

City of Bowie
Consolidated Plan for Housing and
Community Development

DRAFT

Annual Action Plan

Fiscal Year 2015

(July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)



City of Bowie 2014 Fair Housing Symposium



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Community Development Block Grant Program



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CITY OF BOWIE RESOLUTION

R-19-14

**RESOLUTION
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND
ADOPTING THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL
ACTION PLAN FISCAL YEAR 2015**

WHEREAS, the City of Bowie (City), Maryland is entitled to receive annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funds directly; and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved Resolution R-22-13 on May 6, 2013, adopting the City of Bowie Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development; and

WHEREAS, as an entitlement community the City must adopt a Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development previously assessed community needs and developed a Five Year Strategic Plan in order to address those needs; and

WHEREAS, the objectives outlined in the Five Year Strategic Plan will be implemented annually using a multitude of resources including CDBG and municipal funds, as well as additional grants; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG Entitlement has allowed the City of Bowie to leverage additional funds that will assist in the implementation of the Five Year Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the proposed expenditure of CDBG funds is consistent with CDBG program regulations; and

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WHEREAS, the Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2015 indicates that CDBG funds will provide for senior citizen housing rehabilitation services; and

WHEREAS, the proposed CDBG funded activity meets one of three national objectives, to “provide housing services” for low and moderate income residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of the Citizen Participation Plan have been adhered to and that public participation in the development of this Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2015 has been solicited; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Bowie does hereby approve the Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2015 attached as Attachment 1 to this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to submit this plan to the Department of Housing and Community Development for their review and approval.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the Council of the City of Bowie. Maryland at a Regular Meeting on May 19, 2014.

G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Awilda Hernandez, City Clerk

JLF/jb/a

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

All CDBG programs must meet at least one of the following HUD National Objectives:

- Benefit Low/Mod Income persons,
- Prevent or Eliminate Slums and Blight, or
- Meet an urgent need

Any projects and/or activities designed to meet these National Objectives must also conform to the requisite regulations and statutes governing “eligibility”. The City of Bowie, as well as the majority of all “Entitlement Communities” adopt the “Low/Mod” National Objective because all housing programs fall under this category and it is the least restrictive on qualifying recipients and project administration, oversight, and cost. The Low/Mod designation carries the overarching HUD/CDBG requirement that programs must use 70% of its funds for this population and 51% of any designated area/community must be Low/Mod. The options provided under Low/Mod include

- Area Benefit
- Limited Clientele
- Housing
- Jobs

In order to determine the types of projects an Entitlement Community will submit to HUD for funding under the CDBG Program, HUD requires that the Entitlement Community must, at a minimum, do the following:

- Develop a Citizen Participation Plan
- Conduct a Community Needs Assessment
- Assess current demographic conditions
- Analyze changes in demographic conditions
- Develop municipal priorities

The City developed a **planning process** to achieve these objectives. In January 2013 the City Council approved the **FY14-18 Citizen Participation Plan**. This document detailed the approach to solicit citizen input. In January 2013 the City distributed over 6,000 **“Community Needs” survey** forms to all households in the City and to all businesses through the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce. Nonprofits, faith-based organizations, Homeowner Associations and property management companies also received survey forms. The survey requested that **respondents rank their responses by “High Need”, “Moderate Need”, “Low Need”, or “No Need”**. The response level was very good and the **survey results** produced the **following top three “High Need” issues in each category surveyed:**

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Housing Needs

Emergency Assistance	43.2%
Energy Conservation/Efficiency Education	43.0%
Affordable Housing Ownership	41.1%

Community Facilities

Youth Centers	38.4%
Senior Center	34.1%
Parks & recreation Facilities	37.3%

Infrastructure and Public Improvements

Street Improvements	50.4%
Streetlights	46.9%
Sidewalks	43.6%

Economic Development

Job Training & Placement	37.4%
Rehab of Older Commercial/Industrial Sites	36.3%
Improved Appearance of Business Districts	28.9%

Homeless Facilities and Services

Emergency Shelters	40.8%
Emergency Food & Clothing	40.2%
Employment Training for homeless	35.5%

The City also retained a consultant, Mullin & Lonergan Associates, to conduct a needs assessment for the City and provide an analysis of the City's demographics including comparisons with the County and the State consistent with HUD'S requirements for the Consolidated Plan. The consultant's Needs Assessment Overview cited the following:

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview Needs Assessment Overview

Based on the data and analysis included within this section of the Strategic Plan, in addition to interviews and group discussions held with service providers, the following conclusions relative to housing needs in Bowie for all household types, income groups and racial/ethnic groups can be made

- : ■ Black households have disproportionately more housing problems across all income categories

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- Low-income and very-low income Black households have disproportionately more severe housing problems
- Very-low income, moderate-income and median-income Asian households have disproportionately more severe housing problems
- Very-low income Pacific Islander households have disproportionately more severe housing problems
- Low-income and moderate-income Hispanic households have disproportionately more severe housing problems

- Low-income American Indians/Alaskan Natives, as well as moderate-income Pacific Islanders and Hispanics are disproportionately cost burdened
- Black households are disproportionately represented in emergency shelters in Prince George's County
- The lack of affordable housing, both rental and owner-occupied, is limiting the ability of persons to move into Bowie or to age in place in the City
- Despite recent efforts to improve homelessness assistance, there are no homeless shelters within the City of Bowie
- Residents in Bowie see a major need for improved infrastructure, youth centers and senior services

Within the context of these needs, data shows that Bowie will continue to grow in population, while the age of residents will increase. Senior housing and affordable housing will continue to be a problem and services for seniors will need to grow to meet future need.

The following analysis will highlight these and other points relevant to Bowie. When reviewing this document, keep in mind that much of the analysis is based on 2000 data provided by HUD, and therefore is not current. This refers specifically to the HUD provided 2005-2009 CHAS data. Even though

Consolidated Plan BOWIE 7 OMB Control No: 2506-0117 (exp. 07/31/2015) the data is labeled 2005-2009, it is based on data collected in 2000. This 2005-2009 CHAS data is also used in other sections throughout the document.

Conclusion

In its Summary of Housing Needs section of their report, Mulligan & Lonergan stated:

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment Summary of Housing Needs

Demographic indicators are essential to understanding a community's housing needs. In Bowie, the growth of elderly households has necessitated increased elderly services in the City; however, other populations, while not growing as quickly, make up larger portions of the City's population. The charts below show that the four oldest age groups (ages 55 and older) are projected to grow the fastest between 2011 and 2018.

The age group 85 and older is increasing fastest at 78% during that time period. Despite quick growth in the senior age group, however, those age 55 and over only make up 21.1% of Bowie's population in 2011 and will only make up 29.4% in 2018. Middle-aged residents (age 25-54)

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meanwhile, while shrinking in population, will still make up almost 40% of the City's population in 2018. **The growth of the elderly population in Bowie means the need for elderly services will**

continue to increase. Conversely, the shrinking of the middle-age population may be a result of the lack of affordable housing options for younger families without long-established income and wealth. The fastest decrease in population is in the age group 25-44, a group with many young families who are unable to find adequate, affordable housing within the City. Stakeholder interviews confirmed that young families are unable to find affordable options within Bowie, even with modest incomes.

On April 1, 2013 City Council adopted the findings of the surveys and other relevant data, and approved Resolution R-21-13 directing staff to design programs to accommodate the CDBG Entitlement funds the City receives from HUD for the new Consolidated Plan for the period July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014 to provide certain housing rehabilitation services for the elderly consistent with HUD'S regulations and statutes.

Demographics and Housing

With a total land area of 17.24 square miles, there are more than 2,950 people per square mile. It is the largest municipality within Prince George's County, and the fourth largest incorporated jurisdiction in the state of Maryland. The population for the City has exceeded 50,000. This increase in population results from new housing construction as well as major annexations.

According to the Mullin & Lonergan report:

MA-10 Number of Housing Units

All residential properties by number of units

Bowie is largely a bedroom community in suburban Washington, DC. According to 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, Bowie had 20,432 housing units, of which 19,740 (95.3%) were occupied and 962 (4.7%) were vacant. The number of housing units increased 9.2% or 1,714 between 2000 and 2011. Coupled with the increase in housing units, however, there was an increase in the number of vacant units from 2.8% of the housing stock to 4.7% of the housing stock in the same period.

In terms of the type of residential properties, the majority of units in Bowie are single-family homes. In total, 90.1% of housing units in Bowie are either single family homes, either detached or attached. Single family detached homes have increased by 8.9% between 2000 and 2011. Meanwhile, the number of housing units in buildings of more than 20 units decreased from 719 units in 2000 to 647 units in 2011. Alternatively, the number of units in buildings of 5-20 units increased by 71% in this time period.

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Owner-Occupied and Rental Properties by Number of Units

Overall, the City of Bowie is comprised mostly of owner-occupied units. Rental units only account for 14.0% of units in the City. The number of units within rental and owner-occupied properties differs significantly. Single-family properties, both attached and detached comprise the overwhelming majority of single family units in the City (96.6%), while comprising just over half of renter-occupied units. Conversely, the owner-occupied properties with more than five units comprise just 2.9% of all properties in the City while comprising more than 40% of all renter-occupied units.

Unit Size by Tenure

The overwhelming majority (92.8%) of owner-occupied units have three or more bedrooms. A slim majority of renter-occupied units (51.2%) also has three or more bedrooms, but a quarter of rental units are two-bedroom units, and almost a quarter (22.3%) of rental units are one-bedroom units. Only 7.2% of owner-occupied units are one- or two-bedroom units. There are almost no studio units in Bowie. This data reflects the nature of the Bowie housing market: it is predominantly a single-family, owner occupied housing stock with three or more bedrooms. The few rentals in the community are also single-family homes with very few opportunities for smaller family types.

Number and Targeting of Units

There are no public housing units within the City of Bowie. There are a number of privately assisted housing complexes according to HUD's 2008 Picture of Subsidized Housing. These include Bowie Commons, an affordable, elderly project with a 0% vacancy rate. There are no privately assisted multi-family developments located in Bowie.

Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

The number and type of housing units does not include an adequate supply of more affordable rental units and smaller sales units. This limits housing options for moderate-income smaller families, singles, and senior citizens looking for smaller housing options.

Need for Specific Types of Housing

With the increasing population, there will be continued demand for additional housing. The changing demographics and stakeholder input reveal a continued need for affordable elderly housing and programs that allow seniors to age in place. As home values continue to rise, it is becoming more difficult for seniors on fixed incomes to remain in their homes. There is not an adequate supply of affordable units available for senior citizens. Rising home prices have also

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made Bowie an unaffordable place for young families with children to live. These families do not have the income needed to break into the housing market in Bowie, as even modest homes can

range between \$250,000 and \$300,000. These families are forced to seek housing in surrounding communities. The relative lack of small rental units also makes it difficult for singles and young people to access housing in Bowie. Multiple stakeholders pointed to subsequent generations seeking housing outside Bowie for lack of affordable housing options in the City. Finally, the limited number of small housing units at affordable prices makes it difficult to find housing for members of the workforce. With a high number of jobs in the retail and service sectors in Bowie, a large workforce is needed; however, workers earning service sector wages are not able to afford housing in Bowie.

Homelessness

On December 26, 2012, the Prince George’s County Executive presented to residents and businesses the County’s “Ten Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in Prince George’s County 2012 – 2021.” The County’s Continuum of Care and the Homeless Services Partnership, of which the City of Bowie is an active member and served as Co-Chair from 2009-2012, played a vital role in the document’s development.

In reviewing this document and interviewing several County staff members, Mullin & Lonergan noted the following in their report:

MA-30 Homeless Facilities

Facilities Targeted to Homeless Persons

Bowie is part of the Prince George’s County Continuum of Care (CoC). There are no shelters within the City, but there are a number of housing units provided to homeless persons by churches. These are generally scattered in apartment complexes owned by the City or within the church complexes. The community is served by a number of shelters throughout Prince George’s County. The following data on facilities and housing targeted to homeless is from the CoC and includes all of Prince George’s County. No specific data is available for the City.

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

There are three County facilities that provide emergency shelter for families:

- The Family Emergency Shelter for 16 families with children in apartment-based shelters at University Garden Apartments, Langley Park.
- Shepherd’s Cove, Capitol Heights, serving 700 persons annually, primarily families with children.

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- Family Crisis Center, Inc. offering 26 beds for abused and/or homeless women with children. Services include resource referral for housing, physical and mental health care, education, training, employment services and case management.

The following are County emergency and transitional services and shelters for individuals:

- Prince George's House, Capitol Heights, a transitional shelter for 16 men.
- Thirty-three church-based shelters, including five in Bowie, in the Warm Nights program during the winter months.
 - Job training, job search assistance and placement services contracted by the County with Jobs for Homeless People, Inc., serving 150 formerly homeless people annually.
 - Health Department, a transitional shelter with 40 residential treatment beds for persons with substance abuse.
 - Department of Family Services, a transitional shelter with 20 beds for long-term housing of ex-offenders with mental illness.
 - Department of Family Services, providing 10 beds for transitional housing for youth leaving residential rehabilitation.

The levels of homelessness in the City remains low, however, current mortgage foreclosure issues and general economic conditions are exerting exceptional strains on household budgets. The City continues to meet and work with churches, community groups, and other care providers to assess the extent of this problem and to craft solutions. Prince George's County does assess County homelessness needs regularly, and concentrates its services in more urbanized communities where the need for such services proves to be consistently higher. The City does not have a Housing Authority or Social Service division that tracts homelessness in Bowie, and census data does not include such data specific to Bowie. Presently, the local service providers do not have the capacity to efficiently or uniformly tract client information.

The **Homeless Services Partnership (HSP)** implements the objectives of the Prince George's County Continuum of Care Strategy. The Partnership, a coalition of human service providers, meets monthly to educate the public, evaluate client needs, plan and review strategies, define specific roles and responsibilities of partners and collaboratively establish timelines for implementation of strategies. **The City currently serves as the Co-Chair of the PGC HSP. The City also contributes its annual allocation of HUD Homeless funds as an Entitlement Community to Prince George's County.**

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) was implemented in fiscal year 2003 by the Prince George's County Department of Human Services. The system allows service providers to capture unduplicated case management information that will in turn provide a count of homeless individuals. The Bowman Internet System Service Point was selected to allow participating service providers to input information using a web browser, generate customized reports, ensure privacy to protect customer confidentiality, and track services, referral history and gaps in service. The software is intended to coordinate data collected by service providers working with homeless persons. It is especially meant to

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prevent the duplicate input of client information. Software and training sessions are available for members of the Partnership.

The **Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund** provides food and financial assistance to clients. The **City provides a grant each year to the pantry** in support of its programs. The Client Intact Information indicates the following activity for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 (**TO BE UPDATED**).

Total Client Visits	3,418
Total Clients (families) served	2,471
Number of Children Under 18	3,307
Number of Families HOHH Over 60	468

Race (of head of household)

African American	1,478
Caucasian	468
Mixed race	80
Native	18
Asian	71
Unknown	8

Residence Status

City Residents	1,197
Non Bowie Residents	1,274
Homeless	121
Males	600
Females	1,871

Assistance Provided:

Financial Assistance:	\$39,982
Food Assistance	\$341,191
Food Purchased	74,403

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MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs

As described in NA-45, needs are generally determined by the social service and housing agencies most directly in contact with special needs populations in the City of Bowie and Prince George's County.

The largest special needs population is the elderly population. This group is presently served by a variety of supportive services including assisted housing at the Bowie Commons project, housing rehabilitation programs by the City of Bowie, and extensive recreational and educational services at the Bowie Senior Center. Despite these existing services, the growth in the elderly population may necessitate additional investments in senior services to meet the growing need.

The following describes the needs of disabled persons in Bowie:

- The unemployment rate of persons with a disability is 13% while the unemployment rate among persons without a disability is 5.1%. Lower, fixed incomes severely restrict housing choice for persons with disabilities, particularly as it relates to rental deposits or downpayment and closing costs for home purchases.
- Limited income and the high cost of housing accessibility modifications make homeownership nearly impossible. A program designed to assist with downpayment and closing costs would help with homeownership opportunities for persons with disabilities.
- While the poverty rate of those with a disability is lower overall than those without a disability, the poverty rate of those with a disability age 65 and above is slightly higher than the same age group without a disability (4.0% vs 3.5%). Affordable, accessible housing for the elderly is an identified need.

Volunteers of America has 24 Alternative Living Facilities (ALF) in Bowie that provide housing and services for chronically mentally ill persons. These are the only facilities located in the City that assists persons who are not homeless but who require supportive housing. The program ensures that persons returning from mental institutions receive appropriate supportive housing. It is a countywide program, not limited to Bowie residents.

According to the most recent Prince George's County CAPER, the greatest unmet need and barrier to housing for persons living with HIV/AIDS is the scarcity of affordable housing in suburban Maryland. Given the high costs of treatment, individuals often cannot afford high housing costs. In addition, the improving life expectancies of persons with HIV/AIDS has increased the long-term costs of housing and limited the amount of support available. Increased funding for housing is identified as a need for this group.

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Municipal public services address the health and safety concerns of citizens, particularly those with low income and vulnerable populations. Resources are focused on special needs populations that include the elderly and frail elderly, persons with disabilities, and youth and families. Services reflect community needs that include literacy training, health, transportation, crime awareness, employment training, and youth services. Emergency housing services within the City include St. Matthews Housing Corporation, which provides 18 transitional beds.. These are the only facilities located in the City that assists persons who are not homeless but who require supportive housing. Staff from the City's Youth Services Bureau also provide family, group, and individual counseling; information and referrals; informal counseling, crisis intervention and suicide intervention services. The Youth Services Bureau sponsors 14 alcohol and drug free programs during the year.

Several Bowie faith-based congregations provide overnight shelter, case management and meals for approximately 50 homeless persons each night during the winter months. **The Bowie Emergency Aid Fund** (it receives funding assistance from, but is not operated by, the City of Bowie) receives inquiries and referrals, interviews clients, and provides cash assistance. **The County operates the Emergency Food Assistance Program** to distribute Federal surplus foods to emergency food pantries and needy households. **Bowie's Ascension Catholic Church** coordinates food distribution in the City. **Through the District of Columbia Emergency Food Program**, emergency food providers purchase food for needy individuals and families. Attempts are underway to shift the program to the Maryland Emergency Food Program; Prince George's and Montgomery Counties are the only counties in the State that are not allowed to use this program.

The City continues its relationship with the Bowie Emergency Aid Fund and Community Food Pantry to better coordinate with County services available to City residents and to acquire client intake software that will provide the City, as well as the County, with realistic figures on homelessness in Bowie. **The City of Bowie, through this partnership, will participate in the implementation of Prince George's County Continuum of Care strategy.**

The **City's Bureau of Youth and Family Services** also provides limited assistance and counseling to residents. A full report on the nature and volume of these services is available for review at City Hall, Bureau of Youth and Family Services; "Annual Report FY 2012, Youth Services Bureau, Bowie Youth and Family Services".

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Strategic Plan for Community Development

The goal of all Bowie community development activities is to enhance the living environment and expand economic opportunities for residents. The City of Bowie has embarked on a comprehensive plan for economic development, community stabilization, and an enhanced quality of life for senior citizens throughout the City. **The goals for the senior population are consistent with HUD’S policies and as well as its goals for the Energy Star Program as follows:**

1. Removing constraints on mobility
2. Reducing total household expenses
3. Improving indoor air quality
4. Reducing health hazards
5. Increasing comfort
6. Increasing property value
7. Improving outlook on life

During FY09-13, the City received grant funds from **OpenDoor Housing Fund (ODHF) of Silver Spring, Maryland** to add **“Energy Efficiency” and “Green” technologies** to the housing rehabilitation program for senior citizens. **ODHF** is a private investment fund and a CDFI (a merger of a fund created by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and a fund created by the Universalist Church). **We propose to incorporate, to the extent practical, energy efficient, renewable resources in each project as we proceed to:**

1. Replace old and poorly maintained HVAC systems
2. Repair structural damage, leaks, and decay
3. Eliminate insufficient and poorly installed insulation
4. Correct leaky and poorly installed ducts
5. Replace inefficient and/or leaky windows and doors
6. Provide new roofs
7. Renovate bathrooms to provide access for indigent and handicapped seniors

Given the nature of the demographics and growth in the senior population in Bowie, and the existence of successful public services addressing County wide public services needs, the **City decided to continue to focus CDBG Entitlement funding on Senior Housing Rehabilitation services throughout the City over the next five years.** During the previous seventeen years, the City of Bowie has invested \$2,115,701 dollars of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds into infrastructure improvements in order to manage stormwater drainage and improve vehicular and pedestrian mobility in Old Town Bowie. This new City-wide approach to providing a much needed service for our

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most vulnerable population represented a much needed shift for the City's CDBG resources.

The **Five Year Action Strategy** consists of approximately \$1,000,000 worth of housing rehabilitation services. CDBG project activities will consist of

1. A formal application and intake process
2. Detailed program specifications
3. Program qualifications
4. Selection standards and guidelines
5. List of licensed contractors
6. Program "Contracts" for participants
7. Program rules and regulations
8. Project monitoring
9. Contract closeout procedures

INTRODUCTION

The Annual Action Plan reflects the City's funding priorities and identifies projects that the City proposes to implement with funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The City of Bowie will receive \$170,149 as an entitlement grant from the CDBG program in fiscal year 2015. In fiscal year 2014 the City's entitlement award was \$156,750.

Priority Need

The City of Bowie has determined that **Housing Rehabilitation for Senior Citizens is the City's highest priority need**. Therefore, the CDBG eligible activity for the City of Bowie's Consolidated Plan is housing rehabilitation for single-family units, which **complies with the national objective (LMH)** to provide benefits to low and moderately low-income residents. **Senior citizens are determined by HUD regulations to be a "Presumptive" Low/Mod population**. The City has also determined that **there is no priority need based on race, ethnicity, or gender**.

Project Title

Senior Citizen Housing Rehabilitation and "Green" Technologies Demonstration

Primary Purpose: Homeless Persons with HIV/AIDS Persons with Disabilities
 Public Housing Need Low & Moderate Income Persons

Geographic Distribution

The entire corporate limits of the City of Bowie, Maryland

Project Description

The goal of all Bowie community development activities is to enhance the living environment and expand economic opportunities for residents. The City of Bowie has embarked on a comprehensive plan for economic development, community stabilization, and an enhanced quality of life for senior citizens throughout the City. The goals for the senior population are consistent with HUD'S policies and as well as its goals for the Energy Star Program as follows:

1. Removing constraints on mobility
2. Reducing total household expenses
3. Improving indoor air quality
4. Reducing health hazards
5. Increasing comfort
6. Increasing property value
7. Improving outlook on life

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In implementing this plan, we propose to incorporate, to the extent practical, energy efficient, renewable resources in each project as we proceed to

1. Replace old and poorly maintained HVAC systems
2. Repair structural damage, leaks, and decay
3. Eliminate insufficient and poorly installed insulation
4. Correct leaky and poorly installed ducts
5. Replace inefficient and/or leaky windows and doors
6. Provide new roofs
7. Renovate bathrooms to provide access for indigent and handicapped seniors

Locations

The entire corporate limits of the City of Bowie.

The City of Bowie receives valuable assistance in implementing the *Five Year Strategy Plan* from the Bowie Emergency Aid Fund; an organization that provides assistance to individuals and families in need of emergency food and shelter. The Community Outreach Committee, a citizen advisory committee, collects food and donations for the Food Pantry, conducts surveys of community needs and satisfaction with City services, and provides grants to senior citizen groups and other non-profit service providers in the City. Accomplishments related to these organizations and other activities delineated in the Action Plan will be reported in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

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Annual Action Plan Activity Summary

Project ID Code	Project Title Funding Sources	HUD Matrix 14A-LMH
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Demonstration **Senior Citizen Housing Rehabilitation & “Green” Technology**

CDBG	\$170,149
City of Bowie	\$50,000

Local ID	Priority Objective	Title Citation
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570.202

Accomplishments **Description**

Housing rehab will consist of:

1. Replace old and poorly maintained HVAC systems
1. Repair structural damage, leaks, and decay
2. Eliminate insufficient and poorly installed insulation
3. Correct leaky and poorly installed ducts
4. Replace inefficient and/or leaky windows and doors
5. Provide new roofs
6. Renovate bathrooms to provide access for indigent and handicapped seniors

Help the Homeless?		No
Start Date:	07/01/08	
Help those with HIV or AIDS?		No
Completion Date:	06/30/09	
Eligibility:		Low/Mod Housing
Sub-recipient:		None
Location(s):		The corporate limits of the City of Bowie,
Maryland		

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Timeframe

The Senior Housing Rehabilitation project FY-15 will begin July 1, 2014 and will be completed by June 30, 2015.

Objectives

Replace old and poorly maintained HVAC systems
 Repair structural damage, leaks, and decay
 Eliminate insufficient and poorly installed insulation
 Correct leaky and poorly installed ducts

Replace inefficient and/or leaky windows and doors
 Provide new roofs
 Renovate bathrooms to provide access for indigent and handicapped seniors

Benchmarks

Goals	FY-2014	FY-2015	FY-2016	FY-2017	FY-2018
Applications Received	30	30	30	30	30
Applications Approved	14	14	14	14	14
Projects Completed	14	14	14	14	14
Energy Efficient Appliances Used	10	10	10	10	10
Energy Efficient Doors Installed	10	10	10	10	10
Energy Efficient Windows Installed	10	10	10	10	10
Insulation Replaced	5	5	5	5	5
Bathrooms Remodeled	5	5	5	5	5
“Green” Technologies Installed	10	10	10	10	10
Outreach Activities	8	8	8	8	8

Contingency

The cost to achieve first year rehabilitation for approximately 14 single-family units, using the aforementioned quantities and items, is estimated at \$200,000. Total first year costs will be \$200,000. In the remaining three years, the Entitlement amount will be sequentially reduced by an inflationary 3% to provide projected rehabilitation amounts available for FY-2016 through FY-2018 projects.

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Monitoring

City of Bowie Office of Grant Development & Administration, Department of Finance, and other Departments as required, have the capacity to manage capital improvement projects, and has been providing site management and monitoring on CDBG projects for the past 20 years. On site monitoring will be carried out on a regular basis by trained City staff. The City will enforce all HUD rules and regulations through on site interviews, and by collecting relevant data and documentation.

The City of Bowie administers a number of federal and state grant programs and has demonstrated its capacity to administer and manage the CDBG program. Project files will be maintained on the CDBG-funded activity; reports will be collected and submitted to HUD on a timely basis. Record keeping will be in accordance with City and federal policies. The City Manager's Office will ensure compliance with HUD regulations that deal with the effective use of federal Community Development Block Grant funds.

The City will conduct all CDBG funded activities in accordance to federal and local laws and policies, particularly in regards to Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity. The City currently directly mails Requests for Proposals (RFP) to a list of local minority contractors and provides them an opportunity to bid on municipal capital projects. All RFPS are advertised in the Prince George's Journal and local papers. The RFPS encouraging women/handicapped and minority owned businesses to submit proposals.

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HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

Federal funds are provided to State and local governments in the form of annual entitlements and competitive grants. Federally-funded local programs that address the priority needs and specific housing and community development objectives of the City of Bowie are described in the five-year *Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan, Fiscal Years 2014-2183* and is available on the City's web site: www.cityofbowie.org. The City receives entitlement funds through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program which is a formula-based grant. The City also applies for competitive grants from other public and private entities.

Federal Resources

Federal resources that the City receives and applies towards housing and community development include the **CDBG Program**. This grant program provides funding for activities that address the City's priority housing, homeless services, economic development and public service needs. **The City's CDBG funded projects** include Senior Citizen Housing Rehabilitation services that address the needs of low and moderate-income households throughout the City.

Other federal resources complement the CDBG funds and enable the City to add other programs and amenities to the City's revitalization and community stabilization efforts.

Other entities that the City collaborates with are:

State of Maryland Resources

The City receives development assistance from the **Community Legacy Program, (CLP)**, administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. This program provides financial assistance for communities toward the development and implementation of comprehensive revitalization initiatives intended to enhance community life for businesses and residents. The City's CLP funded projects include street and façade improvements, walking trails, decorative street signs, parking lot construction, and signage (directional and site-specific) in Old Town Bowie.

The City's youth and family-counseling service is funded in part from the State of Maryland's Youth Service Bureau (\$130,900). These funds pass to the City through the Prince George's County Local Management Board. The State of Maryland's Youth Strategies Grant, offered through Prince George's County Local Management Board (\$3,600) funds the City's Mentoring Program.

The State Highway Public Safety Program funds traffic safety initiatives that target enforcement against unsafe driving and unsafe passenger practices. MDOT has awarded a grant to the City for **\$574,000** for a segment of the Heritage Trail in Old Town Bowie. **The City will expend** approximately **\$274,000 in FY14** on emergency management and an additional **\$8,546,800** for the police department.

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Prince George's County Resources (Revise)

Prince George's County resources that the City receives and applies towards housing and community development include the **Livable Community Initiative (LCI)**. This grant program provides financial assistance to communities within Prince George's County to be applied to the development or implementation of comprehensive revitalization plans intended to enhance community life for businesses and residents. The City's FY 2007 LCI award will go towards street improvements in Old Town Bowie, and the addition of overhead lights at Allen Pond Park

The Prince George's County Financial Services Corporation (FSC) provides technical and financial assistance to new and expanding businesses in the County. The FSC administers the SBA 504 program, the Prince George's Revitalization Loan Fund and the County's program for industrial development revenue bonds. Technical assistance involves business counseling, financial packaging and brokering existing public financial assistance programs.

The SBA 504 Loan Program is available to healthy, expanding companies and provides long-term, below-market rate financing for the acquisition of land and building, machinery and equipment, construction and renovation resulting in job creation.

The Small Business Growth Fund assists for-profit companies with 25 or fewer employees and a physical facility or headquarters in the County. It provides business loans between \$10,000 and \$100,000.

City of Bowie Resources

The City of Bowie owns and operates the Bowie Senior Center. The Center provides services for a wide variety of interest groups including ceramics, arts & crafts, writers, computers, exercises and the Bowie Chorale. It also offers a nutrition program and curbside transportation for Bowie residents. The Center will serve as the focal point for the Senior Housing rehabilitation Program meetings, information dissemination, and training. The modern computer lab and facilities provide information technology capabilities consistent with those for the City government.

The City will also provide additional resources in the form of administrative costs to operate the program.

In FY07 the City created its own municipal Police Department. The City currently operates a full-service Police Department. The department has thirty-four officers and is the recipient of grant funds to increase the use of modern technology in its policing activities. The City also provides ongoing technical and financial support (~\$81,500) to the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department to assist in the delivery of their services to the Bowie community.

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Other Initiatives

Geographic Distribution of Investment

The CDBG Project for the City of Bowie will be used for Senior Citizen Housing Rehabilitation services, which complies with the national objective to provide housing services to low and moderately low-income residents. With a median family income of \$85,240, Bowie is considered to be an affluent community. An income considered high elsewhere in the County or even in other locations across the nation may be considered moderate or low in this jurisdiction. Bowie households with moderate, low, or extremely low incomes constitute 7.8% of the total households.

Evaluating and Reducing Lead-Based Paint Hazards

The majority of housing in Bowie was build post World War II, and is free of lead based paint. The concentration of older housing is located within the CDBG project area. The City does not have a Housing Authority that performs lead paint assessments or rehabilitation, but regularly refers residents to regional programs addressing lead paint hazards. These agencies include: the Maryland Department of Environmental Resources, Maryland Department of Environment, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, and the National Center for Lead Safe Housing.

Anti-Poverty

Bowie, with a median family income of \$85,240, is not perceived to have visible or significant poverty or the issues that are generally associated with lower income residents. Compared to other cities within the County most of which are within the Washington DC metro region, Bowie, being outside the core metro region is less urban and more suburban. Using US Census 2000 data, there are 1,508 households are considered to be cost-burdened in Bowie. Households with incomes below \$41,201 are considered to be low income.

Although the City does not have an official policy or program specifically dealing with poverty issues, the City is sensitive to the issue. Resources for residents as well as for employees in financial stress have been identified. The City presently provides its 200 full-time employees two financial management resources: (1) The City's Employee Assistance Program (run by Menninger Care of Virginia) allows each employee up to six free financial counseling sessions. (2) The Consumer Credit Counseling Service (CCCS) assigns a counselor to work with financially stressed employees and their families to help them with debt management.

City has funded the Capital Region office of the Maryland Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC) at \$5,000 and the Maryland Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) at \$5,000. Each of these entities provides training sessions and workshops in Bowie.

Through our funding of the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC), our business incubator located at Bowie State University -- an HBCU, we

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receive training from the Maryland Women's Business Center. Their April program at City Hall offered information on how to gain Women's Business Certification – the room was at capacity with 48 attendees and there was a waiting list with over 60 additional people who will be served by additional sessions to be scheduled.

Although Bowie does not have a housing authority, through code enforcement, the City eliminates troubled rental properties and abandoned housing. Enforcing city codes to prevent decline in neighborhoods.

Poverty is addressed in non-traditional ways as well. The City is committed to providing green space for both active and passive recreational opportunities in all parts of the City. The Bowie Trails Master Plan implementation will ensure an accessible, uniform, linked trail system providing pedestrian and bicycle mobility and safety throughout the community. In addition, the Bowie Senior Center provides transportation for adults 55 and older and individuals with disabilities within the city limits of Bowie. Crime prevention and public safety are ensured through improving environmental design and lighting.

Other City programs contribute to the elimination of poverty in Bowie. The Bowie Senior Center offers both congregate and home delivered meals Monday through Friday to elderly residents in need through the Nutrition Program which is sponsored by the County's Department of Family Services. Computer literacy classes are offered regularly to residents at the Huntington Community Center in Old Town Bowie, the CDBG target area. Other community centers throughout the City also offer computer literacy classes, as does the Bowie Senior Center.

The City's effort to reduce poverty also includes extensive outreach and support services to local schools and students that includes after school tutoring plus alcohol and drug prevention programs. In-school services provided by the City include:

Help Increase the Peace Program, HIPP, is a program that empowers youth to reduce violence and strengthen cross-racial and cross-cultural understanding. In cooperation with Bowie High School, BYFS conducts basic and advanced workshops. Students are trained to become group facilitators.

Decision-making and Diversity for Sixth Graders began as a pilot program in 2000 and is now being offered in two elementary schools. BYFS staff works in the schools with the school counselors and conducts six-week groups for small groups of sixth graders. By the end of the academic year, all sixth graders in these schools will have participated in this program.

Maryland Student Assistance Program is a Prince George's County School Board program. BYFS staff was instrumental in establishing this worthy endeavor in Bowie High School and Benjamin Tasker Middle School. Students who may be at risk for drug or alcohol abuse are reported to a committee within the school.

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After ascertaining that a problem may exist and getting parental approval, BYFS staff assesses the student for substance use. Referrals and treatment recommendations are then made to the parents.

The primary goals of the City's Youth Services Bureau (BYFS) are to promote youth development, prevent juvenile delinquency, and reduce family tension and conflict. The staff provides direct services in formal counseling (family, group and individual), information and referral, informal counseling, crisis intervention, suicide intervention, substance abuse prevention, community consultation, drug and alcohol-free events, school intervention programs, and court and school liaison. BYFS also offers the following outreach programs:

The Community Prevention Network

Involving many facets of the greater Bowie community, this group was developed to meet and shape projects, plus share ideas on how our community can best meet the needs of our youth. This is an evolving group and all community members, including parents, businesses, civic organizations, schools and religious leaders, are encouraged to participate. BYFS also facilitates group sessions as the need arises and there is sufficient interest from the community.

Active Parenting

Educational groups for parents with children of different ages -- toddlers, 6- to 12-year-olds, and teenagers. The focus is on learning practical skills to develop self-esteem, cooperation and responsibility in their children. Parents learn to improve communication with their children and practice new approaches to discipline.

“My Family and Me” Separation/Divorce

Two simultaneous groups to help parents and their children, ages 6½ - 11, through the separation and/or divorce process. The adult group explores solutions to common problems and is given an opportunity to learn active listening and problem-solving techniques. Children learn to identify feelings and thoughts using games, crafts, discussion, and other activities, helping them develop ways to handle the transition.

ADHD Education

Two simultaneous groups focus on the “art of survival” when a child has a diagnosis of Attention Deficit Disorder, with or without hyperactivity -- one for parents and a separate group for the child. Adults learn about ADHD, new ways to help their child, and how the disorder in a child affects the whole family. The children's group focuses on the improvement of social skills.

Girls Count

An exploration for teen girls to learn how to nurture their true selves, share ideas about everyday issues, and learn about making important choices and decisions. Each eight-week session focuses on a theme such as self-image, assertiveness, decision-making, peer pressures, etc.

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Parenting Through Play

This group helps children ages 2 - 10, cooperate more and have more confidence. This parent/child group focuses on strengthening their bond through play. Parents learn to help their children increase self-esteem, express themselves effectively, and cooperate in new ways in a safe and nurturing environment.

As the City does not have a psychiatrist on contract to serve individuals in need of psychiatric care, such as those with severe mental illness, Bowie's Youth & Family Services refers clients with insurance to private practitioners. Those without insurance are referred to public programs such as the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or the Prince George's County Hospital.

Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and Other Actions

To satisfy HUD's fair housing requirements, the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission and the City of Bowie hired Mullin & Lonergan Associates (M&L) to conduct a detailed Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). M&L completed the City's AI several months ago and in June 2012 sent an Executive Summary of the complete document to the City; we felt that we could not wait for the final document which needed significant input from the County. The Prince George's County AI is still under development. Since the City does not have zoning authority, the majority of the burden for fair housing enforcement rests with the County.

The City of Bowie does not have zoning authority over its jurisdiction. However, when development proposals come before the Bowie City Council for review and recommendations to the County Zoning Board to either approve or disapprove a given project, staff repeatedly recommends a percentage of single story houses to be incorporated into the development proposal. The City, considered by the Individuals With Disabilities Administration as one of the regions most handicapped accessible communities, has handicapped accessible facilities (including trails and sidewalks) and has installed wheel chair accessible ramps at all intersections within the City. The City will continue to make all public facilities accessible to all residents and promote Fair Housing issues on the City's website.

The analysis found that the City of Bowie is moderately segregated, has only one of 55 impacted areas (area that has high concentration of low to moderate income residents, and high minority concentration) within Prince George's County, the median family income in the City of Bowie for 2011 was 99,883, versus \$70,753 for Prince George's County, and that female-headed households with children accounted for more than half of all families living below the poverty level. The report noted that as of January 2012, there were no pending fair housing suits, unlawful segregation suits, or court orders filed in the City.

The study also found that the City primarily dedicated its 2008 CDBG allocation to infrastructure and engineering design for street and sidewalk improvements;

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determined that housing rehab for seniors is the highest priority for the City's CDBG program for FY 2009-2013; and does not currently allocate CDBG funds specifically for fair housing activities. The firm recommended that the City should allocate 1% of its CDBG funds each year to fair housing activities such as education and outreach.

In response to the analysis and the recommendations, staff proposes the following:

- To set aside 1% of its FY 2013 CDBG allocation (\$1,650) to further fair housing efforts.
- Offer Fair Housing education sessions (2-4) – free and open to the public – during the current fiscal year.
- Provide fair housing literature and training to the business community and homeowner associations
- Require all City Department Directors, Assistant Directors, and Department of Community Services Property Inspectors to attend fair housing education sessions.
- Forward any fair housing complaints to the HUD Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FEHO) for evaluation/investigation.
- Confirm the number of available housing units with Prince George's County Department of Housing and Prince George's County Housing Authority 2-4 times per year.
- Monitor County and the State fair housing training and enforcement activities.

On August 6, 2012, the City Council accepted the consultant's report and recommendations and the appropriate documents were signed and sent to HUD. The City has taken several initiatives since this time, including attending training sessions with HUD-contracted consultants, conducting a training session for City management with HUD-contracted consultants, creating information campaigns on the City's cable channel, and posting signs/posters in the several City buildings. These activities will be coordinated through the City Manager's Office, Office of Grant Development & Administration

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With a median family income of \$85,240, Bowie is considered to be an affluent community. An income considered high elsewhere in the County or even in other locations across the nation may be considered moderate or low in this jurisdiction. Bowie households with moderate, low, or extremely low incomes constitute 7.8% of the total households. There are 4,838 households with moderate family incomes (\$40,000-\$74,999), 1,121 households with low family incomes (\$25,000-\$39,999), and 478 households in Bowie with extremely low family incomes (\$24,999 or less). Thus, what defines “affordable” housing in Bowie is relative to the higher median family income. As result of these higher family and household incomes, modest priced homes are affordable to a greater percentage of the City’s population. The median monthly mortgage in Bowie is \$1,469 and the median monthly rent is \$1,904.

To accommodate a rapid residential and commercial growth rate, City services have expanded. The City continues to provide an excellent living environment with diverse housing, recreation, and employment opportunities. This has resulted in a high market demand for housing. There are waiting lists at most housing developments, and available single-family detached housing in Bowie sells rapidly; houses are generally on the market for an average of only one week. With more people interested in purchasing or renting homes in Bowie, the City’s housing demand is anticipated to exceed the market supply within the next five to ten years. It is estimated that by 2007, there will be 20,554 total housing units, and by the year 2010 the City will have 20,905 units.

The City has little authority over land use controls as it does not have its own zoning authority; this rests with the government of Prince George’s County. In 1998, however, the City obtained variance and departure authority for residential and commercial development. The City is now the final authority for projects requiring departures and variances from County design requirements. This authority allows the City discretion in matters pertaining to, for example, the number of parking spaces required for a project. Through this process, the City has the ability to encourage and support development or redevelopment that under conventional zoning requirements would not be permitted. This also allows variances for the construction of additions and other home improvements to be obtained by homeowners. In this way, the City of Bowie assists residents to improve existing homes rather than relocate.

Prince George’s County approves development within the City of Bowie, and the process can be cumbersome, time consuming, and expensive. The City participates in a County Task Force to identify and revise deficiencies in the Zoning Ordinance. One change already adopted makes the public notification process more streamlined, which will ensure projects stay within budget and housing remains affordable. Additionally, the City stakeholders process, which is a public forum for resident input prior to the public hearing process, encourages developers to respond to resident needs and concerns before a substantial investment has been made. The process provides an opportunity for issues, both perceived and real, to be addressed and resolved before any public action is taken. Although this process adds time to the overall development review process (usually by only two weeks), its success has resulted in it becoming a model for other jurisdictions.

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While federal policies such as the Uniform Relocation Act and mandated wage rates, and County policies such as the school surcharge will drive up housing costs, City policies such as the Development Review Guidelines ensure a range of housing types as well as prices, making housing attractive and affordable to all. Although the City does not have zoning authority over proposed development projects, it does review submitted plans in accordance to the City's *Development Review Guidelines* and submits recommendations to the County Planning Board. In order to provide a broad range of affordable housing types and styles within the City, each builder within a new residential development is encouraged to provide at least one single-story unit type or a model, which includes a first floor master bedroom in their architectural portfolio to address the needs of the 55-and-over population and persons with disabilities.

In addition to the work of the Office of Grant Development & Administration, the City's Department of Planning and Economic Development will engage in several prospective analyses to assess the affordable housing needs of certain populations (college graduates, newly weds, seniors, frail seniors, workforce populations, etc.). These studies will forecast future housing stock requirements for these populations at various income levels and market prices for specific housing categories, i.e. rental, condo apartments, single-family detached, etc. The data produced from these studies will be used to help meet future demand through recommendations to the Prince George's County Planning Department, MNCPPC, and individual developers. Other studies that would assess changes in demographics, ethnic concentrations, demands for social services, educational facility requirements, etc. would also add to the City's ability to adequately plan to meet the needs of its citizens.

Although the majority of Bowie's senior citizens reside in privately owned housing, five senior citizen apartment residences are located in Bowie:

1. Bowie Commons has 36 units of federally subsidized housing. The operator of the facility leases the property from the city.
2. Pin Oak Village has 220 senior housing units, 943 units that include 200 4-plex condos, 264 8 and 12-plex condos, 348 apartments, and 141 townhouses, a total of: 1,163 housing units.
3. Somerset Park has 72 market rate mixed rental apartments and owner townhouse units.
4. 4. Evergreen Senior Apartments has 110 market rental apartments units located in the Bowie Town Center.
5. Enfield Chase Center, adjacent to the Evergreen Senior Apartments, Has 79 units. Additionally, there are 295 frail elderly housed in nursing homes in the City, and 32 non-elderly with special needs in nursing homes.

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The County provides nearly 1,000 units of federally assisted housing (Housing Choice Vouchers) for elderly residents and 296 units of public housing.

The City will continue to work with the Developmental Disability Administration to communicate with residents to facilitate the installation proposed group homes for the developmentally disabled into their communities. Communities are often initially resistant to the location of these facilities in their neighborhood, but the City acts as a liaison between the community and the provider of these services to help educate the community about the services that are being offered in these group homes. This process helps to establish the location of these facilities in the City of Bowie.

The City's Code Compliance Department ensures that all properties in the City are kept up to Code, well maintained and safe. The Old Town Bowie Façade Grant Program is intended to further enable commercial establishments to maintain and improve the appearance of their properties, which will contribute visibly to neighborhood beautification and community revitalization efforts.

Public Housing

Demographic differences between the County and Bowie result in part from Bowie being a small suburban 'bedroom' community located on the outskirts of larger more urbanized metropolitan areas. The City's growth from a small community originally developed on 300 acres near the Bowie Railroad Depot to a sprawling municipality consisting of 17 square miles can be attributed mainly to the recent annexations of new housing developments. Bowie is, therefore, mainly residential single-family homes. This reality in turn relates to higher median household income and housing values in comparison to those of and throughout the County.

There is no conventional public housing in Bowie, although a number of senior housing units are subsidized, including those at Bowie Commons and Pin Oak Village. However, there is a strategic and coordinated effort to provide citizens with access to premium social services, decent housing, ample recreational facilities, convenient and affordable health care, senior service provisions, educational extension services, and responsive and interactive law enforcement that enhance the quality of life in the community, increase housing values, and develop employment opportunities.

Bowie does not have a public housing agency, nor is there public housing in the City. As public housing has not been established as a high priority need in Bowie, the City will continue to encourage the development of affordable housing that serves the demographics of the community.

Institutional Structure

The City of Bowie has grown rapidly in the last few years due to the annexation of several new housing developments. City services and programming have been developed in order to accommodate the changing demographics within the jurisdiction. But gaps in service delivery are becoming apparent. Given the City's limited resources, space and staff, it has recently become a participating member in Prince George's County's

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Continuum of Care through their Homeless Service Partnership program to assist in the development of regional social services that may address these deficiencies. Through this partnership it is anticipated that staff will gain a better understanding of the regional service providers, and facilitate a coordination of data collection among the private organizations providing services to the homeless and special needs population in Bowie. The County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) has been operational for a year and the process of training all service providers continues on what type of information to collect, how to enter data into the system, and how to use the system. The County's Department of Social Services estimates 30% of all providers are using the system. The City of Bowie has linked local service providers with the County's Department of Social Services in order that they may access the HMIS and contribute to overall County statistics, and provide Bowie specific numbers which will be beneficial in identifying community unmet needs and providing strategies for addressing them.

The mission of the City of Bowie is to provide exemplary public service. However, the City does not have a housing authority, nor does it build or manage public housing. Although the Division of Youth and Family Service and the Senior Center do provide programs and services for youth, families, and seniors, these municipal entities coordinate with regional agencies and organizations that provide services for residents that the City does not. Staff provides referrals for those in crisis or emergency situations, and the City financially supports the Bowie Emergency Aid Fund and the Bowie Community Pantry. The City will continue to coordinate with other agencies and organizations to help meet the particular needs of all residents. The City of Bowie is committed to expanding outreach efforts to make residents more aware of existing services by sponsoring a variety of educational workshops, promoting resources on the City's website, and providing informational pamphlets at City sites.

The City of Bowie will continue to work closely with State, County and regional agencies, coordinating programs and activities. The City will continue to work closely with the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) on regional issues.

Urgent needs

There are no Urgent Needs identified in Bowie this fiscal year.

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Notice of Public Hearing

**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND**

**City of Bowie
Consolidated Plan FY14-18
Community Development Block Grant
Notice of Public Hearing**

In accordance to guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), notice is hereby given that the City of Bowie, as an entitlement participant in the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, solicits public comment on the Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development FY14-18 and the Annual Action Plan FY15 at a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 8:00 pm at Bowie City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road , Bowie, Maryland 20716. The *Annual Action Plan* provides a description of the City's programs for CDBG and other funds allocated toward the implementation of objectives outlined in the Five Year Strategy Plan, which is included in the Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. The Five Year Strategy Plan identifies community needs and proposed solutions in the areas of Housing, Special Needs, Economic Development, and Non-Housing Community Development. The City's CDBG activities will benefit low and moderate- income persons by making improvements through a program designed for Senior Citizen Housing Rehabilitation. These activities have been prioritized by residents and are consistent with the results of recent studies of demographic and housing conditions in the City. All City CDBG documents are posted on the City's website: www.cityofbowie.org under Community Information. Accommodation for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking residents will be provided upon request. For additional information, please call 301-809-3072.

David J. Deutsch
City Manager

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Gazette

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Summary of Public Comments

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May 19, 2014

Q&A

TO BE PROVIDED

**City of Bowie
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Relevant Newspaper Articles and Other Information

**City of Bowie
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Certifications

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TOOLS FOR ADVANCEMENT

Housing Economic Development Community Development Public Services Public Facilities Infrastructure

CDBG: Moving Communities Forward
National Community Development Association