up to \$3,000. Our partner organizations are Habitat for Humanity, Lawrence Community Land Trust, Tenants to Homeowners, USDA Rural Development, Interfaith Ministries, and Housing and Credit Counseling. Since implementing the Home Ownership Program in 2001, 105 LDCHA residents have purchased homes and voluntarily ended their participation in low-income housing assistance programs.

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

LDCHA is a high performing agency.

Discussion

The TBRA program has been well funded largely due to the unprecedented success the LDCHA has been able to achieve. With over 83% of households who are admitted to the program while experiencing homelessness successfully graduating and receiving a permanent housing choice voucher.

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

Introduction

The Lawrence Community Shelter (LCS) is the largest homeless shelter in operation in Lawrence. LCS provides shelter for single male/female individuals that are experiencing homelessness in Douglas County. LCS currently has a sheltering capacity of 125 beds, and up to 140 in extreme cold weather. The Lawrence Community Shelter provides rapid rehousing and housing navigation services for people experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness. The Lawrence Community Shelter receives CDBG support for emergency housing activities as an emergency shelter in Lawrence.

Family Promise of Lawrence and the Willow Domestic Violence Center provide temporary shelter for families in Lawrence. Service agencies assist homeless individuals with finding housing and supportive services. Transitional housing is also provided through vouchers funded by HOME funds to the general homeless population. LDCHA will receive HOME funds for transitional housing vouchers (Tenant-Based Rental Assistance). The 2023 Point in Time homeless count is the most recent full homeless count that data is available for. It was conducted on January 25, 2023, and it provided a number of 351 individuals who were literally homeless. 256 of the individuals experiencing homelessness were in emergency shelter or transitional housing, 95 of those were in unsheltered situations.

The LDCHA TBRA program is designed to bring chronically homeless people into temporary housing. There is a definite need for transitional housing units and landlords in Lawrence. There are very few units of permanent supportive housing in Lawrence.

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

During the 2024 program year the City of Lawrence will continue to fund homeless outreach initiatives. This year, the City of Lawrence created the Homeless Solutions Division, which is funded by the City General Fund and Special Alcohol Fund. Under this new Division, the City of Lawrence has taken on ownership of leading homeless outreach. The City of Lawrence has worked alongside key homeless service providers to create a multidisciplinary homeless outreach team titled the Homeless Response Team (HRT). This outreach team is comprised of a City of Lawrence staff member, the Homeless Outreach Coordinator, and outreach team members from many different disciplines such as Substance Use Treatment Peer Support Specialist, Emergency Shelter Outreach Team member, Mental Health Peer Specialist, Community Health Care Coordinator, Crisis Intervention Team member from the Lawrence Kansas Police Department, and Emergency Medical staff from the Lawrence-Douglas County Fire and Medical. This team is charged with working outdoors in the community to locate our unsheltered homeless neighbors where they are, building relationships, and working to connect them to key services. The end goal of the HRT is to help these individuals leave the places not meant for human habitation and enter the Lawrence Community Shelter, Family Promise shelter, Willow Domestic Violence Center, or other temporary housing solutions. Outreach workers are often the front door to

the continuum of care, and housing to achieve the goals set forth by the community's strategic plan framework to move the needle and keep homelessness a rare and brief occurrence. Outreach efforts focus on building relationships with the unsheltered to ultimately build good rapport to be successful when attempting to get this population to engage with case managers and other mental, medical, and substance use providers. Case managers assist this population with service referrals, obtaining identification, transportation to mental, and medical health appointments, court requirements, employment opportunities, and to secure all types of benefits. The social service network in Lawrence has a plentiful number of providers and resources. Thus, providing ample opportunities for inter-agency partnership. Currently meetings are held quarterly to bring together service providers, and case managers to discuss resource opportunities and delivery. Lawrence, being part of the Balance of State Continuum of Care, is part of discussions to centralize intake on a statewide level, and local service providers, outreach workers, and case managers have free access to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Case management and supportive services provided for those experiencing homelessness has proven to be best practice, and the most effective way to transition the unsheltered person/s or family into housing, and to sustain that housing.

Lawrence/Douglas County has a coordinated entry team that works with several community resource agencies to connect, assist, and advocate for those who are experiencing homelessness to encourage strong relationships with case managers that can provide them with alternative emergency sheltering and housing options. The Kansas BOS vulnerability assessment is used to determine the vulnerability and risk factors to prioritize those who are in dire need of housing and shelter assistance to sustain life.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

According to the 2022 Douglas County Homeless Needs Assessment, the current state of housing in the community does not meet the community's need. A drastic increase in supportive housing is needed, and the number of emergency beds is also lacking. According to the same study, a sizable part of the population of those experiencing homelessness are experiencing chronic, long-term, and cyclical. There is a high rate of mental health and substance use within the community of those experiencing homelessness which takes specialized staff to offer support and requires the availability of emergency sheltering, and transitional and permanent housing. Currently, the City of Lawrence is supporting a sanctioned camping area in the commercial district that was approved by the governing body to provide an option when no other emergency sheltering beds were available within the community. The City has provided support to the Lawrence Community Shelter on the implementation of the night-by-night shelter bed component, and additionally the City of Lawrence has invested local American Rescue Plan dollars in bringing a Pallet Sheltering village to the community which will provide shelter for up to 50 people with case management services provided on site. The largest need by far and the piece that is needed to move those experiencing homelessness along the housing continuum is supportive housing. The County has made sizable investments in property and development to bring these types of units online, but the need for sheltering will still be there for sheltering for those entering the continuum at the beginning.

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

Case management is the best practice and most effective method of assisting all homeless (chronic, families with children, veterans and their families) to obtain housing and remain housed.

Once a person enters LCS, they are provided person-centered case management. The goal of case management is to help the individual recover from homelessness by obtaining critical necessities like documents and income to obtain and maintain housing.

Connection to housing is often made by referral to the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA). LDCHA maintains housing vouchers for chronically homeless individuals, veterans, and families. In addition to connection to housing, the LDCHA Resident Services Department helps with computer education, workforce training, resume building, and other lifestyle-type activities.

Homeless families with children have seen a dramatic increase in recent years and the City of Lawrence is working to create solutions for this population, as there are currently no emergency shelter options for families with children.

Lawrence Family Promise is a faith-based initiative that houses families in a network of member congregations. Family Promise also offers their own case management and mentoring program and has recently begun offering an intermediary housing option for those who successfully complete their shelter program but might not be financially able to support their own housing immediately.

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.

Overall, there are several programs in the Lawrence community that work with families to try to avoid homelessness. There are rental assistance, utility assistance, and landlord-tenant relations programs. There is a firm commitment to keeping people housed in the community. Many agencies have memorandums of understanding which run through a series of providers, so everyone has the same goal which is to either house the homeless or help them to remain housed. Foster Care: Youth who leave the foster care system because they have attained 18 years of age are eligible to participate in Independent Living Services, contracted by Kansas Department of Children and Families (DCF). Caseworkers begin working with youth who will age out of foster care on a discharge plan as early as age 15 to ensure that youth will not need to seek McKinney-Vento housing options. Planning includes housing, employment,

and education. Mental Health: DCF has adopted a policy that would prevent discharging homeless individuals from publicly funded institutions or systems of care into homelessness or into HUD funded programs for the homeless. Additionally, Bert Nash Mental Health Center works closely with State hospitals for discharge of patients who have been released. Bert Nash sets up intake appointments with all those released in Douglas County and works to follow up with them to work through the issue of being released into homelessness. Corrections: The Douglas County Jail has an extensive re-entry program that includes a housing component. A full-time Re-entry Coordinator works within the community in collaboration with other service providers and housing providers, as well as sitting on the Community Commission on Homelessness. The County recognizes that releasing offenders into homelessness increases the likelihood of re-offending.

Discussion

Lawrence has a lot of work to do to fulfill the needs of both sheltering and affordable housing options for the community. The work of the Housing and Homelessness Strategic Plan group, an infusion of American Rescue Plan funds, and the collaborative work of the City and the county will help to move the needle in this space. The City has taken ownership over the emergency sheltering and sanctuary camping components of our shelter and housing continuum and will continue to work with resources and partners to carry out this work.

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

Introduction:

The City of Lawrence faces barriers to affordable housing including barriers to affordable development in the land development code, lack of affordable housing specific incentives, community CHDO capacity issues to build the number of new units needed for residents at 30-60%AMI, growing scarcity of developable land, local wages not keeping pace with housing costs, insufficient local funds to meet need, and neighborhood opposition to new affordable developments and greater density.

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 City of Lawrence is committed to ameliorating the negative effects of past public and private policies that served to exclude equitable access to fair housing. For example, the City of Lawrence Fair Housing Law is more inclusive than the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, in addition to the protected classes set forth in the federal law. The City's law assures equal opportunity in housing, without distinction on account of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, familial status, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity. The ordinance also makes it unlawful for any person to engage in an unlawful housing/real property practice, to deny reasonable accommodations or reasonable modifications, or to retaliate against any person exercising any right granted or protected by the law.

The City of Lawrence also works to ensure equitable access to fair housing through policy and processes that reduce disparities. For example, the Affordable Housing Advisory Board included a Racial Impact Analysis in their grant application, and racial impact is considered when awarding project funds to ensure all projects provide fair and equitable access to housing. The City's Director of Equity and Inclusion provides leadership to ensure that all city policies and practices are fair and equitable, including housing and homelessness service programs. The City is a participating member of the Government Alliance for Racial Equity (GARE), with active participation from Housing and Homelessness Initiatives division staff. In addition, the City serves as leadership on numerous community committees and coalitions working to increase equitable access to safe and fair housing.

The City of Lawrence is currently examining Zoning and Land Use Code, fees, and policies to determine impact on affordable housing development and to ameliorate negative effects on affordable housing. One of the initial goals of the Land Development Code revision process is housing affordability and availability. The revision process will allow the code to consider ways to foster and grow affordable housing throughout the community, and to ensure ways of providing housing options for all ages and abilities. In the last several years the City of Lawrence created a double density bonus for affordable housing, and further policies to incentivize affordable housing development are being explored.

The City of Lawrence finalized its community strategic plan to end chronic homelessness, which includes goals and strategies for affordable housing development and policy proposals.

The following specific strategies are planned to ameliorate the barriers to affordable housing:

- Provide subsidies and incentives for new development or rehabilitation of desired Affordable housing unit types
- Acquire parcels and units for the community land trust and future affordable housing development
- Provide recommendations for City code updates that allow for more affordable housing development
- Establish the tenant's right to legal representation in Douglas County
- Enforce the City's protection against source of income discrimination
- Establish a City of Lawrence vacant and dilapidated structure registry
- Establish an incentive program for affordable housing development
- Establish new funding resources
- Develop a plan for ongoing community engagement regarding affordable housing
- Develop programs that increase racial equity in affordable housing access and land ownership

Discussion:

The City of Lawrence is committed to equitable access to safe and affordable housing so that all residents have the opportunity to live in a healthy environment with dignity. Although the City does not currently impose systemic barriers that serve as obstacles to fair housing, as noted in the Lawrence Assessment of Fair Housing, the historical legacy of redlining, discriminatory lending practices, and other forms of racial discrimination have resulted in present-day racial disparities in housing. According to the Lawrence Assessment of Fair Housing, Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) residents experience higher rates of housing problems including housing insecurity, overcrowding, or substandard housing than White Lawrence residents: 47% of Black residents, 57% of Hispanic/Latinx residents, and 51% of Asian Pacific Islanders experience housing problems in Lawrence compared with 38% of White residents.

In Lawrence, BIPOC populations are also disproportionately renters over homeowners. The White, Non-Hispanic population makes up 79.74 percent of the entire Lawrence population, but is 89.91 percent of the households that own a home. Notably, according to the Douglas County Health Equity Report, Native American, Black, multi-race, and other race populations are also all above their Douglas County population percentages in terms of homeless admissions at the Lawrence Community Shelter. Black populations make up a particularly high percentage of admissions (16% compared to roughly 5% of the overall population), as do Native Americans (6% compared to roughly 3% of the population), indicating greater housing insecurity and houselessness among these demographics.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This Annual Action Plan provides a basis and strategy for the use of federal funds granted to the City of Lawrence by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs. This Action Plan covers the period beginning August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025. Programs and activities described in this plan are intended to primarily benefit low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Lawrence, neighborhoods with high concentrations of low- and moderate-income residents, and the City as a whole.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City will derive strategy and priorities for housing and community development through the City Commission Strategic Plan Outcome Areas and the City/County strategic plan to end homelessness, “A Place for Everyone”. The Strategies were developed cooperatively with public and private agencies and community groups. The primary obstacle to meeting all the identified needs, including those identified as high priorities, is the general lack of funding resources available to the public and private agencies who serve low- and moderate-income residents. Lawrence, due to being an entitlement community, is not eligible for state CDBG or HOME programs. Limited state HOME dollars are available for community development activities through the City's CHDO. The City has an Affordable Housing Trust Fund which is funded by a sales tax passed by voters to repurpose .05% sales tax to affordable housing activities. This began in April of 2019, with collections starting in June of 2019. This amounts to approximately \$1 Million per year. In 2024 the City will also be utilizing the remainder of the local ARP funding that will be targeted towards both affordable housing and homelessness projects.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Lawrence has elected to impose resale provisions on all HOME funded homeownership activities, including acquisition with or without rehabilitation and direct homebuyer assistance. These resale provisions apply to the City’s Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO), developers, and/or any subrecipients who receive HOME funding from the City for these homeownership activities.

The City of Lawrence’s resale provisions ensure that the subsequent price at resale is affordable to a family at 50-80 percent MFI paying no more than 38 percent of income for principal, interest, property taxes and insurance. The seller will receive a fair return on investment, which is defined in the resale provisions and the written agreement. The subsequent buyer must qualify as low income as defined in 24 CFR 92.2, which is defined as a household whose annual incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD. The housing must be the principal residence of the family throughout the defined affordability period. The period of affordability in years is based on the total amount of HOME funds invested in the housing and will be included in the written agreement. In the event that the resale price necessary to provide a fair return is not affordable to the subsequent

buyer, the City will provide additional HOME funds in the form of down payment assistance and/or buy-down subsidy to make the housing affordable to a low-income homebuyer.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City will ensure that all federally funded improvement programs for the existing housing stock use lead hazard reduction activities including evaluating lead hazard risk and using lead-safe work practices when required. Staff distributes Renovate Right pamphlets, published by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Housing Initiatives Division is working on having three staff certified as Lead Hazard Risk Assessors and Lead-Based paint inspectors.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

One purpose of the Consolidated Plan Programs and other initiatives in Lawrence is to reduce the number of persons in poverty. The emphasis in Lawrence is to help people rise out of poverty, rather than temporarily easing their situation. Although essential short-term direct aid such as emergency food and shelter is provided, the strongest community support is for programs to address the root causes of poverty and assisting people in becoming self-sufficient in the long-term. Two key components of helping people attain self-sufficiency are employment and housing. Examples of programs that directly influence people's ability to escape poverty include job education and placement services, as well as housing advocacy, homeless prevention, and rental assistance. Projects that indirectly affect poverty include those that improve the community at-large and provide transportation and child care services that help people access employment and services. CDBG, HOME, CoC and State ESG funds are often used in combination with other grants that also contribute to reducing the number of families living in poverty. Thus, the power of these federal dollars is leveraged to a greater extent. Recognizing that limited Consolidated Plan dollars should be focused where the need is greatest, Lawrence gives preference to projects that directly benefit low- and moderate-income residents, or serve low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, over those that will benefit the City as a whole. This strategy will ensure that scarce resources are directed to best serve those who have the greatest need, including those areas with the greatest concentration of poverty. In addition to Consolidated Plan programs, a number of other public, private, and partnership initiatives have been designed to assist in the reduction of poverty rates. These include the Workforce Development Center, the Douglas County Re-entry Program, and a newly forming partnership of employment agencies. The Housing and Homelessness Strategic Plan and the City Commission Strategic Plan Outcome Areas will serve as the baseline for the City's anti-poverty strategy.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Planning and Development Services Department, Housing Initiatives Division (HID) is the lead agency of the City in the development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. HID provides fiscal and regulatory oversight of all CDBG and HOME funding. The Lawrence City Commission acts as the final authority for the appropriation of funds for Annual Action Plan activities under the Consolidated Plan grant programs, following recommendations of the Affordable Housing Advisory Board and City staff. In addition, the City provides opportunities, to the maximum extent possible, to

women and minority owned business enterprises for contract bids and services. The City of Lawrence encourages inclusion in the list of approved bidders for minority and women-owned businesses, and actively works to recruit new contractors into the programs administered by the HID. HOME sub-grantee agreements specifically contain the language: 3. Affirmative marketing and MBE/WBE records: (a) Records demonstrating compliance with the affirmative marketing procedures and requirements of 92.351. (b) Documentation and data on the steps taken to implement the jurisdiction's outreach programs to minority owned and female owned businesses including data indicating the racial/ethnic or gender character of each business entity receiving a contract or sub-contract of \$25,000 or more paid, or to be paid, with HOME funds; the amount of the contract or subcontract, and documentation of affirmative steps to assure that minority business and women's business enterprises have an equal opportunity to obtain or compete for contracts and subcontracts as sources of supplies, equipment, construction, and services. Within each of the priority funding areas, activities will be completed and managed by a diverse team of public, private, not-for-profit, and institutional partners.

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

To accomplish these goals, the City of Lawrence will work closely with the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority on their Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) to cover the activity of Rental Housing Subsidies through the HOME program. Tenants to Homeowners, Inc., the City of Lawrence CHDO, will be the agency primarily working towards the goal of construction of housing as well as direct homeownership assistance objectives. Lawrence Habitat for Humanity will also be involved in providing HOME-funded homebuyer units. HID staff will administer the rehabilitation and energy efficiency programs through the City of Lawrence using local licensed contractors. HID staff, in addition, continues to work to educate the community as well as program participants on ways to make their homes more energy efficient and save money on energy bills. Social service agencies will offer tenant and rental assistance as well as consultation, and the homeless shelter will provide programming to move people from the shelter situation into housing of a more permanent nature.

The Lawrence Affordable Housing Trust Fund serves as another strong coordinated effort for public/private coordination in housing. Agencies have collaborated on projects that include housing, case management, and supportive services. The 2023 Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB) Annual Report is attached to this document.

Discussion:

Lawrence prides itself on a decades-long track record of successful partnerships among public and private sector entities. Communication and cooperation between the City of Lawrence's Housing Initiatives Division and the partner agencies and organizations that administer activities is strong. HID staff has worked closely with the organizations involved in Consolidated Plan programs to improve regulatory compliance, monitoring, cooperation and partnerships among agencies, and technical capacity of organizations involved in project delivery.

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	0
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:	0

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.	90.00%

**HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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 are used in the HOME Program beyond those identified in 92.205.

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:

Please see #8 in the Additional Resources document for this narrative. (over the character limit for this response box)

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:

Please see #8 in the Additional Resources document for this narrative. (over the character limit for this response box)

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:

Not applicable - HOME-assisted refinance of existing debt secured by multifamily housing will not be undertaken by the City of Lawrence program in the 2024 program year.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

Not applicable

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

Not applicable

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

Not applicable

Additional Resources for the 2024 City of Lawrence Annual Action Plan of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan:

1. Citizen Participation Plan (Revised May 2023)
2. City Commission Strategic Plan Overview (2021)
3. Consolidated Plan Goals (2023-2027)
4. Affordable Housing Advisory Board Annual Report (2023)
5. Housing Continuum Chart (2023)
6. Continuum of Care local model (Updated 2024)
7. FY2023 Low/Mod data with Census Tract/Block Group (2011-2015 ACS Data)
8. Resale Provisions for HOME (2023)
9. Publication of Public Hearing Notice ran on 04/19/2024 (Affidavit to be added later)
10. Estimated 2024 Investment Summary 2022
11. Resolution No. 7521 (Signed version will be added later)
12. A Place for Everyone (2024)

City of Lawrence

Citizen Participation Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Lawrence (City) is a federal entitlement jurisdiction that receives federal grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the following programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME).

As a requirement for receiving the above named entitlement grants, the City is required to prepare the following documents:

- (a) Consolidated Plan: A five year Consolidated Plan to identify local community development needs and set forth a funding strategy to address those needs.
- (b) Annual Action Plan: An Annual Action Plan that summarizes the activities that will be undertaken in the upcoming Program Year (PY) to address the needs outlined in the Consolidated Plan.
- (c) Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER): A Performance Report that evaluates the progress during the previous PY in carrying out the activities outlined in the Annual Action Plan.
- (d) Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH): An assessment to identify local and regional fair housing issues and set goals for improving fair housing choice and access to opportunity. Assessment of Fair Housing uses the HUD provided Assessment of Fair Housing tool to guide grantees through the identification process of fair housing issues and related contributing factors.

Under HUD's Code of Federal Regulations for citizen participation (Title 24 CFR 91.105), the City is required to adopt a Citizen Participation Plan that sets forth the City's policies and procedures for citizen participation in the planning, execution, and evaluation of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, CAPER, and Assessment of Fair Housing. The guidelines established in this Citizen Participation Plan apply to the development and adoption of all of the above-listed documents (hereafter referred to as "the Plans"). Each Plan individually describes the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the citizen participation and consultation process.

2. OBJECTIVE

The Citizen Participation Plan establishes standards to promote citizen participation in the development of the Plans and related documents. The Citizen Participation Plan is designed to especially encourage participation by low- and moderate-income persons. As an entitlement jurisdiction for the respective HUD programs, the City is responsible for the implementation and use of the Citizen Participation Plan. The requirements for citizen participation do not restrict the responsibility or authority of the City for the development and execution of its Plans.

3. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (24 CFR 91.105)

The City provides for and encourages citizens to participate in the development of all the Plans covered by the Citizen Participation Plan. The City further encourages participation by low- and moderate-income persons, particularly those persons living in areas designated by the jurisdiction as a revitalization area or in a slum and blighted area and in areas where CDBG funds are proposed to be used, and by residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, as defined by the City. The City will take appropriate actions to encourage the participation of all citizens, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.

The City encourages the participation of local and regional institutions, Continuums of Care, and other organizations (including businesses, developers, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations, and community-based and faith-based organizations) in the process of developing and implementing the Plans. The City encourages the participation of public and private organizations, including broadband internet service providers, organizations engaged in narrowing the digital divide, agencies whose primary responsibilities include the management of flood prone areas, public land or water resources, and emergency management agencies in the process of developing the Plans.

The City encourages, in conjunction with consultation with public housing agencies (PHA), the participation of residents of public and assisted housing developments (including any resident advisory boards, resident councils, and resident management corporations) in the process of developing and implementing the Plans, along with other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas in which the developments are located. The City will make an effort to provide information to the PHA about the AFH, AFH strategy, and consolidated plan activities related to its developments and surrounding communities so that the PHA can make this information available at the annual public hearing(s) required for the PHA Plan.

The City will explore alternative public involvement techniques and quantitative ways to measure efforts that encourage citizen participation in a shared vision for change in communities and neighborhoods, and the review of program performance; e.g., use of focus groups and the Internet.

The City will provide citizens with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the Plans and on substantial amendments to the Plans, and will make the citizen participation plan public. The citizen participation plan will be in a format accessible to persons with disabilities, upon request.

The City will take reasonable steps to provide language assistance to ensure meaningful access to participation by non-English-speaking residents of the community. The City of Lawrence Community Development Division (CDD) Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan is established pursuant to and in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency," and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Final Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against

National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, dated January 22, 2007, and effective February 21, 2007. The current CDD LEP Plan is available for public review online at: https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/.

4. CONSULTATION (24 CFR 91.100)

In the development of the Plans, the City will consult with other public and private agencies and organizations that provide assisted housing, health services, and social services (including those focusing on services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, homeless persons), neighborhood-based groups, community-based and regionally-based organizations that represent protected class members, organizations that enforce fair housing laws, broadband internet service providers, organizations engaged in narrowing the digital divide, agencies whose primary responsibilities include the management of flood prone areas, public land or water resources, and emergency management agencies.

When preparing the portions of the consolidated plan describing the City's homeless strategy and the resources available to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness, the City will consult with:

- (a) The Continuum of Care that serves the City's geographic area;
- (b) Public and private agencies that address housing, health, social service, victim services, employment, or education needs of low-income individuals and families; homeless individuals and families, including homeless veterans; youth; and/or other persons with special needs;
- (c) Publicly funded institutions and systems of care that may discharge persons into homelessness (such as health-care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and
- (d) Business and civic leaders.

When preparing the portion of its consolidated plan concerning lead-based paint hazards, the City will consult with state or local health and child welfare agencies and examine existing data related to lead-based paint hazards and poisonings, including health department data on the addresses of housing units in which children have been identified as lead poisoned.

The City also will consult with adjacent units of general local government and local and regional government agencies, including local government agencies with metropolitan-wide planning and transportation responsibilities, particularly for problems and solutions that go beyond a single jurisdiction.

The City will consult with the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority regarding consideration of public housing needs, planned programs and activities, the AFH,

strategies for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and proposed actions to affirmatively further fair housing in the consolidated plan.

A variety of mechanisms may be utilized to solicit input from the persons/service providers/agencies listed above. These include posting and/or mailing notices of public meetings and hearings, telephone or personal interviews, mail surveys, social media, internet-based feedback and consultation workshops.

5. AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT AND APPROVED DOCUMENTS

The draft versions of Consolidated Plans and Annual Action Plans will present to residents, public agencies, and other interested parties, information that includes the estimated amount the City expects to receive (including grant funds and program income) and the range of activities that may be undertaken, including the estimated amount that will benefit persons of low- and moderate-income.

The City will publish the proposed Plans in a manner that affords its residents, public agencies, and other interested parties a reasonable opportunity to examine the contents and to submit comments. The requirement for publishing will be met by publishing a summary of each document in one or more newspapers of general circulation. The summary will describe the content and purpose of the Plan, and will include a list of the locations where copies of the entire proposed document may be examined.

The draft and final versions of Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, CAPERs, Assessments of Fair Housing, and Citizen Participation Plans, and all related amendments, will be made available for public review online at the City of Lawrence website: https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/.

Hard copies of the documents will be available at the City of Lawrence Planning and Development Services Department, 1 Riverfront Plaza, Suite 320 Lawrence, KS 66044. The City will provide a reasonable number of free copies of the Plans to residents and groups that request it.

The City will provide residents of the community, public agencies, and other interested parties with reasonable and timely access to information and records relating to the Plans, and use of assistance under the programs covered by this plan during the preceding five years.

6. AMENDMENTS

Substantial Amendments will be necessary whenever any of the criteria under each Plan listed below is proposed. Substantial amendments to any of the Plans will be subject to Citizen Participation Plan requirements. The City will consider all substantial amendments at a public meeting. Notice of all public meetings and information regarding the proposed substantial amendment will be made by publishing a notice prior to the meeting, which will begin the 30-day public comment period. The City will consider any comments or views of residents of the community received in writing, or orally at public hearings, if any, in preparing any substantial amendment. The recommendation regarding a substantial amendment will be forwarded to the City Commission for discussion and

consideration of approval at a regularly scheduled meeting. If approved, the substantial amendment shall be attached to the plan, and submitted along with all public comments or views, to the local HUD office. Implementation of the amendment shall not occur before the expiration of the public comment period.

- (a) Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan Amendment Considerations: A Substantial Amendment will be made to the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan whenever one of the following decisions is made:
- (i) To change the allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds.
 - (ii) To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the Consolidated Plan (including program income), not previously described in the plan.
 - (iii) To change the purpose of a previously approved activity. The following categories of purpose are established:
 - (A) Acquisition and/or Disposition of Real Property;
 - (B) Public Facilities and Improvements;
 - (C) Clearance;
 - (D) Public Services;
 - (E) Rehabilitation;
 - (F) Economic Development;
 - (G) Homeownership Assistance;
 - (H) Planning; and
 - (I) Program Administration
 - (iv) To change the scope of a previously approved activity. A change in scope will occur when the cost of the activity is reduced or increased by 50% or more, or when the quantity of the activity is reduced or increased by 50% or more.
 - (v) To change the location of a previously approved activity, when the change of location will cause the targeted group of beneficiaries to lose the benefit.
 - (vi) To change the beneficiaries of a previously approved activity, when the targeted groups of beneficiaries will no longer benefit, or when the percentage of low- and moderate-income beneficiaries will be less than the minimum required by federal law or regulation.

All other changes may be handled administratively and are not subject to the public hearing requirements of this Citizen Participation Plan. The following changes are considered administrative:

- (i) Proportional adjustments to previously approved activities to accommodate actual HUD allocation amounts (provided new subrecipients are not awarded funds).
 - (ii) Reallocation of funds, not exceeding an amount of \$100,000, between activities approved in the current or prior Annual Action Plan.
 - (iii) Reallocation of fund balance, in any amount, from a completed activity to another approved activity.
 - (iv) Establishment of additional measureable Goal Outcome Indicators for Strategic Plan goals as referenced in the approved Consolidated Plan
 - (v) If the carry forward of unspent grant funds would inhibit the City's ability to meet the CDBG timeliness spending test, allocations of CDBG funding in total amounts less than \$250,000 in a single Program Year may be directed toward eligible City Projects/Programs within the same category of the unspent allocation. The Planning and Development Services Director may propose one-time CDBG-eligible City infrastructure projects to the City Manager for such previously allocated but unspent CDBG funding. Depending on project size and scope, the City Manager may bring such one-time projects directly to the City Commission for authorization as deemed necessary and appropriate for the timely expenditure of CDBG funds.
- (b) Citizen Participation Plan Amendment Considerations: A substantial amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan is defined as an addition or deletion of the plan's priorities or goals. All other changes may be handled administratively and are not subject to the public hearing requirements of this Citizen Participation Plan.
- (c) Assessment of Fair Housing Amendment Considerations: An AFH previously accepted by HUD must be revised and submitted to HUD for review under the following circumstances:
- (i) A material change occurs. A material change is a change in circumstances in the jurisdiction of a program participant that affects the information on which the AFH is based to the extent that the analysis, the fair housing contributing factors, or the priorities and goals of the AFH no longer reflect actual circumstances. Examples include Presidentially declared disasters, under title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, in the program participant's area that are of such a nature as to significantly impact the steps a program participant may need to take to affirmatively further fair housing; significant demographic changes; new significant contributing factors in the participant's jurisdiction; and civil

rights findings, determinations, settlements (including Voluntary Compliance Agreements), or court orders; or

- (ii) Upon HUD's written notification specifying a material change that requires the revision.

The City shall provide residents with reasonable notice of a revision to the AFH and provide not less than 30 calendar days to receive comments from residents. Notice of a revision to the AFH will be made public by publishing a notice prior to the revised AFH being submitted to HUD for review, which will begin the 30 day written comment period. The City shall consider the comments or views of residents, whether received in writing or orally, in regard to a revision to the AFH. A summary of any comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why, shall be attached to the revision to the AFH.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS, NOTIFICATION AND ACCESS

The City will follow the following procedure in conducting public hearings and providing notification and access to all Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan documents discussed in this Citizen Participation Plan:

- (a) Public Hearing Process: The City will conduct at least two public hearings per year to obtain citizens' views and comments, and to respond to proposals and questions. Such meetings will be conducted at a minimum of two different times of the program year and together will cover the following topics:
 - (i) Housing and Community Development Needs;
 - (ii) Development of Proposed Activities;
 - (iii) Proposed strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing consistent with the AFH; and
 - (iv) Review of Program Performance.

To obtain the views of residents of the community on housing and community development needs, including priority nonhousing community development needs and affirmatively furthering fair housing, the City will conduct at least one of these hearings before the Consolidated Plan is published for comment.

The City, at its discretion, may conduct additional outreach, public meetings, or public hearings as necessary to foster citizen access and engagement.

- (b) Public Hearing Notification: Notification of public hearings will be posted/printed at least two weeks prior to the meeting date. Noticing may include printing a public notice in newspaper(s) of general circulation in the City, website posting, email, and/or press releases.

Notices will include sufficient information about the subject of the hearing, including summaries when possible and appropriate, to permit informed comment.

- (c) Public Review/Comment Period: Public notices will be printed/posted prior to the commencement of any public review/comment period alerting citizens of the documents for review. The minimum public review/comment period for each Plan is listed below:

Document	Public Comment Period
Consolidated Plan	30 days
Annual Action Plan	30 days
Substantial Amendments	30 days
CAPER	15 days
AFH	30 days
Citizen Participation Plan	30 days

Copies of all documents and notices will be available for public review at the City of Lawrence Planning and Development Services Department, 1 Riverfront Plaza, Suite 320 Lawrence, KS 66044, and on the City of Lawrence website: https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/.

The City shall consider any comments or views of residents of the community received in writing or orally at all public hearings and/or meetings. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why, shall be attached to the Plans.

- (d) Access to Meetings: Unless otherwise noted, public hearings requiring City Commission action will be conducted at regularly scheduled City Commission meetings located at 6 E 6th Street, Lawrence, KS 66044. For public hearings and/or meetings not requiring City Commission action, the City will make every effort to conduct such meetings at a location accessible and convenient to potential and actual beneficiaries.

The City will provide residents of the community with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, consistent with accessibility and reasonable accommodation requirements, in accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the regulations at 24 CFR part 8, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the regulations at 28 CFR parts 35 and 36, as applicable.

If an attendee or participant at a public hearing and/or meeting needs special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate such persons in every reasonable manner.

- (e) Technical Assistance: The City will provide for technical assistance to groups representative of persons of low- and moderate-income that request such assistance in commenting on the Plans and in developing proposals for funding assistance under any of the programs covered by the consolidated plan, with the level and type of assistance determined by the City. The assistance need not include the provision of funds to the groups.

- (f) Complaints: A complaint regarding any of the Plans and related documents covered by this Citizen Participation Plan must be submitted in writing to the Planning and Development Services Director, 1 Riverfront Plaza, Suite 320 Lawrence, KS 66044.

Community Development Division staff will assist the complainant with the preparation of written complaints and/or advise the complainant of other sources of technical assistance. All complaints shall be submitted on a Complaint Form provided by the Community Development Division and shall be signed by the complainant.

Pursuant to 24 CFR 91.105(j), the City will provide a timely, substantive written response to every written resident complaint within 15 working days, where practicable.

- (g) Individuals with Limited English Proficiency: The City will take reasonable steps to provide language assistance to ensure meaningful access to public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate. If an individual or participant with Limited English Proficiency needs assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate their request in every reasonable manner.

The City of Lawrence Community Development Division (CDD) Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan is established pursuant to and in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency," and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Final Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, dated January 22, 2007, and effective February 21, 2007. The current CDD LEP Plan is available for public review online at: https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/.

- (h) In the Event of an Emergency: In the event of an unforeseen and unpreventable event that renders in-person public gathering impossible or inadvisable, such as a natural disaster or pandemic, public hearings may be held as a virtual meeting. Meeting formats may include webinars, webcasts, telecasts, radio or audio broadcasts, or other virtual communication tools as appropriate for the meeting format. Virtual meetings must provide, at a minimum, an opportunity for the public to submit public questions and for the presenter or public officials to make public response, or an acknowledgement of receipt of the comments. All questions and responses must be documented, either via text, such as meeting minutes or chat scripts, or recorded, or as appropriate for the meeting format. Virtual meetings must be publicly noticed, and in the event traditional noticing tools are unavailable or will not effectively reach the public, alternative public noticing efforts must be made and documented.

In the event of an emergency, the following alternatives may be instituted by the City:

- (i) The public comment and display period for the Consolidated Plan and/or Annual Action Plan and any amendment thereto will be consistent with HUD's requirements;
- (ii) Draft documents for public comment and review will be made available on the City's website at https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/. Copies of the draft documents will be e-mailed upon request, if possible;
- (iii) Public meetings may be held as virtual meetings using online platforms for public viewing with the option for real-time questions to be presented; and/or
- (iv) The City may opt to hold one public hearing during the Consolidated Plan/Annual Plan process and its second required public hearing during the CAPER process for the same program year if a virtual hearing is not feasible.

8. ANTIDISPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION PLAN

The City seeks to minimize, to the greatest extent feasible, the involuntary displacement, whether permanently or temporarily, of persons (families, individuals, businesses, nonprofit organizations, or farms) from projects funded with CDBG or HOME involving single or multi-family rehabilitation, acquisition, commercial rehabilitation, demolition, economic development, or capital improvement activities.

Projects that the City deems beneficial but that may cause displacement may be recommended and approved for funding only if the City demonstrates that such displacement is necessary and vital to the project and that they take efforts to reduce the number of persons displaced. Further, it must be clearly demonstrated that the goals and anticipated accomplishments of a project outweigh the adverse effects of displacement imposed on persons who must relocate.

This section describes the City's Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Assistance Plan and how it will assist persons who will be temporarily relocated or permanently displaced due to the use of HUD funds. This plan takes effect whenever the City sponsors projects using CDGB or HOME funds that involve property acquisition or the demolition or conversion of low- and moderate-income dwelling units.

- (a) Minimizing Displacement: The City will take reasonable steps to minimize displacement occurring as a result of its CDBG and HOME activities. This means that the City will:
 - (i) Consider if displacement will occur as part of funding decisions and project feasibility determinations;
 - (ii) Assure, whenever possible, that occupants of buildings to be rehabilitated are offered an opportunity to return;

- (iii) Plan substantial rehabilitation projects in “stages” to minimize displacement; and
 - (iv) Meet all HUD notification requirements so that affected persons do not move because they have not been informed about project plans and their rights.
- (b) Relocation Assistance for Displaced Persons: Consistent with the goals and objectives of the CDBG and HOME programs, the City will take all reasonable steps necessary to minimize displacement of persons, even temporarily. If displacement occurs, the City will provide relocation assistance for lower income tenants who, in connection with an activity assisted under the CDBG and/or HOME Program(s), move permanently or move personal property from real property as a direct result of the demolition of any dwelling unit or the conversion of a lower-income dwelling unit in accordance with the requirements of 24 CFR 42.350. A displaced person who is not a lower-income tenant, will be provided relocation assistance in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24.
- (c) One-For-One Replacement of Lower-Income Dwelling Units: The City will replace all occupied and vacant occupiable lower-income dwelling units that are demolished or converted to a use other than as lower-income dwelling units in connection with a project assisted with funds provided under the CDBG and/or HOME Program(s).

Before entering into a contract committing the City to use HUD funds on a project that will directly result in demolition of lower-income dwelling units or the conversion of lower-income dwelling units to another use, the City will make public, by providing a notice that such information is available at the City of Lawrence Planning and Development Services Department, and submit to HUD, a One-for-One Replacement Plan that contains the following information in writing:

- (i) A description of proposed assisted activity;
- (ii) The location on a map and number of dwelling units by size (number of bedrooms) that will be demolished or converted to a use other than for lower-income dwelling units as a direct result of the assisted activity;
- (iii) A time schedule for the commencement and completion of demolition or conversion;
- (iv) The location on a map and number of dwelling units by size (number of bedrooms) that will be provided as replacement dwelling units. If such data are not available at the time of the general submission, the submission shall identify the general location on an area map and the approximate number of dwelling units by size, and information identifying the specific

location and number of dwelling units by size shall be submitted and disclosed to the public as soon as it is available;

- (v) The source of funding and a time schedule for the provision of replacement dwelling units;
- (vi) The basis for concluding that each replacement dwelling unit will remain a lower-income dwelling unit for at least 10 years from date of initial occupancy; and
- (vii) Information demonstrating that any proposed replacement of dwelling units with smaller dwelling units (e.g., a 2-bedroom unit with two 1-bedroom units) is consistent with the needs assessment contained in its HUD-approved consolidated plan.

Under 24 CFR 42.375(d), the City may submit a request to HUD for a determination that the one-for-one replacement requirement does not apply, based on objective data, that there is an adequate supply of vacant lower-income dwelling units in standard condition available on a non-discriminatory basis within the area.

9. ASSESSMENT OF FAIR HOUSING

During the development of the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), the City of Lawrence will:

- (a) Encourage citizens to participate in the development of the AFH and any revisions of the AFH.
- (b) Encourage the participation of Continuums of Care, businesses, developers, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations, and community-based and faith-based organizations, in the process of developing and implementing the AFH.
- (c) Encourage, in conjunction with public housing agency consultations, participation of residents of public and assisted housing developments, including any resident advisory boards, resident councils, and resident management corporations, in the process of developing and implementing the AFH, along with other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas in which the developments are located.
- (d) Take reasonable steps to provide language assistance to ensure meaningful access to participation by non-English-speaking, limited English proficiency residents, and persons with disabilities.
- (e) Make available to the public, residents, public agencies, and other interested parties any HUD-provided data and the other supplemental information the City plans to incorporate into its AFH at the start of the public participation process (or as soon as feasible after).
- (f) Provide for at least one public hearing during the development of the AFH, and provide not less than 30 calendar days to receive comments from residents.

- (g) Provide residents of the community with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, consistent with accessibility and reasonable accommodation requirements, in accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8 as well as the Americans with Disabilities Act and implementing regulations at 28 CFR part 35 and 36, as applicable.
- (h) Publish the proposed AFH in a manner that affords its residents, units of general local government, public agencies, and other interested parties a reasonable opportunity to examine its content and to submit comments.
- (i) A summary which describes the content and purpose of the AFH, and includes a list of locations where copies of the entire propose document may be examined, will be made public by publishing a display ad in one or more newspapers of general circulation, and by making copies of the AFH available on the City of Lawrence website at https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/.
- (j) Provide for technical assistance to groups representative of persons of low-and-moderate income that request such assistance to comment on the AFH.
- (k) Consider the comments or views of residents, whether received in writing or orally at the public hearing, in preparing the final AFH. A summary of any comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why, shall be attached to the final AFH.
- (l) Provide a reasonable number of free copies of the AFH to residents and groups that request a copy.
- (m) Provide a timely, substantive written response to every written resident complaint related to the AFH and any revisions of the AFH, within an established period of time (normally within 15 working days, where practicable).

LAWRENCE STRATEGIC PLAN



City of Lawrence



The strategic plan was adopted by the 2020 Lawrence City Commission.

Jennifer Ananda, Mayor
Brad Finkeldei, Vice Mayor
Stuart Boley, City Commissioner
Lisa Larsen, City Commissioner
Courtney Shipley, City Commissioner

City Manager
Craig Owens

For questions, please contact the City Manager's Office
cityhall@lawrenceks.org / 785-832-3400
Visit our website at lawrenceks.org

CONTENTS

2 Message from the City Manager

STRATEGIC PLAN FRAMEWORK

5 How We Got Here

7 Mission, Vision, Organizational Values

8 Outcomes

10 Commitments

12 Measuring Our Progress

OUTCOMES

14 Unmistakable Identity

18 Strong, Welcoming Neighborhoods

22 Safe and Secure

26 Prosperity and Economic Security

30 Connected City

34 City-Wide

39 Acknowledgments



Dear Lawrence,

We are exceedingly proud to share with you our strategic plan that will guide the next three-to-five years of work in our community. Community involvement has been an essential component since we began this process, and I hope everyone in Lawrence will see this strategic plan as something that was made for and by our community.

Born out of community engagement, interpreted and curated by its elected leaders and translated into plans of action, we were able to create a plan that outlines:

- WHY we do what we do,
- WHAT it will take for us to achieve the future we have described, and
- HOW we will accomplish our work with commitment

This is the community's plan. We want to thank everyone who participated and contributed. During our community engagement efforts, more than 3,000 community members contributed valuable personal time to collaborate in our process and make sure we heard from them. Thank you – these efforts are earnestly appreciated. I sincerely hope that everyone who participated can see a reflection of their ideas in this strategic plan and that you will work with us in making it a reality.

The work ahead will be challenging, and it will require continued listening, learning and adapting that we hope will ultimately be very rewarding as we arrive in the future we have planned and built together. The vivid vision this plan captures is ambitious, readily achievable and unique to Lawrence. As your City team and as fellow members of our community, we look forward to working together to create a community where all enjoy life and feel at home.

Sincerely,

Craig S. Owens



STRATEGIC PLAN FRAMEWORK



HOW WE GOT HERE

As work on the City's previous strategic plan neared completion in February 2020, members of the Lawrence City Commission wanted to begin a new process to create a strategic plan that would guide the following three-to-five years.

Commissioners directed staff to create a strategic plan that reflects the community's perceptions of the City today as well as its hopes for the future. Because of this, community engagement has been a core component since this strategic plan process began. In total, the City engaged in two rounds of community involvement. In the first round, Lawrence residents had a variety of opportunities to make their voice heard, with engagement opportunities that included:

- Community meetings
- Facilitated discussions with community groups
- Tabling events at local businesses and events
- Facilitated discussions with government stakeholders and employee groups
- Online feedback forum

Several themes emerged from responses during the first round of community engagement:

- **When asked about what the City does well, residents praised the quality of the City's Parks and Recreation services.** Residents also noted the City does a good job keeping its residents safe and they praised the community engagement efforts.
- **When asked what additional services the City should be providing, residents shared that they would value an expanded transit system and enhanced street and sidewalk maintenance.** The third most common response was the desire for more services to address homelessness.
- **When asked what they viewed as the top three issues facing our community, residents identified affordable housing, homelessness and development.** With development, residents expressed a concern that urban sprawl may contribute to a loss of the City's uniqueness or sense of community.
- **When asked what they wanted to stay true about Lawrence into the future, residents indicated they wanted to maintain the vibrancy of Downtown Lawrence.** Additionally, many residents shared a desire for the City to maintain a thriving arts community as well as continue to offer quality Parks & Recreation services.
- **When asked what was not true about Lawrence today that they hoped would be in the future, residents shared they would like to see more environmental programs.** Residents were also interested in more services to address homelessness and more affordable housing.





A second round of community engagement activities came during the COVID-19 pandemic and included a series of community check-in meetings held virtually via Zoom as well as another online feedback forum. These renewed engagement opportunities asked community members to reflect on the feedback received in the first round and share if they had any changes in light of recent local and national events.

The priorities and findings identified by the second round of community engagement included:

- The issues of affordable housing and homelessness, which participants believe are interrelated.
- The Lawrence economy needs to be strengthened.
- Racial equity should be addressed.

Participants were also asked to identify action items they believed the City should pursue in order to address the policy priorities. The action items that were identified include:

- Multimodal and affordable transit should be expanded.

- Promote economic development strategies to strengthen the Lawrence economy.
- Provide services to prevent homelessness and support those who are currently experiencing homelessness.
- Address the City's funding shortfalls.

Following the analysis of community engagement efforts, City Commissioners worked with staff to develop a strategic plan framework that incorporated community feedback and formed the backbone of our strategic plan.

MISSION VISION ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES

Our strategic plan outlines the process through which we will accomplish our mission and fulfill our vision for Lawrence. The mission, vision and organizational values were all adopted by the Lawrence City Commission in October 2020 as part of the strategic plan framework.

Mission

We create a community where all enjoy life and feel at home

Vision

The City of Lawrence – supporting an unmistakably vibrant community with innovative, equitable, transparent and responsible local government.

Organizational Values

Character, Competence, Courage, Collaboration, Commitment

OUTCOMES

To realize our vision for Lawrence, our strategic plan is centered on achieving these outcomes. The outcomes represent what our City is “in business to do” and what we plan to accomplish for our community.



Unmistakable Identity

Lawrence is a welcoming community, synonymous with arts, diverse culture, fun, and a quintessential downtown. City parks and community events contribute to the vibrancy experienced by all people in Lawrence.



Strong, Welcoming Neighborhoods

All people in Lawrence live in safe, functional, and aesthetically unique neighborhoods that provide opportunities to lead healthy lifestyles with access to safe and affordable housing and essential services that help them thrive.



Safe and Secure

Lawrence is a community where all people feel safe and secure and have access to trusted public and community-based safety resources.



Prosperity and Economic Security

The City of Lawrence fosters an environment that provides all people and businesses the opportunity for economic security and intentionally acknowledges, removes, and prevents barriers created by systemic and institutional injustice. Our community succeeds because of collective prosperity and a vibrant, sustainable local economy.



Connected City

The City of Lawrence has well-maintained, functional, and efficient infrastructure, facilities, and other assets. Connectivity supports accessible, sustainable methods for safely moving people and information throughout the community and the region. Investment in these assets reflects the City’s commitment to contribute to the well-being of all people.



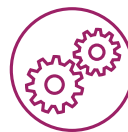
COMMITMENTS

The way in which we accomplish the work set out in this plan is as important as the outcomes. This is why our commitments are essential. With these six commitments to how we do our work, the City will ensure we're following through on our strategic plan in the right way and with excellence.



Community Engagement: Listen, share, and engage with our community to drive action and build trust in City government.

We invite and welcome all community members to collaborate and innovate with us. Through strong and equitable engagement with our community, we share and receive information about important city services and community life.



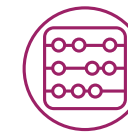
Efficient and Effective Processes: Intentional and consistent delivery of city services.

We focus on process improvement by working collaboratively to understand needs, research, adapt and develop successful solutions. Trust-worthy processes are the foundation for the delivery of city services.



Equity and Inclusion: Fair and impartial delivery of services so that no group is disadvantaged or burdened along with having inclusive representation and participation for all.

Inclusion and racial equity drive the culture of our organization and our community. When we intentionally prioritize race, it can no longer be used to predict life outcomes and outcomes are improved for all. We remove systemic barriers to reconcile historic injustices and their continued presence in our work.



Sound Fiscal Stewardship: Efficient use and sustainable management of resources that align with community priorities.

We build and maintain public trust while using our resources to achieve high value. We provide transparent, easy access to relevant, accurate data for budgeting and decision making.



Engaged and Empowered Teams: People throughout the organization are trusted, supported, and cared for as we build community.

We invest in and cultivate service to community, individual growth, team development, respect, and trust. Our very best is achieved by a diverse, engaged, collaborative, and innovative organizational culture.



Environmental Sustainability: A deep respect for our place in relationship with the planet and environment.

We consider the environmental consequences of every decision, big and small, knowing that our actions have impacts beyond our boundaries. We protect and restore our ecosystem to make it healthier and more balanced for future generations.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

How will we achieve these outcomes? And where do the commitments come into play? They work in tandem, step-by-step because how we do the work (our commitments) is as important as what we are working toward (our outcomes).

The City has built plans that are targeted at achieving these outcomes while maintaining our commitments. The plans are centered on progress indicators, which are specific measures that will show if our work is making a difference by moving the needle in a positive direction. By considering our commitments when creating the progress indicators, we looked at how we would accomplish each outcome.

For each progress indicator, the City set a target for what would indicate success in that area and developed strategies for achieving those targets.

These strategies are the guiding force for the work the City will be doing in the coming years. They will guide future budgets, hiring choices and more City-wide decisions to ensure we have the resources available to bring our vision for Lawrence to life.

The following pages of this document go into detail on the progress indicators and strategies for each outcome area.





UNMISTAKABLE IDENTITY



UI: UNMISTAKABLE IDENTITY

PROGRESS INDICATORS

Community Engagement

UI-1: Percent of residents who are satisfied or very satisfied with the Parks & Recreation system

UI-2: Percent of residents who are satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of arts, diverse culture and events

Efficient and Effective Processes

UI-3: Number of people who have visited or utilized a City park/trail, City recreation facility, City recreation program, Theatre Lawrence, Watkins Museum of History, Lawrence Arts Center, the eXplore Lawrence Tourism Center and/or Lawrence Public Library

UI-4: Percent of residents who have attended an event in the past year

Equity and Inclusion

UI-5: Percent of black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) residents rating the community as welcoming

UI-6: Percent of residents who believe their culture is celebrated in the community (i.e. festivals, parades, events, etc.)

UI-7: Percent of scholarship need that is met for recreation programs

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

UI-8: Net City cost per visitor attending each event

UI-9: Percent of Parks & Recreation programming that is meeting the cost recovery target

UI-10: Retail sales in Downtown Lawrence

Engaged and Empowered Teams

UI-11: Employee Engagement Index for Parks & Recreation

Environmental Sustainability

UI-12: Acres of park green space per resident

UI-13: Number of events that celebrate and enhance area environmental sustainability

UI-14: Number of trees planted, removed and maintained to create a healthy tree canopy

STRATEGIES

Community Engagement

STRATEGY: Market Lawrence as a destination for parks and recreation as well as community and cultural events.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-1, UI-2

STRATEGY: Enhance parks, park amenities and recreational opportunities to meet the needs of a growing city.

PROGRESS INDICATOR: UI-1

STRATEGY: Invest in green infrastructure to provide attractive entrances to the City, a sustainable urban forest and an inviting downtown business district.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-1, UI-14

Efficient and Effective Processes

STRATEGY: Strengthen the network linking cultural organizations and events to increase resident awareness and participation in cultural opportunities.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-3, UI-4

Equity and Inclusion

STRATEGY: Develop and support initiatives that engage underserved and under-represented communities.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-5, UI-6, UI-7

STRATEGY: Provide accessible, diverse and inclusive parks and recreation programs and amenities for all ages and abilities, with a specific focus on historically marginalized communities.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-5, UI-6, UI-7

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

STRATEGY: Establish a system to evaluate the impact of cultural activities on community engagement and inclusion.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-8, UI-9, UI-10

STRATEGY: Ensure cost recovery targets meet the goals set in the cost recovery pyramid, and that they allow individuals at all income levels to have access to recreational services provided by the City.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-9



Did you know the Lawrence Busker Festival is the longest-running street performer festival in the United States? It's also currently the largest attended busker festival nationwide.



Keeping Lawrence green! The City of Lawrence has more than 4,000 acres of parks, and our parks and recreation department plants 700-800 new trees every year.

STRATEGY: Strengthen the perception of downtown as a destination for retail shopping, dining, unique character, atmosphere, culture, art, parks and events.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-10

Engaged and Empowered Teams

The Engaged and Empowered Teams progress indicator for this outcome (UI-11) is addressed in the City-Wide strategies (page 37).

Environmental Sustainability

STRATEGY: Acquire, identify and develop park properties to assure adequate open space and recreational opportunities are available in all areas of the City.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-12

STRATEGY: Increase educational classes, public events and celebrations that emphasize preservation of the environment.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-13

STRATEGY: Manage natural resources in the community to assure trees are planted and maintained in accordance with the Street Tree Program.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: UI-14



In 2019, TripAdvisor named Downtown Lawrence as the #1 tourist destination in Kansas!

At one electronics recycling event hosted by the Lawrence-Douglas County Sustainability Office, they collected nearly 80,000 pounds of electronics!

For more than 40 years, Lawrence has earned the designation of being a Tree City USA.



STRONG, WELCOMING NEIGHBORHOODS



PROGRESS INDICATORS

Community Engagement

SWN-1: Percent of residents who perceive the City as a good or very good place to live

Efficient and Effective Processes

There are no Efficient and Effective Processes progress indicators for this outcome.

Equity and Inclusion

SWN-2: Percent of residential units within a half mile of City green space

SWN-3: Percent of residential units within a half mile of a walking/biking trail

SWN-4: Percent of residential units within a half mile of a school or library

SWN-5: Percent of households that are experiencing housing stress (spending more than 30% of their income on housing)

SWN-6: Point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

SWN-7: Affordable Housing Sales Tax dollars invested divided by unit investments

SWN-8: Infrastructure cost per new residential unit

SWN-9: Cost per capita of solid waste collected

Engaged and Empowered Teams

SWN-10: Employee Engagement Index for Planning & Development Services

SWN-11: Employee Engagement Index for Solid Waste

Environmental Sustainability

SWN-12: Acres per resident of public land used for environmentally sustainable uses (food production, native landscaping, monarch waystations, green infrastructure, etc.)

SWN-13: Connectivity of healthy food providers by transit, bike routes or sidewalks

SWN-14: Percent of residential, commercial and industrial units (all construction) above or at energy code

STRATEGIES

Community Engagement

STRATEGY: Improve the relationship of the Planning & Development Services department and the community at-large.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-1, SWN-10

Efficient and Effective Processes

There are no Efficient and Effective Processes strategies for this outcome.

Equity and Inclusion

STRATEGY: Ensure equitable access and continue to improve parks, recreation opportunities, open spaces and trails within the community.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-2, SWN-3

STRATEGY: Identify new and unused residential zoning areas for new housing units within one-half mile of schools or libraries.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-4

STRATEGY: Create more ownership options for low- and moderate-income renters who want to become owners by increasing the supply of affordable housing options.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-5

STRATEGY: Create lasting solutions to connect people to housing to make homelessness a rare, brief and one-time experience.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-6

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

STRATEGY: Increase affordable housing opportunities by investing in underutilized properties, developing innovative partnerships and identifying additional funding sources.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-7

STRATEGY: Review and improve subdivision regulations and encourage larger developments to foster greater economies of scale.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-8

STRATEGY: Review and benchmark solid waste routes and service levels to improve system efficiencies.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-9



There are more than **85 MILES** of trails for walkers, runners, bicycle riders and more to use throughout Lawrence.



From 2013 to 2018, the number of housing units in Lawrence grew by **7%**.



Split down the middle! According to 2019 Census data, **55.1%** of homes in Lawrence are rentals and **44.9%** are owner-occupied.

Engaged and Empowered Teams

The Engaged and Empowered Teams progress indicators for this outcome (SWN-10 and SWN-11) are addressed in the City-Wide strategies (page 37).

Environmental Sustainability

STRATEGY: Use public land following available best practices for food production, urban forestry, native landscaping and pollinator habitats.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-12

STRATEGY: Integrate green infrastructure best practices into public projects.

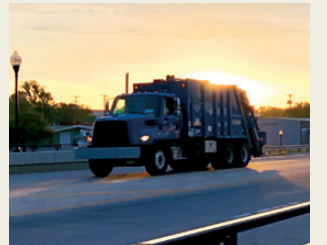
PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-12

STRATEGY: Improve multimodal transportation options when traveling to priority destinations.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-13

STRATEGY: Identify energy efficiency opportunities for residential, industrial and commercial buildings.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SWN-14



In addition to residential trash service, the City of Lawrence offers curbside single-stream recycling and yard waste collection.



Through our Common Ground program, the City leases under-utilized properties to residents for free with one rule: Grow food! The program is celebrating its 10th season in 2021!

DEFINITION: Multimodal transportation describes all types or modes of transportation, including walking/wheeling, bicycling, driving or riding the bus.



SAFE AND SECURE



SaS: SAFE AND SECURE

PROGRESS INDICATORS

Community Engagement

SaS-1: Percent of residents who perceive Lawrence as safe or very safe

Efficient and Effective Processes

SaS-2: Part 1 crimes per 1,000 residents

SaS-3: Percent of fires contained to their room of origin

SaS-4: Percent of cardiac arrest patients with pulsatile rhythms upon arrival to a hospital

SaS-5: Number of responses to a mental health crisis per 1,000 residents

Equity and Inclusion

SaS-6: Variance of satisfaction with perceptions of safety by race, gender, education and income

SaS-7: Number of Child Protective Services reported incidents to the Kansas Department for Children and Families for Douglas County per 1,000 residents

SaS-8: Percent of residents rating trust in emergency services departments as satisfied or very satisfied

SaS-9: Sexual and domestic violence per 1,000 residents

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

SaS-10: Expenditure per 1,000 residents for Police and Fire/Emergency Medical Services

Engaged and Empowered Teams

SaS-11: Employee Engagement Index for Police

SaS-12: Employee Engagement Index for Fire Medical

SaS-13: Percent of Law Enforcement Officers meeting or exceeding 80 hours of annual training

SaS-14: Percent of Firefighters meeting or exceeding 228 hours of firefighter training

Environmental Sustainability

There are no Environmental Sustainability progress indicators for this outcome.

STRATEGIES

Community Engagement

STRATEGY: Use community empowerment and education to eliminate, reduce and respond to events, trends and activities that pose the greatest threat to safety and security.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-2, SaS-3, SaS-4, SaS-9

STRATEGY: Enhance partnerships and programs community-wide to protect and enhance public health, including physical, behavioral and mental health.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-2, SaS-5

STRATEGY: Provide community education and engagement on support services before, during and after traumatic events.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-1, SaS-8

STRATEGY: Enhance our partnerships with community organizations and governmental agencies to 1) reduce instances of sexual and domestic violence incidents and 2) respond to and assist victims through their recovery.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-2, SaS-9

Efficient and Effective Processes

STRATEGY: Promote prevention information and provide rapid and skilled emergency response to control the spread of fire.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-3, SaS-13, SaS-14

STRATEGY: Provide rapid and skilled emergency response to cardiac arrest events.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-4, SaS-13, SaS-14

STRATEGY: Provide rapid, skilled and appropriate response to Part 1 offenses, domestic violence and other serious, time-critical incidents.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-5, SaS-9, SaS-13, SaS-14

Equity and Inclusion

STRATEGY: Establish a baseline, identify gaps and develop activities to improve health impacts to all marginalized identities within the community. Prepare and provide community-based education and solutions based upon the gathered data.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-6, SaS-7, SaS-9

The smartphone app MyStrength is available for free to all Douglas County residents. This 24/7 resource offers a variety of programs, including mindfulness and meditation, improving sleep, reducing stress, controlling anxiety, managing depression, balancing intense emotions, facing racism and discrimination, and more.



Over the past three years, Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical has responded to an average of 44.33 structure fires annually in the City of Lawrence and 215.67 cardiac arrests annually in Lawrence and Douglas County.

STRATEGY: Enhance or establish partnerships and collaboration with existing community organizations, governmental agencies, healthcare providers and schools with a focus on increasing awareness of and access to resources that will impact trends and reduce repeated incidents.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-5, SaS-6, SaS-7, SaS-9

STRATEGY: Train and equip personnel to effectively respond to and support the investigation of incidents involving a child in need of care (CINC) or other incidents falling under the jurisdiction of the Kansas Department for Children and Families.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-7, SaS-9, SaS-13

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

STRATEGY: Develop a strong, reliable and integrated system of volunteer and community resources.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-8, SaS-10

STRATEGY: Reduce redundancy with other safety agencies, City departments and community resources.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-10

STRATEGY: Maximize use of civilian capabilities to make deployment of specialized and highly technical personnel more efficient.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-8, SaS-10, SaS-11, SaS-12

Engaged and Empowered Teams

STRATEGY: Train and equip personnel to skillfully support mental, behavioral, and physical well-being of community members.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-5, SaS-13, SaS-14

STRATEGY: Train and equip personnel to effectively respond to and investigate incidents related to Part I offenses.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-2, SaS-9, SaS-11, SaS-12, SaS-13

STRATEGY: Train and equip personnel to effectively respond to and investigate incidents involving sexual and domestic violence.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-2, SaS-9, SaS-11, SaS-12, SaS-13

Environmental Sustainability

STRATEGY: Evaluate public safety processes for opportunities to enhance environmental management practices.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: SaS-1, SaS-8, SaS-10



In 2020, Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical provided 56,239 hours of department training.



In 2020, the Lawrence Kansas Police Department moved into their facility at 5100 Overland Drive.



PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC SECURITY



PROGRESS INDICATORS

Community Engagement

PES-1: Percent of businesses rating Lawrence as a good or excellent place to do business

PES-2: Percent of residents rating Lawrence as a good or excellent place to work

Efficient and Effective Processes

PES-3: Target industry employment growth (target industries: creative and professional services; research and biomedical; computers, electronics and information technology; advanced materials and green manufacturing)

PES-4: Average calendar days from application to issuance for development permits for commercial development

Equity and Inclusion

PES-5: Women/minority business ownership rate

PES-6: Variance of median income by race

PES-7: Area median income

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

PES-8: Five-year rolling average of the total commercial building permit value

PES-9: Percent of private dollars leveraged to City dollars

Engaged and Empowered Teams

There are no Engaged and Empowered Teams progress indicators for this outcome.

Environmental Sustainability

PES-10: Percent of development that is infill

STRATEGIES

Community Engagement

STRATEGY: Establish Lawrence as the most business friendly community in the region.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-1, PES-4

STRATEGY: Make existing businesses a priority, providing robust support for business retention and expansion.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-1

STRATEGY: Provide resources and support for small and medium-sized businesses to grow and expand.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-1, PES-3, PES-5

STRATEGY: Create programs that recover, sustain and grow the arts and entertainment community.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-1, PES-2, PES-6

STRATEGY: Enhance childcare options at all price levels.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-2

STRATEGY: Increase and focus resources to generate entrepreneurial and tech-related company growth.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-2, PES-3, PES-7

Efficient and Effective Processes

STRATEGY: Enhance and streamline permitting processes and development codes.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-4

Equity and Inclusion

STRATEGY: Ensure greater economic opportunities amongst historically marginalized populations, communities and businesses.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-5, PES-6, PES-7



In a 2020 community survey, **57%** of respondents said they would consider Lawrence a business-friendly community while **43%** said they would not.

There are **seven** self-employed workers for every **100** residents in Lawrence.



According to a 2017 study, the arts and culture industry created more than **\$30,760,000** in total spending in Lawrence, which accounted for more than **1,000** full-time jobs and **\$1,255,000** in local government revenue.

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

STRATEGY: Attract private development partners based on community plan objectives and goals.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-3, PES-8, PES-9

STRATEGY: Create new incentives that are targeted at businesses and industries that provide pathways to economic success for the employees, the company and the community.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-1, PES-2, PES-3, PES-5, PES-9

Engaged and Empowered Teams

There are no Engaged and Empowered Teams strategies for this outcome.

Environmental Sustainability

STRATEGY: Utilize infill development to enhance the local food system and related businesses.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-10

STRATEGY: Establish sustainability initiatives for infill development and explore related research and technology partnerships, including smart investments.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: PES-10



Currently being constructed in Lawrence, the Pretzels Inc. plant at 23rd & O'Connell is the **third largest** economic development project underway in Kansas in 2021. The project has **\$88 million** in total investment.

DEFINITION: Infill Developments is the process of developing vacant or under-used parcels within existing urban areas that are already largely developed.



CONNECTED CITY



CC: CONNECTED CITY

PROGRESS INDICATORS

Community Engagement

CC-1: Percent of residents satisfied or very satisfied with the condition of major city streets

CC-2: Percent of residents satisfied or very satisfied with their transportation experiences (driving, walking/wheeling, biking, riding the bus, etc.)

Efficient and Effective Processes

CC-3: Months per year the City is in compliance with minimum water and wastewater discharge standards

CC-4: Percent of goals met for reliability of water, wastewater, transit, fleet, traffic signals, information technology systems, the Pavement Condition Index and the Fire Medical and Police departments

Equity and Inclusion

CC-5: Percent of sidewalks and shared use paths in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and deflection minimum standards

CC-6: Percent of residential units in the Environmental Justice Zone within a quarter mile of a transit stop or on-demand transit zone

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

CC-7: Cost per gallon of clean and wastewater treated

CC-8: Cost per lane mile (including street maintenance and reconstruction costs)

CC-9: Cost per passenger trip on Lawrence Transit

Engaged and Empowered Teams

CC-10: Employee Engagement Index for Municipal Services & Operations (except Solid Waste)

Environmental Sustainability

CC-11: Percent of trips not taken in automobile (driven-alone)

CC-12: Percent of City-used energy (electric, natural gas, fuel) that is renewable

CC-13: Miles of trails

CC-14: Number of public infrastructure projects that account for climate adaptation

STRATEGIES

Community Engagement

STRATEGY: Invest in multimodal infrastructure and services to improve mobility, safety and connectivity.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-1, CC-2, CC-5, CC-6, CC-13, SWN-3, SWN-13

Efficient and Effective Processes

STRATEGY: Enhance the City’s performance management system to track accountability, improve transparency and streamline operations.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-3, CC-4, CC-7, CC-8

STRATEGY: Prioritize and enhance timely, accurate, reliable, accessible and transparent information, processes and services to ensure a Connected City.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-2, CC-4,

STRATEGY: Establish a technology strategy and support connectivity through interdepartmental and external stakeholder collaboration.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-4, CC-12

Equity and Inclusion

STRATEGY: Update and implement the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan to reduce barriers to access.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-5

STRATEGY: Improve multimodal connectivity with an emphasis on pedestrian and bicycle demand and transportation for disadvantaged populations.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-2, CC-5, CC-6, CC-13



Lawrence Transit and the University of Kansas have nearly 400 bus stops throughout the City and university campus.



Once completed, the Lawrence Loop will be a continuous 22-mile loop encircling the City of Lawrence. Currently, just under 18 miles are completed.

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

STRATEGY: Institute an asset management framework to achieve the desired level of service expectations for infrastructure and services.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-4, CC-7, CC-8

STRATEGY: Follow the implementation schedule for infrastructure improvements identified in the City’s Integrated Plan to achieve clean water and human health goals while addressing aging infrastructure, climate change and competing priorities for funding.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-3, CC-4, CC-7, CC-14

STRATEGY: Maximize ridership through Lawrence Transit route redesign and improved access, comfort and convenience for all riders.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-2, CC-6, CC-9, CC-11

Engaged and Empowered Teams

The Engaged and Empowered Teams progress indicator for this outcome (CC-10) is addressed in the City-Wide strategies (page 37).

Environmental Sustainability

STRATEGY: Reduce energy consumption by the City of Lawrence.

PROGRESS INDICATOR: CC-12

STRATEGY: Utilize a green rating system for infrastructure projects.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-14

STRATEGY: Enhance transportation options and choices to minimize adverse social, economic and environmental impacts created by transportation.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-2, CC-11, CC-13

STRATEGY: Establish land use policies and codes that minimize the need to walk or bike more than 15 minutes for basic needs such as groceries, medicine, general merchandise, schools and transit.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CC-2, CC-6, CC-11, CC-13

Did you know: An average of **two million** gallons of water go through the Wakarusa Wastewater Treatment Plant every day!



Approximately **3.6%** of Lawrence residents use public transportation to get to work.

In March 2020, the City Commission set a goal of the City using **100%** clean, renewable energy by 2035.



CITY-WIDE

These City-Wide progress indicators and strategies are designed to generate progress throughout the entire organization and all outcome areas (rather than addressing a specific outcome).



CW: CITY WIDE

PROGRESS INDICATORS

Community Engagement

CW-1: Percent of residents who are satisfied or very satisfied with the access, availability and timeliness of information

CW-2: Of residents who have engaged with a City department in the past year, the percent who were satisfied with the overall quality of service provided

CW-3: Percent of City projects that follow the community engagement plan

Efficient and Effective Processes

CW-4: Number of processes that are evaluated and improved every year

Equity and Inclusion

CW-5: Overall Municipal Equality Index score

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

There are no City-Wide Sound Fiscal Stewardship progress indicators.

Engaged and Empowered Teams

CW-6: Overall Employee Engagement Index

CW-7: Employee Engagement Index for internal service departments

CW-8: Percent of employees who are satisfied with their jobs

Environmental Sustainability

There are no City-Wide Environmental Sustainability progress indicators.

STRATEGIES

Community Engagement

STRATEGY: Create and implement a City-Wide community engagement plan.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-1, CW-2, CW-3

STRATEGY: Implement a City-Wide customer relations management software system.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-2

Efficient and Effective Processes

STRATEGY: Develop and implement performance improvement capacity to enhance processes and reduce frustration.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-4

Equity and Inclusion

STRATEGY: Improve diversity-focused hiring, recruitment, promotion and outreach efforts so that the City workforce reflects the community we serve.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-5, CW-6

STRATEGY: Utilize the Human Rights Campaign Municipal Equality Index (MEI) scorecard as guidance to advance equity.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-5

STRATEGY: Identify and implement best practices for advancing diversity, equity and inclusion throughout City government and with external stakeholders.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-5

Sound Fiscal Stewardship

There are no City-Wide Sound Fiscal Stewardship strategies.



The City of Lawrence has adopted IAP2—International Association of Public Participation—standards for community engagement. This means our engagement efforts are goal-driven, values-based and decision-oriented.



The City of Lawrence was designated an “All-Star City” in the Human Rights Campaign’s 2020 Municipal Equality Index for earning a score of 98 out of 100. The index assesses each city on criteria covering city-wide non-discrimination protections, policies for municipal employees, city services, law enforcement and city leadership’s relationship on LGBTQ equality.

Engaged and Empowered Teams

STRATEGY: Develop, refine and promote activities related to employee career development and succession planning.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-6, CW-7, CW-8, UI-11, SWN-10, SWN-11, SaS-11, SaS-12, CC-10

STRATEGY: Provide safe environments and programs that promote and encourage the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of City employees.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-6, CW-7, CW-8, UI-11, SWN-10, SWN-11, SaS-11, SaS-12, CC-10

STRATEGY: Compensate and reward employees so they can focus on complex and long-term outcomes that serve our community.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-6, CW-7, CW-8, UI-11, SWN-10, SWN-11, SaS-11, SaS-12, CC-10

STRATEGY: Build trust throughout all levels of the organization by encouraging feedback and creating open, two-way communication.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-6, CW-7, CW-8, UI-11, SWN-10, SWN-11, SaS-11, SaS-12, CC-10

STRATEGY: Recognize our successes through open appreciation.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-6, CW-7, CW-8, UI-11, SWN-10, SWN-11, SaS-11, SaS-12, CC-10

STRATEGY: Create a welcoming environment with space for autonomy, innovation and continuous improvement where all members of the organization can discover their purpose.

PROGRESS INDICATORS: CW-6, CW-7, CW-8, UI-11, SWN-10, SWN-11, SaS-11, SaS-12, CC-10

Environmental Sustainability

There are no City-Wide Environmental Sustainability strategies.

UI: UNMISTAKABLE IDENTITY

SWN: STRONG, WELCOMING NEIGHBORHOODS

SaS: SAFE AND SECURE

PES: PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

CC: CONNECTED CITY

CW: CITY WIDE



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The City of Lawrence strategic plan reflects our community, and it would not have been possible without the support of community organizations and residents who took the time to tell us what they envisioned for our future. Our thanks are given to the following organizations; some allowed us to host facilitated discussions with their organization, some allowed us to table at heavily trafficked areas, and some displayed our flyer for the public. All of these efforts made a difference. Thank you.

1900 Barker Bakery
Aimee's Coffee House
Amyx Barber Shop
Arts Roundtable
Bioscience & Technology Business Center Board and Staff
Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence
Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
Centennial Neighborhood Association
City of Lawrence Employee Relation Council
City of Lawrence Staff
Dan's Barber Shop
DARE (drop in and rest) Center Guests and Volunteers
Downtown Lawrence, Inc.
East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
eXplore Lawrence Board
Family Promise
First Baptist Church
First United Methodist Men's Meeting
Free State High School students
Fuzzy's Taco Shop
Gould Evans
Haskell Indian Nations University
Islamic Center of Lawrence
Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club
J&S Coffee
Kansas Women's Environmental Network
Kansas Works Job Center
Kiwanis Club
Lawrence Area Neighborhoods
Lawrence Arts Center Board of Directors and Staff
Lawrence Board of Realtors
Lawrence Breakfast Optimist Club
Lawrence Central Rotary
Lawrence Chamber of Commerce
Lawrence College and Career Center
Lawrence Community Shelter Guests and Staff

Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission
Lawrence Ecological Teams United in Sustainability
Lawrence Homebuilders
Lawrence Interfaith Alliance
Lawrence Landlords Coalition
Lawrence Lions Club
Lawrence Public Library
Lawrence Public Schools
Lawrence Rotary Club
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
(Lawrence Chapter)
Nerd Nite
New Generation Society
Pet World
Phoenix Gallery
Plymouth Congregational Church
Senior Resource Center
S&S Coffee
Sierra Club
Signs of Life
Sunrise Project
Sustainability Action Network
The Merc
The Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center
United Way
University of Kansas
University of Kansas School of Architecture & Design
University of Kansas School of the Arts
University of Kansas School of Engineering
University of Kansas School of Public Affairs and Administration
University of Kansas Student Housing Association
USD 497 Student Advisory Group
Willow Domestic Violence Center
Wonder Fair
Z's Divine Espresso

Special thanks to the members of Team Lawrence who contributed to this plan, including our City Commissioners and City staff who shared their time and energy throughout its creation. Additionally, the City formed a *Lawrence Listens Team* that consisted of City employees trained to facilitate community meetings and collect feedback for the strategic plan. The *Lawrence Listens Team* included:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Aliza Bidinger | Katherine Weik |
| Amber Rhoden | Keenan Hamilton |
| Amy Chavez | Kevin Fussell |
| Andrea Repinsky | Kevyn Gero |
| Angela Johnson | Kyle Kobe |
| Amy Rhodes | Leah Morris |
| Bobbie Walthall | Lori Ridenour |
| Bradly Karr | Lucas Mortensen |
| Brandon McGuire | Maureen Brady |
| Brandon Thorngate | McKenzi Ezell |
| Britt Crum-Cano | Melinda Harger |
| Casey Toomay | Meredith Falkenstien |
| Chris Owens | Michelle Ferguson |
| Courtney Shanks | Patrick S. Compton |
| Craig Owens | Penny Holler |
| Danielle Buschkoetter | Porter Arneill |
| Diane Stoddard | Rachel Palmer-Reeb |
| Evan Korynta | Rebecca Campbell |
| Frank Demby | Rebecca Coffman |
| Gabriel Chavez | Roger Steinbrock |
| Jasmin Moore | Sarah Graves |
| Jay Lovett | Sherri Riedemann |
| Jenny O'Brien | Steven Hallstrom |
| Joseph Hardy | Thomas Fagan |
| Josephine Gonzalez | Trevor Flynn |
| Josh Carson | Tyler Tuckness |
| Josh Toevs | |



Photo credit
Thanks and acknowledgment to Drone Lawrence, Jeff Burkhead and Hunter Young for the contribution of some of the photos included in this document.



City of Lawrence

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Increase Affordable Housing Stock	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$450,000 HOME: \$817,042	Rental units constructed: 5 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 17 Household Housing Unit
2	Maintain current affordable housing stock	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$1,250,000 HOME: \$0	Rental units rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 75 Household Housing Unit
3	Provide homebuyer assistance	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$100,000 HOME: \$200,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 15 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Public facility improvements	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing Emergency Shelter and homeless services Public Infrastructure	CDBG: \$856,444 HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25000 Persons Assisted
5	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$1,290,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 100 Households Assisted
6	Delivery of public services	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing Systems Emergency Shelter and homeless services	CDBG: \$532,255 HOME: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 175 Persons Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 220 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 325 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Administration	2023	2027	Administration	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing Systems Emergency Shelter and homeless services Public Infrastructure	CDBG: \$709,674 HOME: \$253,004	Other: 1 Other
8	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Public Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City of Lawrence	Equity and Inclusion Affordable Housing Supportive Housing	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Other: 1 Other



Affordable Housing Advisory Board 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

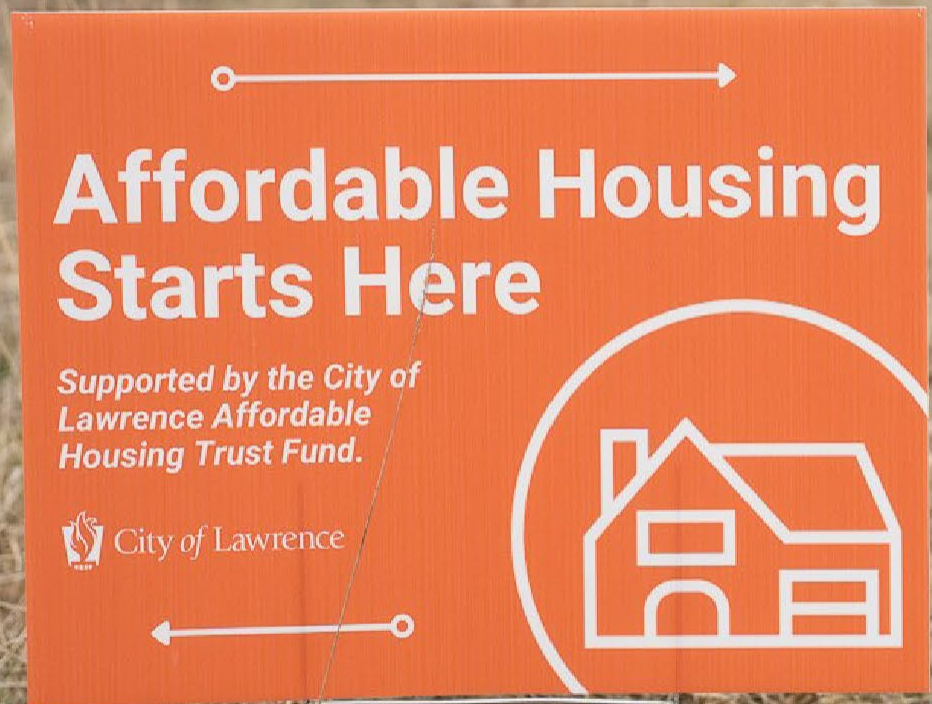


TABLE OF CONTENTS

2023 AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD	3
SUMMARY OF 2023 BOARD ACTIVITIES	5
2023 AHAB Elections and Appointments	5
2023 Affordable Housing Trust Fund Awards	6
HOME Awards	7
Annual Retreat	8
2023 Committee Work	9
2023 Affordable Housing Trust Funds Marketing	12
GOALS, 2019-2023	13
2023 FUNDED PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS	18
Union at the Loop	18
Supportive & Rehabilitative Permanent Housing Project	20
Close to Home Transitional Homes	21
Housing Stabilization Collaborative (HSC)	22
New Hampshire St. Lofts	23
Accessible Housing Program	23
Accessible Safe Housing for Seniors	25
Wheatland Estates of Lawrence	25
FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS	27
ACRONYMS	28



2023 AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

Mark Buhler,
Chamber of
Commerce Rep

Phil Englehart,
City at Large Rep

Christina Gentry,
Lived Experience Rep.

Edith Guffey,
City at Large Rep
AHAB Vice-Chair,
Jan-June, 2023

Thomas Howe,
Board of Realtors Rep

Dana Ortiz,
Lawrence Family
Promise Rep

Shannon Oury,
Lawrence Douglas
County Housing
Authority Rep

Monte Soukup,
Justice Matters Rep,
AHAB Chair

Nicholas Ward,
**Tenants to
Homeowners
Rep**

Sarah Waters,
KU Rep,
AHAB Vice-Chair July-
December 2023

Karen Willey,
Douglas County Rep

Erika Zimmerman,
Lawrence Habitat
for Humanity Rep

Staff Liaison: Lea Roselyn, Affordable Housing Administrator

Housing Initiatives Division AHAB Staff team:

- Jeff Crick, Director, Planning and Development Services
- Brad Karr, Community Development Analyst
- Danelle Walters, Community Development Manager



ABOUT THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

Mission

The mission of the Affordable Housing Advisory Board is to make recommendations to the City Commission on ways everyone in Lawrence has access to safe, quality, affordable housing and the supportive services necessary to maintain independent living with dignity.

Vision

The AHAB vision is that there are opportunities for affordable housing and supportive services for everyone in Lawrence.

Purpose

The purpose of the Affordable Housing Advisory Board is to advise the Governing Body of the City of Lawrence, Kansas, regarding issues affecting affordable housing and supportive services in the community. The Board is also charged with making recommendations to the Governing Body regarding the expenditure of money from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, in order to support the acquisition, rehabilitation, and development of affordable housing and supportive services in the community, and regarding the cultivation and maintenance of steady and various streams of income to fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Annual Report Background

Pursuant to [Chapter 1, Article 18](#) of the code of the City of Lawrence, KS, the Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB), “shall make annual reports to the Governing Body, no later than March 1 of each year, recounting board activities of the preceding calendar year. Such report shall, at a minimum, disclose all financial transactions involving monies raised and received by the board, including gifts and donations, and all projects which the board recommended and for which the Governing Body approved expenditures of money from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The annual report shall be filed with the City Clerk.” For more information about the Affordable Housing Advisory Board, go to <https://lawrenceks.org/pds/affordable-housing>



SUMMARY OF 2023 BOARD ACTIVITIES

2023 AHAB Elections and Appointments

In February of 2023 the Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB) elected the Board Chair and Vice-Chair. Monte Soukup, Justice Matters AHAB representative, was unanimously reelected as Board Chair. Edith Guffey, member at large, was unanimously reelected as Vice Chair.

In February of 2023 Phil Englehart was appointed to the AHAB to serve a full term as a City at Large rep, and Nicholas Ward was appointed to the AHAB to serve a full term as the Tenants to Homeowners Rep.

In March of 2023 Mark Buhler was appointed to the AHAB to serve a partial term as the Chamber of Commerce rep, and Karen Willey was appointed to the AHAB to serve a full term as the Douglas County Rep.

In June of 2023, Edith Guffey resigned from the Board, and Sarah Waters was unanimously elected as Vice Chair.

In May of 2023, Phil Englehart was elected to serve as the AHAB representative to the City of Lawrence Land Development Code Update steering committee.

At their July 10, 2023 meeting, the AHAB elected Christina Gentry and Erika Zimmerman as Affordable Housing Advisory Board representatives for A Place for Everyone plan Equity and Inclusion workgroup.



2023 Affordable Housing Trust Fund Awards

At their November 14, 2022 meeting, the AHAB provided recommendations for 2023 Affordable Housing Trust Fund grant awards. The AHAB received and reviewed the following nine eligible applications, for \$3,301,000 in funding requests.

2023 Eligible Applications

APPLICANT	PROJECT	REQUESTED
Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center	Supportive & Rehabilitative Permanent Housing Project	\$400,000
DCCCA, Inc	Close to Home Transitional Homes	\$200,000
Flint Hills Holdings Group , LLC	New Hampshire Lofts	\$550,000
The Estates of Lawrence, LP	The Estates of Lawrence	\$760,000
Union at the Loop, LP (The Annex Group)	Union at the Loop	\$750,000
Independence, Inc	Accessible Housing Program	\$50,000
Senior Resource Center for Douglas County	Accessible Safe Housing for Seniors	\$53,000
Douglas County	Housing Stabilization Collaborative	\$500,000
The Willow Domestic Violence Center	Support for Survivors	\$20,000

The AHAB recommended the following awards, which were approved by the City Commission on December 6, 2022:

AGENCY	PROJECT	AWARD
Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center	Supportive & Rehabilitative Permanent Housing Project	\$108,000
DCCCA, Inc	Close to Home Transitional Homes	\$200,000
Flint Hills Holdings Group , LLC	New Hampshire Lofts	\$100,000
Wheatland Estates of Lawrence, LP	The Estates of Lawrence	\$400,000
The Annex Group	Union at the Loop	\$400,000
Independence, Inc	Accessible Housing Program	\$50,000
Senior Resource Center for Douglas County	Accessible Safe Housing for Seniors	\$53,000
Douglas County	Housing Stabilization Collaborative	\$350,000

Total 2023 Affordable Housing Trust Fund Awards: \$1,661,000



HOME Awards

At their April 10, 2023 meeting, the AHAB provided recommendations for 2023 HOME Investment Partnerships awards.

The AHAB received and reviewed the following four applications, for \$525,000 in funding requests:

APPLICANT	PROJECT	REQUEST
Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority	Homeless Transitional Housing Program	\$300,000
Lawrence Habitat for Humanity	New construction of two homes	\$50,000
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.	CHDO Set-Aside Project Funds	\$150,00
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.	CHDO Operating Funds	\$25,000

The AHAB deliberated and made the following recommendations for funding, which were awarded by the City Commission in June 2023:

APPLICANT	PROJECT	AWARD
Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority	Homeless Transitional Housing Program	\$290,000
Lawrence Habitat for Humanity	New construction of two homes	\$50,000
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.	CHDO Set-Aside Project Funds	\$142,042
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.	CHDO Operating Funds	\$25,000

Total 2023 HOME Fund Awards: \$507,042



Annual Retreat

On March 7, 2023 the AHAB held a half day retreat. The main objective of the retreat was to set the next 5-year goals (2024-2028) for the Affordable Housing Advisory Board. The retreat was also an opportunity to welcome new members and discuss values and priorities for affordable housing in Lawrence. The retreat was facilitated by Christina Holt, Assistant Director for KU Center for Community Health and Development.

Agenda items included a facilitated discussion on the first 5-year goals, a review of the 2018 Lawrence Housing Market Analysis, a review of the goals and strategies recommended in the Lawrence Housing Market Analysis and Lawrence Housing Toolkit, and agreement on the updated goals and strategies.



The AHAB maintained the first five goals from the first five years, which includes:

1. Increase the supply of permanently affordable homeownership units
2. Increase the supply of affordable rental units
3. Increase accessibility for persons with disabilities through the rehabilitation and creation of visitable and accessible affordable housing
4. Residents living in housing in poor conditions have improvements made
5. Residents in unstable housing situations have more permanent affordable and supportive housing options

Additionally, the following two new goals were added:

1. Increase community awareness and engagement and partnerships in affordable housing
2. Increase racial equity in housing



2023 Committee Work

In 2023 the AHAB formed several committees to work on special projects and initiatives.

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Committee

Members: Dana Ortiz, Monte Soukup, Sarah Waters

The NOFO committee was tasked by the AHAB with reviewing and recommending modifications to the 2024 Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) NOFO, application, and scoring matrix. The goal was to more closely align City and AHAB strategic goals and priorities with questions and scoring for AHTF awards. The Committee additionally revised and revised NOFO materials for consistency and established greater standardization of scoring for technical questions related to affordable housing projects.

Significant work includes:

- Modifying Project Eligibility to reflect newly added AHAB goals (racial equity and community engagement)
- Revising scoring weight and adding application questions to reflect prioritization of projects that include environmental sustainability, racial equity, accessibility access and universal design, location, distance to amenities, and inclusion of disadvantaged populations.
- Reviewing and incorporating feedback from the Equity and Inclusion workgroup of the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing and Homelessness Stakeholders Group.
- Revising matrix scores to better reflect priorities as determined by the AHAB

Land Development Code Update Subcommittee

Members: Phil Englehart, Christina Gentry, Nicholas Ward, Karen Willey, Erika Zimmerman

The Land Development Code Update Subcommittee was formed to provide an opportunity for the AHAB to provide more specific recommendations towards creating more affordability in market rate residential developments, as well as to



provide recommendations on benefits for subsidized Affordable housing for low-income residents.

The Subcommittee provided written recommendations on Module 1, and as of the date of this publication is forming recommendations for Module 2 and 3. The AHAB approved the Subcommittees recommendations on Module 1 at their July, 2023 meeting. The recommendations may be found at <https://lawrenceks.civicweb.net/document/408685>

Member Phil Englehart serves as the AHAB representative for the Land Development Code Update Steering Committee. More information about the Steering Committee is available online at <https://lawrenceks.civicweb.net/portal/members.aspx?id=77>

Source of Income Nondiscrimination Committee

Members: Christina Gentry

In December of 2020 the AHAB began research and discussions on a local Source of Income Nondiscrimination ordinance, in response to the growing concern of housing vouchers not being accepted as a form of payment to access affordable housing. The AHAB advanced a local source of income nondiscrimination policy through a recommendation to the City of Lawrence Human Relations Commission (HRC). In 2022 the HRC formed a subcommittee to work on developing recommendations for updates of Chapter 10 and Article 13. AHAB member Christina Gentry and staff liaison Lea Roselyn participated as committee members.

On December 13, 2022 the City Commission [considered amending City Code Chapter 10, Article 1, Sections 10-101, 10-102, and 10-111](#), to provide equal opportunity to obtain housing regardless of source of income or status as a survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking or stalking. The Commission also received a presentation on additional policy recommendations from the Human Relations Commission. AHAB member Christina Gentry and AHAB Chair Monte Soukup both provided public comment in support of the amendments.

The City Commission approved the Ordinance amendments to include source of income discrimination protection in February 2023.



A Place for Everyone Plan Workgroups

Affordable Housing Workgroup Members: Dana Ortiz, Shannon Oury, Monte Soukup, Erika Zimmerman

Equity and Inclusion Workgroup Members: Christina Gentry, Erika Zimmerman



Throughout 2023, a joint City of Lawrence and Douglas County Affordable Housing and Homelessness Stakeholder group, which includes community partners and volunteers, developed a plan to end chronic homelessness in Lawrence and Douglas County. The overall goal of plan is to achieve functional zero through policy, system, and environmental changes resulting in all Douglas County residents having access to the fundamental human right of safe, accessible, attainable, and affordable housing, and in which homelessness is a rare and brief occurrence. To reach this goal, we've established five work areas to be addressed: Equity and Inclusion, Affordable Housing, Supportive Housing, Systems and Emergency

Shelter and Services. Workgroups were formed to develop strategies and action steps to meet established goals.

AHAB members participated in the Affordable Housing workgroup as well as the Equity and Inclusion workgroup. Members not only added expertise to these workgroups, but also ensured that strategies were aligned for the overall community plan and the AHAB, so that the work is leveraged and reinforced by the other. The Plan was finalized in January of 2024, and workgroups continue to meet for operationalization and implementation of strategies.

The full plan is available at <https://douglascountyks.org/sites/default/files/2024-01/aplaceforeveryone.pdf>



2023 Affordable Housing Trust Funds Marketing

With the goal of strengthening community awareness about the need for and the progress in developing more affordable housing through Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) support, and in honor of the first five years of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the Affordable Housing Administrator worked with the City of Lawrence Communications and Community Relations team to produce videos showcasing some of the AHTF projects supported in each of the first five-year AHAB goals, and yard signs marking the locations of AHTF supported developments.

We would like to thank Tenants to Homeowners, Lawrence Habitat for Humanity, Independence, Inc., and AHAB member Christina Gentry for their participation in the videos.

The videos may be viewed on YouTube using the following links:

- Five years of our Affordable Housing Trust Fund: <https://youtu.be/7T5EGM0Lyck>
- Tenants to Homeowners – Affordable Rental Housing: <https://youtu.be/fvylo0Q1u7U>
- Lawrence Habitat for Humanity – Affordable Homeownership <https://youtu.be/fCqsBXiF8CM>
- Independence, Inc. – Accessibility Modifications: <https://youtu.be/Tg36DIUEiAg>
- Housing Vouchers and Supportive Services: <https://youtu.be/l4yg108Jlaw>



GOALS, 2019-2023

In 2019, the board established a set of both ongoing and short-term goals, based on the results from the August 2018 [Housing Market Analysis](#). 2023 was the final year of working under the first 5-year goals.

GOAL 1: Increase Affordable Rental Housing

OUTCOME:

Narrow the rental gap for non-student renters earning less than \$25,000 annually.

TARGET:

100 newly affordable rental units total in 5 years, from 2019-2023.

PROGRESS:

- **549** rental units have been funded from 2019-2023 with housing trust funds, with 157 units completed to date.
- **428** new affordable rental units were supported by the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in 2023.

GOAL 2: Increase Affordable Homeownership Housing

OUTCOME:

Low- and moderate-income renters who want to become owners have more options for purchasing affordable units.

TARGET:

100 more units are affordable to low- and moderate-income renters who are qualified to become owners.



PROGRESS:

- **19** new construction ownership units have been funded from 2019-2023 with housing trust funds, with 11 units completed and sold to date.
- No new affordable ownership units were supported by the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in 2023. However, the City of Lawrence used Capital Improvement Project funds in 2023 to purchase the Holcom property for the Community Land Trust. That development is anticipated to produce an additional 40 units of mixed rental and homeownership units.

GOAL 3: Increase Accessibility Modifications of Housing for Low-Income Persons with Disabilities

OUTCOME:

Low- and moderate-income persons with accessibility needs are able to get the improvements they need and/or find visitable and accessible housing.

TARGET:

25 renter households receive accessibility modifications.

PROGRESS:

- **32** units have received home accessibility modifications from 2019-2023 with funding through the affordable housing trust funds.
- **8** units received accessibility modifications with Affordable Housing Trust Funds in 2023.



GOAL 4: Increase Housing Voucher Availability and Utilization

OUTCOME:

Low- and moderate-income residents in unstable housing situations have more permanent affordable and supportive housing options.

TARGET:

45 tenant based rental assistance vouchers available.

PROGRESS:

- **11** household received housing vouchers with Affordable Housing Trust Funds from 2019-2023.
- **1,086** households received rental assistance with Affordable Housing Trust Funds from 2019-2023.
- **798** households received rental assistance with Affordable Housing Trust Funds in 2023.

GOAL 5: Improve and Maintain Quality of Affordable Housing Stock

OUTCOME:

Low- and moderate-income residents living in housing in poor condition have improvements made.

TARGET:

70 units brought into good condition.

PROGRESS:

- **15** homeowner unit improvements have been funded Affordable Housing Trust Funds from 2010-2023, with all completed to date.
- **0** units were rehabbed with Affordable Housing Trust Funds in 2023.



FIRST 5 YEARS PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS

Goal	Target, 2019-2023	Actual, 2019-2023
Increase Affordable Rental Housing	100	549
Increase Affordable Homeownership Housing	100	19
Increase Accessibility Modifications of Housing for Low-Income Persons with Disabilities	25	32
Increase Housing Voucher Availability and Utilization	45	11 vouchers plus 1,075 households provided with rental assistance
Improve and Maintain Quality of Affordable Housing Stock through Rehab	70	15

As shown in the chart above, the AHAB is making excellent progress and over exceeded its goal in increasing affordable rental housing. This goal is significantly leveraged through Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects, which are typically larger scale multifamily developments. The AHAB also over exceeded its goal of providing accessibility modifications, thanks to partners at Independence, Inc, and in 2023, the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County.

Although the AHAB did not reach its target goal for increased voucher utilization, over 1,000 households were able to maintain housing stability through the support of short-term rental and utility assistance, as provided through the Trust Fund. The 2023 ordinance making Source of Income a protected class against housing discrimination is expected to increase voucher utilization.

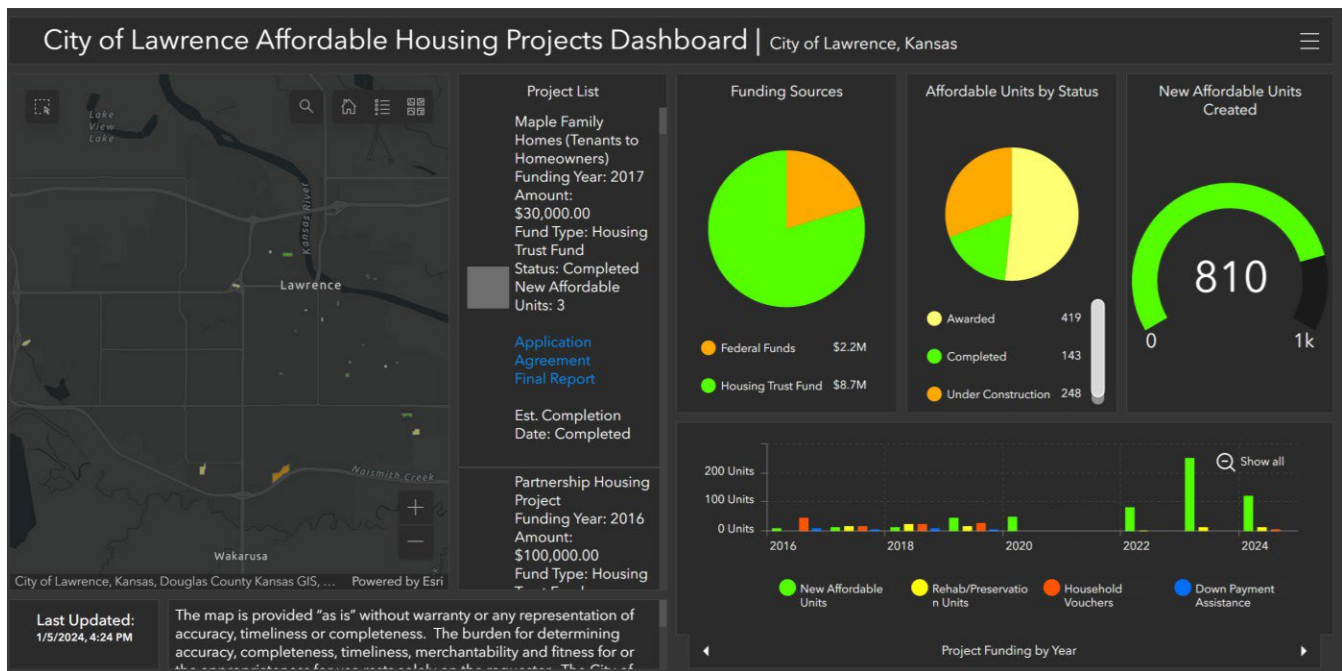
Additional progress is needed towards increasing homeownership units and improvements to existing affordable housing stock.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING DASHBOARD

The [interactive dashboard](#) for affordable housing projects funded by both the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and federal dollars. The dashboard contains a live map and information on funded projects.

Project documents are in the process of being uploaded to the complete the dashboard and staff will continue to add new projects as they are funded.



2023 FUNDED PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Union at the Loop

The Annex Group

2023 Award: \$400,000

Union at the Loop is a 248 multi-family construction development on 27 acres. This new construction features a community room, courtyard, playground, on-site Manager, computer room, surface parking, gated/controlled access, package concierge locker area, a clubhouse with 4,000SQFT and is fully walkable to dining, grocery stores and schools.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

Construction is complete and 127 households have been housed since opening in late 2023. Union at the Loop developed a partner Bert Nash Community Mental Health Clinic's Supportive Housing Team, and is providing office space for the team on site for easy contact between residents and case workers, as well as to provide resources to the residents as needed. In January they formed a partnership with Esusu for positive resident credit reporting and rent relief assistance for anyone experiencing eviction.





Supportive & Rehabilitative Permanent Housing Project

Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center
2023 Award: \$108,000

The Bert Nash SRPH project is a new construction project that will create 24 units of housing permanently dedicated to affordability, and permanent supportive housing. The project will also create office space for the Bert Nash center's community-based supportive services teams.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

AHAB funds have helped the Bert Nash center begin the final phase of project design, and initiate other soft cost services, such as engineering. As of September 2023, the Bert Nash Center has acquired the property on which to build the project and has initiated final design work with CT Design (a local company). This will result in a project site plan submission to the city planning and development office and application for permits to build the project.

The primary obstacle to moving this project forward was acquiring a property on which to build. Bert Nash center and the City of Lawrence received significant community resistance to every previously proposed location for the project, including locations in the downtown area, and locations that would have provided a location for no cost. Project design could not move forward and has been delayed for over 16 months as a result. In September of 2023, Bert Nash was able to purchase a commercial site. The purchase of a project site, in lieu of public resistance to use of donated city land in the downtown area, has also caused a \$1.6 million increase to the project cost. Project funding is therefore the next significant obstacle as market rates for materials and construction have increased the cost, and timelines for possible grant funding have been delayed or prolonged.



Close to Home Transitional Homes

DCCCA, Inc.
2023 Award: \$200,000

DCCCA is building Transitional Housing Units for women in recovery from substance abuse. The homes will house women who have struggled with substance abuse but have newly entered recovery. The ten-unit transitional housing located on DCCCA's First Step at Lake View property in Lawrence is unique from other affordable housing in Douglas County in that it prioritizes individuals in early recovery from substance use, specifically pregnant and parenting women, who need an interim step between formal treatment and living more independently. These units will contribute toward the City of Lawrence's strategic goal of narrowing the rental gap for non-student renters earning less than \$25,000 annually. Providing housing for people with Substance Use Disorder in Lawrence reduce risk for clients returning to homelessness.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

DCCCA has been working with Kinetic Fundraising Counsel to complete a comprehensive pre-campaign study for this project. Evaluating that data and readying the board of directors for a capital campaign has been a 2023 priority. In addition, DCCCA opened the new DCCCA Service Center in east Lawrence in the fall of 2023, which delayed some of the transitional housing infrastructure work. Since that time, DCCCA has established a capital campaign plan and identified committee members to prepare for the fundraising required for this public-private partnership. DCCCA is waiting to receive an updated architectural rendering for the duplex units and expects to have the project bids received by 3/31/24.



Housing Stabilization Collaborative (HSC)

Douglas County

2023 Award: \$350,000

The HSC works to prevent evictions through rental and utility assistance, landlord incentive and damage mitigation efforts, and professional tenant/landlord mediation. The collaborative rent/utility assistance program and other HSC efforts have grown to include a majority of the agencies supporting populations experiencing housing instability in Douglas County. The group works to increase the accessibility of rent and utility assistance, to define and provide effective case management and supportive services, and engage all stakeholders – including landlords, tenants, social service providers, and utility service providers – in building a culture of safe, affordable housing in Douglas County. By providing short-term rental assistance, the HSC ensured that households who are cost-burdened or spending more than 30% of their income stayed in their homes. This data is currently being used to bolster efforts at improving policy and structures of government to better support households struggling to make ends meet. The HSC’s Rent/Utility Assistance Program (HSC-RUAP) works to achieve the City of Lawrence Strategic goals of increasing affordable housing stock and decreasing housing insecurity by intervening in households’ crisis, alleviating that crisis, and ensuring additional supports are provided beyond the financials.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

Utilizing the collective rent/utility assistance application process, the HSC disbursed \$889,809.99 in rent/utility assistance to 798 households from January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023 with an average payment of \$1,115.05 per household. In Lawrence specifically, the HSC disbursed \$812,573.20 to 724 households with an average payment of \$1,122.34. These numbers show both the effectiveness of the program and how vital this resource has been to many community members.



New Hampshire St. Lofts

Flint Hills Holdings Group, LLC
2023 Award: \$100,000

New Hampshire St. Lofts is a mixed-use affordable housing development located in downtown Lawrence, at 1000 New Hampshire St. The building will consist of approximately 15,000 square feet of first floor commercial space and 49 income-averaged affordable housing units on the upper floors for seniors. Amenities will include blinds in each unit, common area space, a rooftop deck, greenspace and BBQ area. All appliances will be energy star rated.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

Flint Hills has submitted building plans and is awaiting city comments. The developer is finalizing construction numbers and accepting bids from contractors. Construction is expected to begin in spring of 2024 and anticipated to be completed in 2024.

Accessible Housing Program

Independence, Inc.
2023 Award: \$50,000

The goal of the Independence, Inc. Accessible Housing Program is to assist low-income seniors and people with disabilities in Lawrence make needed accessibility modifications to their homes. This project helps to achieve the City's affordable housing goals by ensuring that seniors and people with disabilities are able to maintain affordable housing by obtaining the accessibility modifications they need to continue living independently in the community. This program helps to increase the amount of housing stock in Lawrence that is both affordable and accessible. It decreases housing insecurity by ensuring seniors and people with disabilities are able to continue to safely remain in their homes with needed accessibility modifications.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

In 2023, the Independence, Inc. Accessible Housing Program completed 11 projects. These projects included: 2 large wheelchair ramps, 5 accessible showers, low rise steps, grab bars, ADA height toilets, and accessible shower heads. This program impacts the greater community by increasing the availability of affordable housing that is accessible to seniors and people with disabilities. For households with members in need of these modifications, the impact of removing barriers in the home means increased independence and safety. It also means fewer barriers to accessing healthcare, schooling, shopping, support systems, and their community in general.





Accessible Safe Housing for Seniors

Senior Resource Center for Douglas County
2023 Award: \$53,000

This program provides home maintenance and accessibility modifications to low-income seniors to stay safety and affordability housed. The program is available to renters and homeowners in Lawrence.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

The Senior Resource Center (SRC) assisted three seniors with home modifications. One senior did not have water in their home because of a water line which had been out for a very long time. Another one contacted SRC in the dead of a heat wave with a broken HVAC, and she could not be safely in her home without AC at that time. A third one needed a new HVAC and we were able to plan ahead before winter came to ensure her system was in good operation prior to the cold. For all three seniors, there were no other resources we could find who had flexible funds to help with these critical needs.

Wheatland Estates of Lawrence

Wheatland Investments Group, LLC
2023 Award: \$400,000

The Estates of Lawrence is a new construction rental project targeted to seniors. Low Income Housing Tax Credits and National Housing Trust Funds have been approved for this project. The property consists of 16 two bedroom units and 22 three bedroom units.

Progress as of 1.1.24:

Wheatland Estates has begun construction of 38 townhomes and is expected to be completed in 2024.





Wheatland Estates under construction



FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

The table below summarizes the financial transactions of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in 2023.

Beginning Balance		\$ 2,618,334
Revenues		
Sales Tax	\$ 972,977	
Interest on Sales Tax	\$ 38,579	
Miscellaneous	\$ 576,800	
Total Revenues		\$ 1,588,356
Expenses		
Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center	(\$ 108,000)	
DCCCA, Inc.	(\$ 200,000)	
Flint Hills Holdings Group	(\$ 100,000)	
Wheatland Investments	(\$ 400,000)	
The Annex Group	(\$ 400,000)	
Independence, Inc	(\$ 50,000)	
Senior Resource Center for Douglas County	(\$ 53,000)	
Douglas County Housing Stabilization Collaborative	(\$ 350,000)	
Investing Fees/Professional Services	(\$ 3,721)	
Total Expenditures		\$ 1,664,721
Ending Balance (as of 12/30/23)*		\$ 2,541,968

*Fund balance is unaudited



ACRONYMS

AHAB	Affordable Housing Advisory Board
AHTF	Affordable Housing Trust Fund
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan
HOME	HOME Investment Partnerships Program
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
LIHTC	Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program

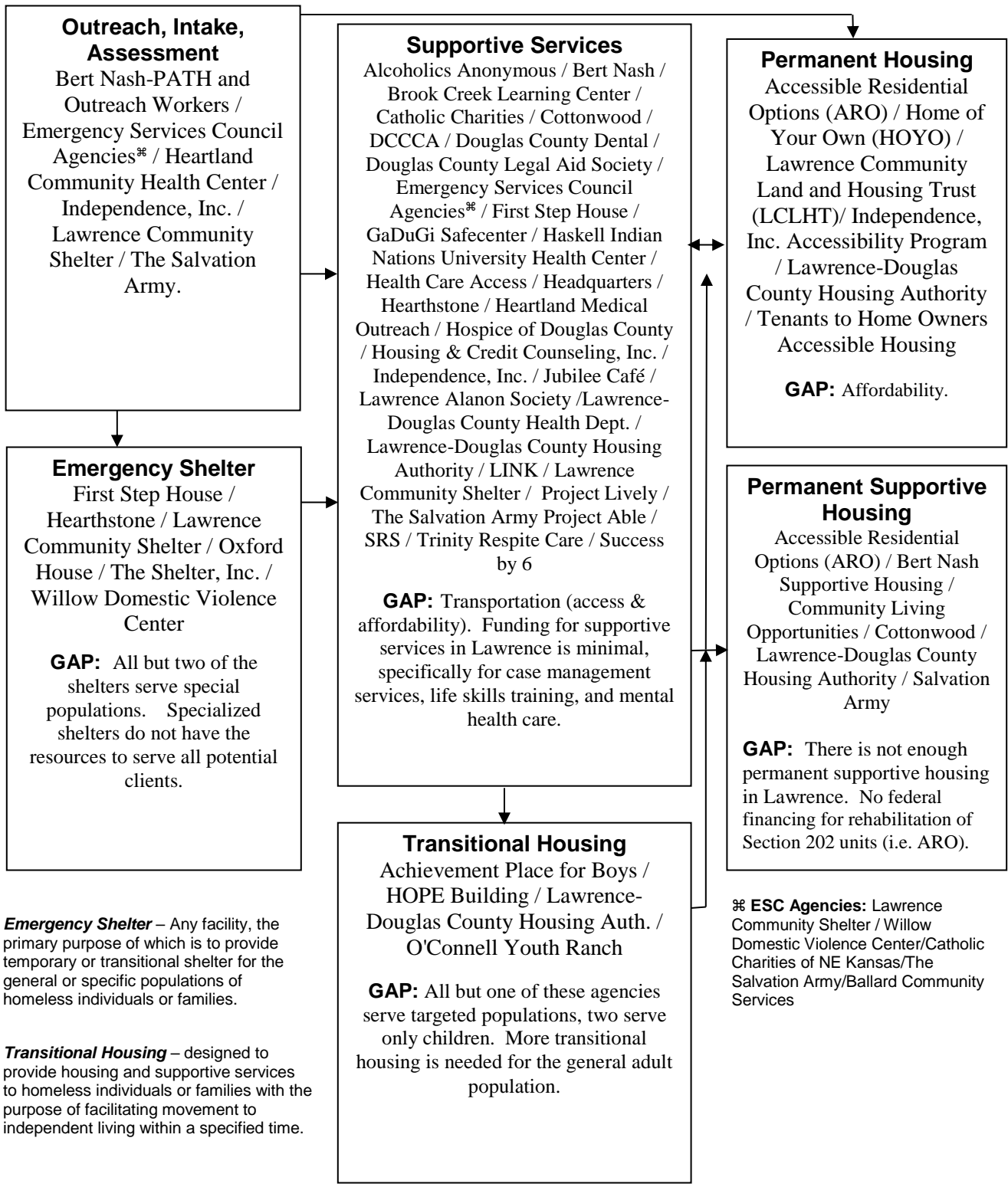


 <p>Homelessness</p>	 <p>Emergency Shelter</p>	 <p>Transitional Housing</p>	 <p>Supportive Housing</p>	 <p>Affordable Rental Housing</p>	 <p>Affordable Homeownership</p>	 <p>Market Rate Housing</p>
<p>Lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence</p> <p>Provided by: City of Lawrence supported camp site</p>	<p>Temporary, short-term housing for individuals experiencing homelessness</p> <p>Provided by: Lawrence Community Shelter (50 beds) Willow Domestic Violence Center Family Promise of Lawrence (15 beds for 4 families) City of Lawrence winter emergency shelter (Seasonal)</p>	<p>Temporary housing assistance that helps individuals transition from homelessness to permanent housing</p> <p>Provided by: Artists Helping the Homeless (8 units) Willow Domestic Violence Shelter Family Promise (8 units) Bert Nash (22 units) Tenants to Homeowners (15 units) Lawrence Douglas-County Housing Authority (65 vouchers)</p>	<p>Affordable housing coupled with supportive services that enable residents to stay healthy and housed</p> <p>Provided by: Bert Nash (2 units) Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (10 units) Tenants to Homeowners (10 units) Family Promise (2 units)</p>	<p>Long-term / permanent housing assistance that uses rental subsidies to make the rent affordable to the tenant</p> <p>Provided by: Tenants to Homeowners (103 units) Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (1,268 vouchers & units) Bethel Estates (90 units) Poehler Lofts (45 units) Penn St. Lofts (47 units) Prairie Ridge Apartments (100 units) 9Del Lofts (34 units)</p>	<p>Homeownership assistance programs providing financial assistance and subsidies to homebuyers</p> <p>Provided by: Tenants to Homeowners (97 units) Lawrence Habitat for Humanity (105 units)</p>	<p>No housing subsidy or assistance</p> <div data-bbox="1780 1214 1982 1419" data-label="Image">  <p>City of Lawrence</p> </div>

Affordable housing is defined as when total housing costs exceed no more than 30% of a household's total income.

City of Lawrence Continuum of Care for Housing and Homelessness 2024

A local adaptation of the HUD model



Emergency Shelter – Any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary or transitional shelter for the general or specific populations of homeless individuals or families.

Transitional Housing – designed to provide housing and supportive services to homeless individuals or families with the purpose of facilitating movement to independent living within a specified time.

⌘ **ESC Agencies:** Lawrence Community Shelter / Willow Domestic Violence Center/Catholic Charities of NE Kansas/The Salvation Army/Ballard Community Services

Revitalized Neighborhoods
Neighborhood Associations, Parks and Recreation, Lawrence Community Garden, Utilities, MSO

Neighborhood Association	CT/BG	% low/mod	LOWMOD	TOTAL
Babcock	3/4	80.80%	1115	1380
Barker	2/4; 10.01/1	39.83%	940	2360
Breedzdale	10.01/2	40.63%	195	480
Briarwood	6.03/1	21.07%	810	3845
Brook Creek	2/1; 2/3; 2/4; 2/5; 2/6	59.06%	2835	4800
Centennial	9.01/1; 10.01/1	52.13%	1040	1995
Congressional Place	16/2	19.79%	1155	5835
The Cottages	6.04/3	17.88%	160	895
Crossgate Court HOA	7.97/3	30.19%	705	2335
Deerfield	6.03/2; 6.04/3; 6.04/4	16.72%	800	4785
Downtown	5.02/3; 2/1; 2/2	61.22%	2115	3455
East Lawrence	2/1; 2/2; 2/3	75.04%	2405	3205
Edgewood Tenants	2/5	75.91%	835	1100
Gateway	6.03/1	21.07%	810	3845
Heatherwood Heights	7.97/2	42.46%	535	1260
Hillcrest	5.02/1; 5.02/2	69.41%	2110	3040
Hills West	8.02/3	60.61%	1585	2615
Indian Hills	9.01/3; 9.01/4; 9.02/1	59.55%	2900	4870
Kennedy	10.02/1	63.90%	1270	2000
Meadows Place	8.02/1	33.40%	895	2680
Monterey	6.03/1; 6.03/2	18.97%	1215	6405
North Lawrence	1/1; 1/2; 1/3	41.10%	1200	2920
North Perry Park	7.02/4	38.93%	730	1875
Old West Lawrence	5.02/3	37.90%	415	1095
Oread Neighborhood Association	3/1; 3/2; 3/3; 3/4	87.65%	4825	5505
Oread Residents Association	3/1; 3/2; 3/3; 3/4	87.65%	4825	5505
Park Hill	10.01/2	40.63%	195	480
Perry Park	7.02/4	38.93%	730	1875
Pinkney	5.01/1; 5.01/2	59.90%	1830	3055
Prairie Meadows	8.02/1; 8.02/3	46.84%	2480	5295
Prairie Park	10.02/1; 10.02/2; 10.02/3	44.37%	2560	5770
Quail Ridge	7.97/1	46.71%	710	1520
Quail Run	16/1; 16/3	18.48%	655	3545
Raintree	5.02/2	61.72%	1040	1685
Scenic Riverway	6.03/1; 6.03/2; 15/1	21.67%	1660	7660
Schwegler	9.01/2	89.66%	1010	1450
South Meadow	10.02/3	45.33%	995	2195
South Siders N 1300 Road	10.02/2	18.73%	295	1575
Southern Parkway	8.02/1; 8.02/3	46.84%	2480	5295
Springwood Heights	8.02/3	60.61%	1585	2615
Stoneback Ridge	8.01/1	43.53%	505	1160
Sunflower	8.01/1	43.53%	505	1160
Sunset Hill	7.02/1; 7.02/2; 7.02/3	64.58%	3090	4785
University Heights	5.02/2	61.72%	1040	1685
University Place	3/4	80.80%	1115	1380
West Hills	5.02/2	61.72%	1040	1685
West Lawrence	6.03/1; 16/2	20.30%	1965	9680
Western Hills	16/1	10.71%	135	1260
Westwood	5.02/2	61.72%	1040	1685
Woodfield HOA	7.97/1	46.71%	710	1520
Woods on 19th	2/4	32.47%	315	970

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program requires that each CDBG funded activity must either principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons, aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight, or meet a community development need having a particular urgency. Most activities funded by the CDBG program are designed to benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons. That benefit may take the form of housing, jobs, and services. Additionally, activities may qualify for CDBG assistance if the activity will benefit all the residents of a primarily residential area where at least 51 percent of the residents are low- and moderate-income persons, i.e. area-benefit (LMA). The Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) provides estimates of the number of persons that can be considered Low-, Low- to Moderate-, and Low-, Moderate-, and Medium-income persons based on special tabulations of data from the 2011-2015 ACS 5-Year Estimates. The Low- and Moderate-income Summary Data may be used by CDBG grantees to determine whether or not a CDBG-funded activity qualifies as an LMA activity. The LMI percentages are calculated at various principal geographies provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. The statistical information used in the calculation of estimates identified in the data sets comes from two sources: 1) the 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS), and 2) the Income Limits for Metropolitan Areas and for Non Metropolitan Counties. The data necessary to determine an LMI percentage for an area is not published in the publicly-available ACS data tables. Therefore, the Bureau of Census matches family size, income, and the income limits in a special tabulation to produce the estimates.

27 of 53 10 of 18

CDBGUOGID	CDBGNAME	STUSAB	CDBGTY	STATE	COUNTY	COUNTYNAME	TRACT	BLKGRP	LOWMOD	LOWMODUNIV	LOWMODPCT	Total by Census Tract	CT/BG	Neighborhood Association
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000100	1	345	775	44.52%		1/1	NLIA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000100	2	560	1415	39.58%		1/2	NLIA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000100	3	295	730	40.41%	41.10%	1/3	NLIA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000200	1	135	345	39.13%		2/1	BCNA, Downtown, ELNA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000200	2	1565	2015	77.67%		2/2	Downtown, ELNA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000200	3	705	845	83.43%		2/3	BCNA, ELNA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000200	4	315	970	32.47%		2/4	Barker, BCNA, Woods on 19th
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000200	5	835	1100	75.91%		2/5	BCNA, Edgewood TA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000200	6	845	1540	54.87%	64.56%	2/6	BCNA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000300	1	1665	1840	90.49%		3/1	ONA, ORA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000300	2	830	910	91.21%		3/2	ONA, ORA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000300	3	1215	1375	88.36%		3/3	ONA, ORA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000300	4	1115	1380	80.80%	87.65%	3/4	Babcock, ONA, University Place, ORA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000400	1	25	40	62.50%		4/1	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000400	2	455	485	93.81%	91.43%	4/2	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000501	1	1080	1615	66.87%		5.01/1	PNA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000501	2	750	1440	52.08%	59.90%	5.01/2	PNA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000502	1	1070	1355	78.97%		5.02/1	Hillcrest
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000502	2	1040	1685	61.72%		5.02/2	Hillcrest, Raintree, University Heights, West Hills, Westwood
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000502	3	415	1095	37.90%	61.06%	5.02/3	Downtown, OWL
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000603	1	810	3845	21.07%		6.03/1	Briarwood, Gateway, Monterey, Scenic Riverway, West Lawrence
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000603	2	405	2560	15.82%	18.37%	6.03/2	Deerfield, Monterey, Scenic Riverway
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000604	1	360	1720	20.93%		6.04/1	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000604	2	650	1050	61.90%		6.04/2	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000604	3	160	895	17.88%		6.04/3	Cottages, Deerfield
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000604	4	235	1330	17.67%	28.13%	6.04/4	Deerfield
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000702	1	1140	1575	72.38%		7.02/1	Sunset Hill
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000702	2	1310	2115	61.94%		7.02/2	Sunset Hill
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000702	3	640	1095	58.45%		7.02/3	Sunset Hill
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000702	4	730	1875	38.93%	57.36%	7.02/4	North Perry Park, Perry Park
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000797	1	710	1520	46.71%		7.97/1	Quail Ridge; Woodfield HOA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000797	2	535	1260	42.46%		7.97/2	Heatherwood Heights
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000797	3	705	2335	30.19%	38.12%	7.97/3	Crossgate Court HOA
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000801	1	505	1160	43.53%		8.01/1	Stoneback Ridge, Sunflower
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000801	2	2925	4850	60.31%	57.07%	8.01/2	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000802	1	895	2680	33.40%		8.02/1	Meadows Place, Prairie Meadows
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000802	2	1385	1445	95.85%		8.02/2	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000802	3	1585	2615	60.61%	57.34%	8.02/3	Hills West, Prairie Meadows, Southern Parkway
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000901	1	415	605	68.60%		9.01/1	Centennial
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000901	2	1010	1450	69.66%		9.01/2	Schwegler
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000901	3	510	1090	46.79%		9.01/3	Indian Hills
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000901	4	815	1500	54.33%		9.01/4	Indian Hills
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000901	5	985	1065	92.49%	65.41%	9.01/5	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	000902	1	1575	2280	69.08%	69.08%	9.02/1	Indian Hills
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010001	1	625	1390	44.96%		10.01/1	Barker, Centennial, Kennedy
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010001	2	195	480	40.63%	43.85%	10.01/2	Breedzdale, Park Hill
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010002	1	1270	2000	63.50%		10.02/1	Prairie Park, Kennedy
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010002	2	295	1575	18.73%		10.02/2	Prairie Park South Siders
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010002	3	995	2195	45.33%	44.37%	10.02/3	Prairie Park, South Meadow
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010201	1	400	1770	22.60%	22.60%	12.01/1	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010400	1	300	1565	19.17%		14/1	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010400	2	300	1490	20.13%	19.64%	14/2	
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010500	1	445	1255	35.46%	35.46%	15/1	Scenic Riverway
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010600	1	135	1260	10.71%		16/1	Quail Run, Western Hills
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010600	2	1155	5835	19.79%		16/2	Congressional Place, West Lawrence
201902	Lawrence	KS	Principal City	20	045	Douglas County	010600	3	520	2285	22.76%	19.30%	16/3	Quail Run

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:

The City of Lawrence has elected to impose resale provisions on all HOME funded homeownership activities, including acquisition with or without rehabilitation and direct homebuyer assistance. These resale provisions apply to the City's Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO), developers, and/or any subrecipients who receive HOME funding from the City for these homeownership activities.

The City of Lawrence's resale provisions ensure that the subsequent price at resale is affordable to a family at 50-80 percent MFI paying no more than 38 percent of income for principal, interest, property taxes and insurance. The seller will receive a fair return on investment, which is defined in the resale provisions and the written agreement. The subsequent buyer must qualify as low income as defined in 24 CFR 92.2, which is defined as a household whose annual incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD. The housing must be the principal residence of the family throughout the defined affordability period. The period of affordability in years is based on the total amount of HOME funds invested in the housing and will be included in the written agreement. In the event that the resale price necessary to provide a fair return is not affordable to the subsequent buyer, the City will provide additional HOME funds in the form of down payment assistance and/or buy-down subsidy to make the housing affordable to a low income homebuyer.

Notification to Prospective Buyers: The resale provisions are included in a written agreement between the City and the homebuyer that must be executed before the housing is acquired. The written agreement specifies that the housing must be single family housing and must be modest housing in that the affordable sales price shall not exceed 95 percent of the median purchase price for the area as established by HUD. The agreement will contain the value of the property, the amount of HOME funds used, the form of assistance, the use of the funds, and the time by which the housing must be acquired.

Enforcement of Resale Provisions: The resale provisions are enforced through the use of a recorded deed restriction signed by the homebuyer at closing. The deed restriction specifies:

1. The length of the affordability period (based on the dollar amount of HOME funds invested in the unit)
2. That the home remain the Buyer's principal residence throughout the affordability period; and
3. The conditions and obligations of the Owner should the Owner wish to sell before the end of the affordability period, including;
 - a. The Owner must contact the Developer or CHDO in writing if intending to sell the home prior to the end of the affordability period;

- b. The subsequent buyer must qualify as low income as defined in 24 CFR 92.2, which is defined as a household whose annual incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, and must be the principal residence of the family for the remaining years of the affordability period. (However, if the subsequent buyer receives assistance through a HOME-funded program, the affordability period will be reset according to the amount of new assistance provided);
- c. The subsequent price at resale must be affordable to a family at 50-80 percent MFI paying no more than 38 percent of income for principal, interest, property taxes and insurance. In the event that the resale price necessary to provide a fair return is not affordable to the subsequent buyer, the City will provide additional HOME funds in the form of down payment assistance and/or buy-down subsidy to make the housing affordable to a low income homebuyer.
- d. The Owner will receive a fair return on their investment as defined in the resale provisions and the written agreement.

Fair Return on Investment: The City of Lawrence will administer its resale provisions by ensuring that the Owner receives a fair return investment and that the home will continue to be affordable to a specific range of incomes. Fair Return on Investment means the original homebuyer's investment (i.e., any down payment and/or deposit), plus specific types of capital improvements made by the original homebuyer that may add value to the property, as described below. Additionally, the seller will receive up to 25 percent of the appreciation of the property over the period of ownership as calculated by the Housing Price Index Calculator.

1. The amount of the original homebuyer investment (i.e., any down payment and/or deposit);
2. Up to 80 percent of the cost of any capital improvements, documented with receipts and pictures provided by the homeowner, including but not limited to:
 - a. Room addition (bedroom, bathroom, family room);
 - b. Refurbishment/modernization of kitchens or bathrooms, limited to built-in new appliances, cabinets, or flooring;
 - c. Addition of porches or decks;
 - d. Installation of new central air conditioning or new upgraded heating equipment;
 - e. Major upgrading of electrical service or plumbing; and
 - f. Sprinkler system.

Any and all of which must have been paid for directly by the Owner and which were not installed through a federal, state, or locally funded grant program. All applicable City of Lawrence building codes and permitting requirements must have been followed.

3. The City of Lawrence uses the Housing Price Index (HPI) to determine the percent change in the value of the property over the period of ownership as its standard index for fair return on investment. This percent change is used to calculate the fair return on both the initial investment and eligible capital improvements.
4. Additionally, up to 25 percent of the appreciation of the property over the period of ownership as calculated by the HPI Calculator of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The HPI Calculator is currently located at <http://www.fhfa.gov/DataTools/Tools/pages/hpi-calculator.aspx> and projects what a given house purchased at a point in time would be worth today if it appreciated at the average appreciation rate of all homes in the area. The calculation shall be performed for the Lawrence, KS Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

It is important to note that in certain circumstances, such as a declining housing market where home values are depreciating, the original homebuyer may not receive a return on investment because the home sold for less or the same price as the original purchase price. The fair return on investment does not include any reasonable and customary sales expenses paid by the buyer or seller in connection with the sale, such as closing costs and/or property taxes.

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:

Affordability to a Range of Buyers: The City of Lawrence's resale provisions ensure that the subsequent price at resale is affordable to a family at 50-80 percent MFI paying no more than 38 percent of income for principal, interest, property taxes and insurance. The seller will receive a fair return on investment, which is defined in the resale provisions and the written agreement. The affordable sales price shall not exceed 95 percent of the median purchase price for the area as established by HUD.

Calculating Fair Return on Investment

Example: The City of Lawrence provided HOME funds for the construction of a single family homebuyer unit. The original purchase price of the home was \$125,000. The original homebuyer provided \$5,000 for a down payment. The City of Lawrence uses the Housing Price Index (HPI) to determine the percent change in the value of the property over the period of ownership as its standard index for fair return on investment.

The original homeowner decides to sell the home during the period of affordability and is able to sell the home at a price that permits the original homebuyer to realize a full return on investment as defined in the City of Lawrence resale provisions.

In the past year, the original homebuyer undertook a \$9,000 kitchen renovation. Using the HPI, the PJ has determined that the percent change in the value of the property over the original homebuyer's period of ownership is 3.9 percent. The original homebuyer's initial downpayment investment of \$5,000 plus the kitchen improvements, valued at \$7,200 (80 percent of the \$9,000 capital investment), would result in a fair return of \$476. The City's resale provisions additionally provide for up to 25 percent of the appreciation of the property over the period of ownership, as calculated by the HPI Calculator. The original purchase price of the home was \$125,000. Using the HPI Calculator, the house would be worth approximately \$129,789 as of 1st Quarter 2023. Total return at sale, assuming the price at sale permits the original homebuyer to realize a full return on his investment, would include the original homebuyer's initial investment of \$5,000, plus the \$7,200 investment in capital improvements, plus a \$476 fair return on both of those investments, plus up to 25 percent of the appreciation of the property over the period of ownership.

$(\$5,000 + \$7,200) \times 3.9\% = \$476$ fair return on initial and capital investments
 $(\$129,789 - \$125,000) \times 25\% = \$1,197$ HPI appreciation of the property
 $\$5,000 + \$7,200 + \$476 + \$1,197 = \$13,873$ total return to the original homebuyer at sale

In order to realize a fair return to the original homeowner, the sales price must be set at \$133,873 (i.e., \$120,000 original mortgage + \$5,000 down payment + \$7,200 capital improvements + \$476 fair return on initial and capital investments + \$1,197 HPI appreciation of the property).

PUBLIC NOTICES

TO PLACE AN AD: ☎ 785.832.2222 ✉ ljworld.column.us/place

Lawrence

Lawrence

Lawrence

Lawrence

(Published in the Lawrence Daily Journal-World on April 19, 2024)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CITY OF LAWRENCE

2024 ACTION PLAN OF THE 2023 - 2027 CONSOLIDATED PLAN

Members of the Lawrence City Commission will conduct a public hearing on the 2024 Annual Action Plan of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan, including the 2024 Investment Summary, during their regular meeting that will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 5:45 P.M.

This meeting will be held in a hybrid format. People may join the meeting virtually by Zoom or in-person. Some staff will be present while others may participate virtually. The agenda notification will be distributed on Thursday, May 2, 2024 and will contain information about attending and joining the meeting virtually. To request meeting information please email housinginitiatves@lawrenceks.org.

During the public hearing, the City of Lawrence will seek input regarding the 2024 Annual Action Plan and 2024 Investment Summary. The Action Plan and Consolidated Plan is required by the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 and is the result of a collaborative process whereby a community establishes a unified vision for community development using federal, state, and local funds.

The annual hearing is intended to provide the following:

1. An opportunity to provide comments to the City's Annual Action Plan. The Action Plan provides a unified vision for community development. More specifically, it examines the housing needs of special populations, the availability of affordable housing, the condition of housing in the City, and the housing market. Additionally, the Plan examines the needs for infrastructure, capital improvements, and neighborhood development in the community. The Plan is a one-year strategy under the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan.

2. An opportunity to make public comments concerning the 2024 Investment Summary.

Copies of the draft Action Plan and Investment Summary will be available on April 15, 2024 in the Planning and Development Services office and on the City of Lawrence web site at https://lawrenceks.org/pds/reports_plans/. The public comment period for the Plan will be thirty (30) days from the date of the public hearing, until June 7, 2024.

The City encourages written comments on this document. Comments may be mailed to City of Lawrence Housing Initiatives Division, P.O. Box 708, Lawrence, KS 66044, emailed to housinginitiatves@lawrenceks.org, or submitted to the department offices at 1 Riverfront Plaza, Suite 320.

2024 Estimated Investment Summary follows:

CDBG Public Services		Funding Sources	
Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.		2024 CDBG Grant	\$750,000
Housing and Financial Counseling Program	\$3,215	Projected Program Income	\$150,000
Housing Stabilization Collaborative		Grant Reallocation	\$0
Emergency Rent/Utility Assistance	\$50,300	Total CDBG Grant Allocation	\$900,000
The Lawrence Community Shelter		2024 HOME Grant	\$500,000
Stabilization Services for Shelter Guests	\$58,985	Projected Program Income	\$30,000
Public Services Total	\$112,500	Grant Reallocation	\$0
		Total HOME Grant Allocation	\$530,000
CDBG Non-Public Service		Totals	
City of Lawrence		Total CDBG Grant Allocation	\$900,000
Various City Department Projects	\$491,409	Total HOME Grant Allocation	\$530,000
GoodLife Innovations, Inc.		GRAND TOTAL CDBG & HOME	\$1,430,000
Rehabilitation of Group Home Facility	\$146,091		
Total Non-Public Service	\$637,500		
CDBG Administration			
HID Administration of CDBG	\$150,000		
CDBG GRAND TOTAL	\$900,000		
HOME Investment Partnerships Program			
Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority			
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$300,000		
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.			
CHDO Set-Aside Project Funds	\$155,000		
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.			
CHDO Operating Expenses	\$25,000		
HID Administration of HOME	\$50,000		
HOME GRAND TOTAL	\$530,000		

Potential Various City Department Projects include (subject to eligibility, Environmental Review, and funding availability):
 Owner-occupied housing - emergency loans
 Owner-occupied housing - comprehensive rehabilitation loans
 Street restoration projects in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods
 Sidewalk gap program in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods
 Parks & Recreation projects in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods
 Other low- and moderate-income neighborhood projects

Amendments may be proposed to above potential projects or new programs may be proposed as program year progresses

2024 Estimated Investment Summary – DRAFT (Updated 3/20/2024)

CDBG Public Services	
Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.	
Housing and Financial Counseling Program	\$3,215
Housing Stabilization Collaborative	
Emergency Rent/Utility Assistance	\$50,300
The Lawrence Community Shelter	
Stabilization Services for Shelter Guests	\$58,985
Public Services Total	\$112,500

CDBG Non-Public Service	
City of Lawrence	
Various City Department Projects	\$491,409
GoodLife Innovations, Inc.	
Rehabilitation of Group Home Facility	\$146,091
Total Non-Public Service	\$637,500

CDBG Administration	
HID Administration of CDBG	\$150,000
CDBG GRAND TOTAL	\$900,000

HOME Investment Partnerships Program	
Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority	
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$300,000
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.	
CHDO Set-Aside Project Funds	\$155,000
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.	
CHDO Operating Expenses	\$25,000
HID Administration of HOME	\$50,000
HOME GRAND TOTAL	\$530,000

Funding Sources	
2024 CDBG Grant	\$750,000
Projected Program Income	\$150,000
Grant Reallocation	\$0
Total CDBG Grant Allocation	\$900,000
2024 HOME Grant	\$500,000
Projected Program Income	\$30,000
Grant Reallocation	\$0
Total HOME Grant Allocation	\$530,000

Totals	
Total CDBG Grant Allocation	\$900,000
Total HOME Grant Allocation	\$530,000
GRAND TOTAL, CDBG & HOME	\$1,430,000

Potential Various City Department Projects include (subject to eligibility, Environmental Review, and funding availability):

- Owner-occupied housing - emergency loans
- Owner-occupied housing - comprehensive rehabilitation loans
- Street restoration projects in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods
- Sidewalk gap program in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods
- Parks & Recreation projects in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods
- Other low- and moderate-income neighborhood projects

Amendments may be proposed to above potential projects or new programs may be proposed as program year progresses

RESOLUTION NO. 7521

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE GRANT AGREEMENTS FOR THE 2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND 2024 HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME) AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE, TO SIGN SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS, UNDERSTANDINGS, AND ASSURANCES AS MAY BE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, CODIFIED AS AMENDED AT 42 U.S.C. § 5301 *ET SEQ.*, AND TITLE II OF THE CRANSTON-GONZALEZ NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACT OF 1990, CODIFIED AS AMENDED AT 42 U.S.C. § 12703 *ET SEQ.*

WHEREAS, the City of Lawrence, Kansas, is entitled to receive from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) certain funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 5301 *et seq.*, and Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 12703 *et seq.*;

WHEREAS, HUD requires that grant agreements for the 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the 2024 HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) be executed by the recipient of such funds;

WHEREAS, HUD requires that the City submit to it, for approval, a Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the 2023-2027 program years and an Annual Update to the Consolidated Plan for the 2024 program; and

WHEREAS, HUD also requires that the City submit to it, from time to time, certain other documents, understandings, and assurances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. The above-stated Recitals are adopted by reference and incorporated herein as if set forth *verbatim*.

SECTION 2. The Mayor, or the Mayor's designee, is hereby authorized to execute the City's grant agreements for the 2024 CDBG and 2024 HOME programs and to execute certain other documents, understandings, and assurances, required by HUD to be submitted to it from time to time, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Consolidated Plan and Annual Update, including Substantial Amendments,
- (b) CDBG and HOME Grant Applications and required certifications,

- (c) HUD project Environmental Reviews, including ones prepared as Responsible Entity,
- (d) Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report, and
- (e) Sub-Recipient Agreements,

all in accordance with Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 5301 *et seq.*, and Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 12703 *et seq.*

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be effective upon adoption by the Governing Body.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Lawrence, Kansas, this _____ day of May, 2024.

APPROVED:

Nathan Littlejohn III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherri Riedemann
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Toni R. Wheeler
City Attorney

A Place for Everyone



**Our plan to end homelessness in
Lawrence and Douglas County**



The City of Lawrence and Douglas County are grateful to be joined in this work by the following agencies that reflect the Housing and Homelessness Stakeholders in this community:

Artists Helping the Homeless
Bert Nash
DCCCA
Family Promise
Habitat for Humanity
Heartland Community Mental Health
Justice Matters
Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Kansas Legal Services
Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition
Lawrence Community Shelter
Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority
Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health
LMH Health
Tenants to Homeowners
Willow Domestic Violence Center

***A Place for Everyone* is our community plan to end chronic homelessness in Douglas County.**

Our goal: By 2028, we will create a system that achieves functional zero through policy, system, and environmental changes resulting in all Douglas County residents having access to the fundamental human right of safe, accessible, attainable, and affordable housing, and in which homelessness is a rare and brief occurrence.

To reach this goal, we've established five work areas to be addressed:

- Equity and Inclusion
- Affordable Housing
- Supportive Housing
- Systems
- Emergency Shelter and Services



Currently, our community does not have sufficient capacity for people to access the type of shelter they need for their specific circumstance. According to the 2022 Douglas County Homelessness Needs Assessment conducted by the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research, more affordable housing and permanent affordable housing options are needed to serve the unsheltered population in Douglas County.

From this research and based on community conversations we've had with people in Douglas County, including those with lived experience, we've identified an overwhelming need to increase availability in these three categories of shelter: 1) affordable housing, 2) emergency shelter and services, and 3) supportive housing. All our work ladders up to these three goals:

1. Increased affordable housing

2. Increased emergency shelter and services

3. Increased supportive housing

As we work toward our goals for increased affordable housing, emergency shelter and services, and supportive housing, we need to be intentional in the way we do the work. There are two primary considerations to how we do our work: the first is Equity and Inclusion and the second is the Systems we have in place to connect our partner organizations behind one collective goal: ending chronic homelessness in Douglas County.

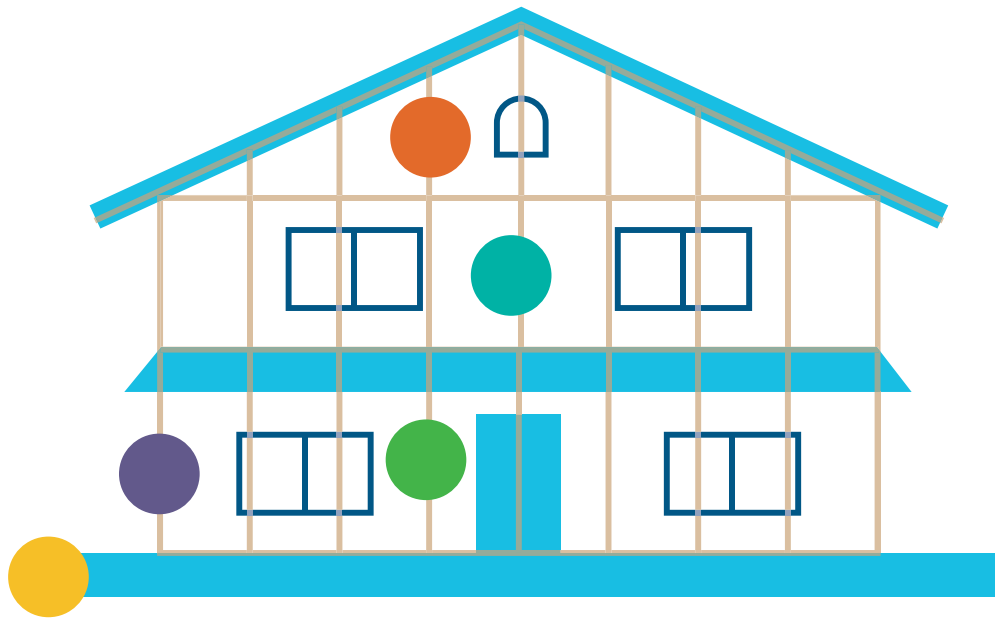


The Housing Needs Continuum shows the wide range of sheltering options that should be available in a community. Each part of the housing continuum serves a unique need to the individuals that utilize them.



Affordable housing is defined as when total housing costs exceed no more than 30% of a household's total income.

Our approach to ending chronic homelessness is like building a house. The five work areas are all important parts of the house we're building.



FOUNDATION

First, our house needs a solid foundation. The foundation of our work to end chronic homelessness is equity and inclusion as it will inform every other aspect of our plan.

INFRASTRUCTURE

After the foundation is established, we're building the infrastructure of our house: the walls, the plumbing, etc. For our plan to end chronic homelessness, the infrastructure is the Systems work area. Our Systems will govern over and hold the rest of our work together.

LEVELS

Finally, we have the different levels of the house itself. The first floor of our house is the most important and most used, and for our plan to end chronic homelessness, that is our work to increase affordable housing. The second floor of our house, which is also important but generally less utilized, is supportive housing. Finally, we have the top floor of the house, which for our plan is Emergency Shelter and Services. This is a necessary part of the house, but we don't use it nearly as often as the main living areas.





Our Foundation: Equity and Inclusion

According to the 2022 Douglas County Homelessness Needs Assessment, both racial and gender disparities in who experiences homelessness warrant further attention in our community. Additionally, the study identified a need to explore opportunities for engaging individuals with lived experience of homelessness to provide decision-making input.

Recognizing that homelessness disproportionately impacts women, Black, Indigenous, and other Persons of Color (BIPOC) in our community, this plan is designed to optimize equity by focusing on the following low-income populations in our community:

- Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness
- BIPOC individuals/households experiencing or at-risk of homelessness
- LGBTQ+ individuals/households experiencing or at-risk of homelessness
- Families with children younger than 18
- Single-parent, female-headed households
- Justice-involved/formerly incarcerated residents
- Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) in institutional setting
- Low-income seniors
- Transitional youth, unaccompanied minors, and youth aging out of foster care
- Individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) and severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI)
- Survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and/or stalking
- Immigrant individuals/households
- Individuals with English as second language
- Individuals with disabilities



WHAT ARE OUR GOALS FOR EQUITY AND INCLUSION?

- By 2024, define a clear set of equity goals that will inform all areas of this plan
- By 2024, prioritize equity in community education resources
- By 2024, establish ongoing roles in this work for people with lived experience
- By 2025, use data to track success and sustainability
- By 2026, focus on equity in policy and budget decisions
- By 2026, target systemic inequities to increase diverse homeownership
- By 2027, promote best practices that improve diversity and equity for all service providers

HOW ARE WE GOING TO REACH OUR EQUITY AND INCLUSION GOALS?

- Support a shared vision of equity between all local agencies and government with a shared terminology list
- Determine four data performance measures that tie directly to equity goals and action steps
- Highlight equity in all community education resources and communication, with improved collaboration and availability of easy-read resources
- Establish ongoing roles for individuals with lived experience to inform planned strategies, including an advisory board and opportunities for paid work
- Develop a decision-making model that targets and reduces racial disparities by prioritizing funding for projects with an equity focus
- Identify policies that reduce the risk of homelessness, increase accessibility and uplift historically marginalized populations; target systemic inequities and increase diverse homeownership
- Create long-term Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training and assessments for all levels of organization and government



The Infrastructure: Systems

Ending chronic homelessness in Douglas County requires a coordinated system of resources in which many organizations work together. These “systems” help us gather an accurate picture of where things stand so that we can move this work forward.

The systems we are establishing in our community fit into the Built for Zero framework, which is an initiative both the City of Lawrence and Douglas County committed to in March 2020. In the Built for Zero model, we end chronic homelessness through the following strategy:

1. Build a single team that is accountable for ending homelessness throughout the community.
2. Commit to a shared aim of ending homelessness. We measure progress not by the goals of each organization but by whether we are collectively driving down the number of people experiencing homelessness.
3. Know everyone experiencing homelessness by name and in real-time.
4. Make data-driven, targeted investments for increased housing.

Our systems goals are all work items to be accomplished in the next one-to-two years, as our success in these areas will help inform and improve our work in the housing investment areas of this plan.



WHAT ARE OUR GOALS FOR SYSTEMS?

- By July 2024, achieve quality data through the Built for Zero framework
- By April 2024, launch a dashboard for real-time homelessness and housing data specific to Douglas County
- Increase participation in the Homeless Management Information System and Coordinated Entry System by 20%

HOW ARE WE GOING TO REACH OUR SYSTEMS GOALS?

- Collaborate among partners within the Homeless Management Information System and promote resource and service tracking
- Build a Built for Zero-specific report and dashboard and share it with the community
- Identify agencies who serve the unhoused population that are not able to use the Homeless Management Information System and create a plan for data integration for the dashboard
- Develop key performance indicators to utilize for public education
- Conduct a Housing Study through the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation
- Increase Lawrence and Douglas County representation at Continuum of Care Homeless Management Information System Steering Committee meetings
- Make the Homeless Management Information System accessible for all homeless targeted programs and housing services throughout the community to review, input data and pull reports



The first floor: Affordable housing

Affordable housing is the solution to homelessness. It fosters economic prosperity and is a basic human right. And yet, Douglas County does not have enough housing that is affordable for people who live and work in our community. Housing costs continue to rise for both renters and homeowners, resulting in an increase in evictions and homelessness—and a decrease in homeownership. Meanwhile, wages have not kept pace with the rising cost of rent, utilities, interest rates and home sales prices, which has increased the number of households experiencing housing stress and insecurity. Housing stress is defined as spending more than 30% of income on housing costs.

A 'housing wage' is what a household must earn to afford rent at fair market value without spending more than 30% of income in housing expenses. The housing wage in Douglas County for a two-bedroom apartment is \$18.27 an hour—more than double the state minimum wage. This means that even working full time, many community members cannot afford the cost of housing. Almost half of renters and almost a quarter of homeowners in Douglas County experience housing insecurity, meaning that many of these households are one emergency away from homelessness.

The goals of the affordable housing portion of this plan are focused on increasing the amount of affordable rental and homeownership properties and improving access to the affordable housing that already exists.



WHAT ARE OUR GOALS FOR INCREASING AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

- By 2028, increase the supply of affordable rental housing units by 1,500
- By 2028, increase the supply of affordable homeownership units by 200
- By 2028, increase the supply of accessible and affordable units by 100
- By 2028, increase the supply of affordable units for families with minor children by 500
- By 2028, establish policy and system changes that realign power imbalances that currently prevent access to, or development of, affordable housing

HOW ARE WE GOING TO REACH OUR AFFORDABLE HOUSING GOALS?

- Develop a long-term affordable housing plan
- Provide a grant subsidy for new development or rehabilitation of desired unit types
- Acquire parcels and units for the community land trust and future affordable housing development
- Provide recommendations for City code updates that allow for affordable housing development
- Establish the tenant's right to legal representation in Douglas County
- Enforce the City's protection against source of income discrimination
- Establish a City of Lawrence vacant and dilapidated structure registry
- Establish an incentive program for affordable housing development
- Establish funding resources
- Develop a plan for ongoing community engagement re: affordable housing
- Develop programs that increase racial equity in affordable housing access and land ownership



The Second Floor: Supportive Housing

An increase in supportive housing, especially permanent supportive housing, is needed to serve community members who have the most difficulty remaining housed. Data from the 2022 Douglas County Homelessness Needs Assessment points to a sizable portion of the population experiencing long-term and often cyclical bouts of homelessness. More than 40% of this population had experienced homelessness three or more times in the past three years, and almost 50% had been homeless for more than 12 months in the past three years. Data also indicated a high incidence rate of mental health and substance use issues within the population.

The rates of chronic/cyclical homelessness, mental health, and substance use issues, as well as conversations with community providers, indicate that more than 150 individuals may benefit from supportive housing to help them break the chronic homelessness cycle. The Corporation for Supportive Housing's needs assessment (released May 2022) focused on community permanent supportive housing needs within Douglas County. It found that 381 supportive housing units are needed in the community. Of those, individuals and families experiencing homelessness need at least 115 permanent supportive housing units.



WHAT ARE OUR GOALS FOR INCREASING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING?

- By 2027, increase the number of permanent supportive housing units dedicated to these groups:
 - Chronically homeless individuals (+30 units)
 - Chronically homeless families (+2 units)
 - Homeless individuals aged 55+ (+50 units)
 - Justice-involved individuals (+20 units)
 - Child-welfare involved families (+10 units)
 - Homeless individuals aged 17-23 (+8 units)
- By 2027, increase the number of transitional housing units dedicated to homeless individuals with substance use disorders or mental illness by 15 units

HOW ARE WE GOING TO REACH OUR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GOALS?

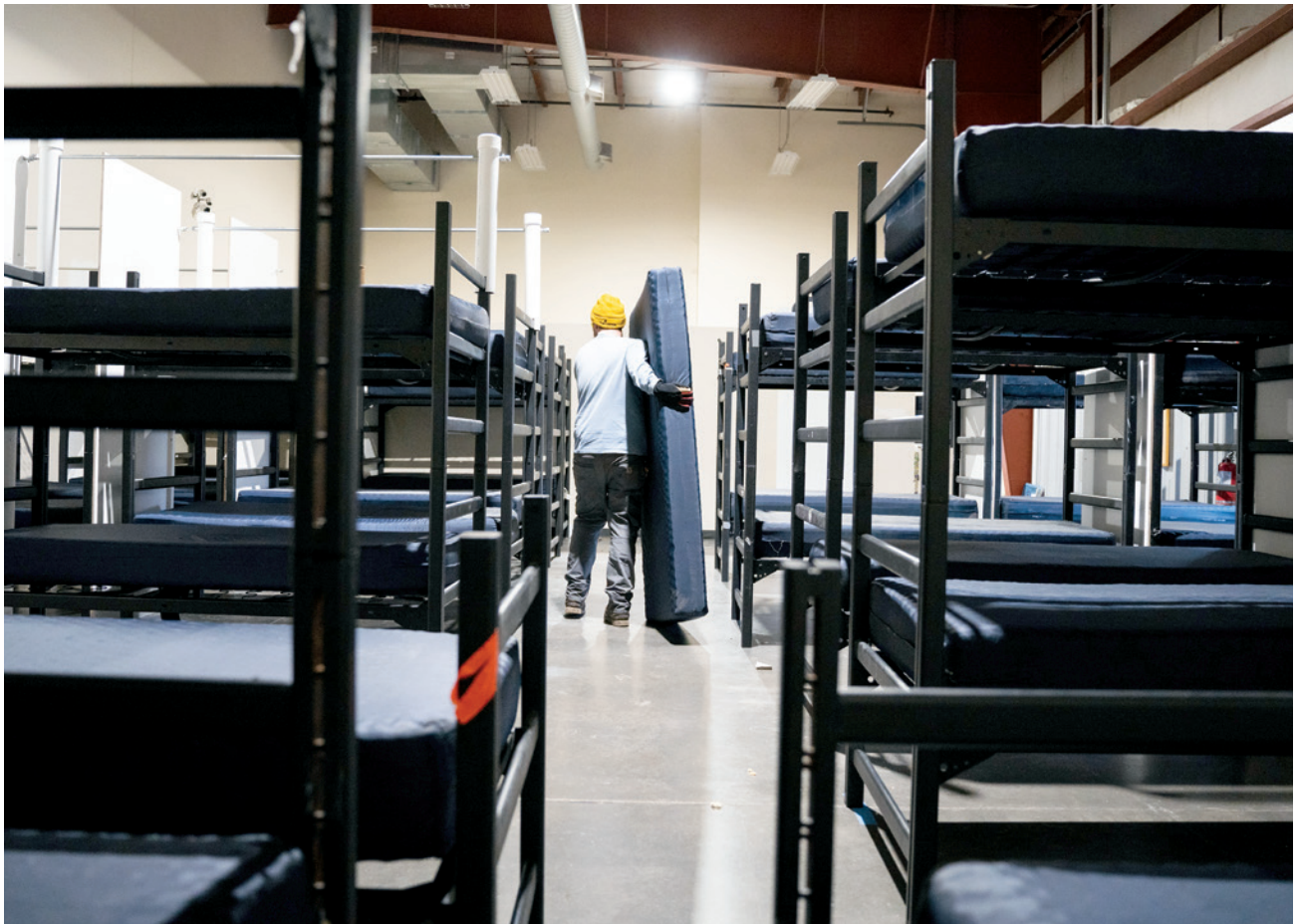
- Develop a five-year supportive housing Capital Improvement Plan
- Establish a community supportive housing case management program
- Establish sustainable funding resources
- Design and develop emergency, non-congregate shelter services
- Design a curriculum to build community buy-in and trust for supportive housing



The Top Floor: Emergency Shelter and Services

Emergency shelter is temporary, short-term housing for people experiencing homelessness. It is an intermediary solution that helps move individuals off the street or out of illegal camping into a situation where they can have access to needed support services. Emergency shelter can also be extremely beneficial for service providers as it gives them a known location where they can help people experiencing homelessness get the assistance they need.

In Douglas County, there are currently an insufficient number of emergency shelter beds for people experiencing homelessness. The latest point-in-time count in 2023 listed 351 homeless individuals living in Douglas County. Of those, 95 people are currently unsheltered.



WHAT ARE OUR GOALS FOR INCREASING EMERGENCY SHELTER AND SERVICES?

- By 2024, enhance the regional coordinated entry system of agencies and access points to provide triage, diversion and care coordination to those at risk of—or currently experiencing—homelessness
- By 2026, establish a street outreach team to serve unsheltered homeless individuals
- By 2027, reduce the Douglas County Point-In-Time count for unsheltered individuals by 50%
- By 2027, provide women and families with immediate access to low-barrier emergency shelter services for up to 65 beds
- By 2027, establish a homeless community outreach and day center facility

HOW ARE WE GOING TO REACH OUR EMERGENCY SHELTER AND SERVICES GOALS?

- Define programmatic and operational expectations for community organizations to provide emergency shelter services
- Develop policy framework to build trust and accountability with our community
- Define and develop the Pallet Shelter Village program
- Expand street outreach services
- Establish a community severe weather and disaster response and recovery emergency shelter plan for houseless individuals

Conclusion

More detailed information on *A Place for Everyone* is available online at dgcoks.org/aplaceforeveryone. The website includes corresponding action items for the identified strategies.

A Place for Everyone is a living plan that will be reviewed and updated annually. The website will have the most up-to-date information on the current work being undertaken.

Photo Credit

Our thanks to Taylor Mah, City of Lawrence media and creative specialist, for the photos used in this document. Additionally, we thank and appreciate the following organizations for allowing us to take photos for use in this document:

Douglas County Housing Authority
Page 12: the Cottages at Green Lake project, which provides supportive housing for those with mental illness.

City of Lawrence
Page 4: Camp New Beginnings, an emergency shelter option in North Lawrence

Page 7: City crews building pallet cabins at The Village, an emergency shelter option on N Michigan St.

Artists Helping the Homeless
Pages 7, 14: Meraki House, which is a supportive housing option in our community.

Lawrence Community Shelter
Page 16: emergency overnight shelter facilities.

Tenants to Homeowners
Page 19: a completed house on Beatnik Ct.





A Place for Everyone

