

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

VOTE

Authorizing the approval and submission of the Federal Fiscal Year 2024-2025 City of Lowell Annual Action Plan to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

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The City of Lowell is submitting a Federal Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which plan will address the community development and housing needs and priorities identified by the community; and

The Federal Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan calls for the anticipated expenditure of \$3,341,831.44 in funding for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025; and

The Lowell City Council determines that the proposed use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding is necessary and desirable in order to improve the economic and living conditions of the residents of the City; and

The Annual Action Plan includes the anticipated expenditure of \$3,341,831.44 in funding for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 which includes a total of \$1,740,362.40 in CDBG, \$1,429,685.04 in HOME, \$171,784.00 in ESG for a Total of \$3,341,831.44 in Federal grant funds.

The Lowell City Council determines that the proposed use of CDBG, HOME, and ESG Program funding for the City of Lowell, is necessary and desirable in order to improve the economic and living conditions of the residents of the City.

BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, as follows:

That the proposed plan for the Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership Program, Emergency Solutions Grant, is hereby endorsed, approved and included in the Federal Fiscal Year 2024-2025 City of Lowell Annual Action Plan, to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for its approval.

**Community Development Block Grant**

**Social Services**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Project Details</b>
ALTERNATIVE HOUSE	Youth/Teen Expansion	\$30,000.00	Expansion of teen program will diversify program offerings providing a wider range of education and recreational opportunities
Catie's Closet, Inc	SOS Program	\$30,000.00	1) In-School Closets enabling students to "shop" for what they need onsite in the privacy of their own school in the Lowell Public Schools district, and 2) our Special Order System (SOS) Urgent Response Program, led by our Merrimack Valley, MA Distribution Center, which supports emergency needs for at-risk children referred by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the Family Resource Center, and the Boys and Girls Club.
Eliot Church	Eliot Day Center	\$30,000.00	Operational support of day center
House of Hope, Inc	VBESL	\$15,000.00	House of Hope will provide Very Basic English as a Second Language (VBESL) services to our Haitian families focusing on life skill development like preparing for citizenship, employment, education and navigating the public transit system.
Lowell Food Pantry	Lowell Food Pantry	\$15,000.00	Funding used to support Lowell Food Pantry
Lowell Youth Leadership	2024 Summer Camp	\$30,000.00	Our program offers instruction in a wide variety of courses geared toward the promotion of both physical and mental well-being for under-served youth ages 10-16
Merrimack Valley Food Bank	Operation Nourish	\$15,000.00	Operation Nourish is providing supplemental food for over 3,000 students to take home to keep them nourished over the weekends and holidays when they aren't receiving free school meals.
RARA Recreational Adult Resource Association	RARA Program and Services	\$30,000.00	Provide resources and activities for adults with developmental, intellectual and physical challenges
St. Paul's Soup Kitchen	Daily Meal Program and Twice Weekly Food Pantry	\$15,000.00	Provide hot nutritious meals to homeless individuals
Mill City Grows	Community Gardens Management	\$15,000.00	Assist funding for community gardens manager
Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell	Wrap Around Services for Cambodian Americans in Greater Lowell	\$15,000.00	Provide wrap around services to Lowell's Southeast Asian community.
DWELLING HOUSE OF HOPE INC	Food Pantry Transportation	\$15,000.00	Funding will be used to support operational costs to pick up and deliver food to those facing hunger insecurity issues.
THRIVE Communities	Lowell House & THRIVE Communities Road to Renewal Wraparound Services	\$30,000.00	Provide re-entry services to former incarcerated individuals
Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership	FTHB	\$30,000.00	Housing Counseling Services to First Time Homebuyers

**Social Service Total**

**\$315,000.00**

**Non-Social Services**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Project Details</b>
Boys and Girls Inc	Believe & Become Capital	\$60,000.00	Funding to assist with the furnishing of the expanded Boys and Girls Club
CTI	Entrepreneurship Center	\$30,074.00	Create and run farmers market at French St Garage
DPD	Economic Development	\$150,000.00	Provide small business loans to low moderate income business owners
Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust	Urban Forestry Program	\$30,000.00	Provide funding to plant trees in environmental justice neighborhoods
City of Lowell	ADA Improvements	\$250,000.00	Funding will be used make ADA improvements at various public facilities
DPD	Senior Center Lease	\$381,000.00	Yearly lease of Senior Center
DPD	South Common Dog Park	\$100,000.00	Funds will be used to design the South Common Dog Park

**Non-Social Services Total**

**\$1,001,074.00**

**CDBG Administration**

**\$424,288.40**

**Total CDBG Allocation**

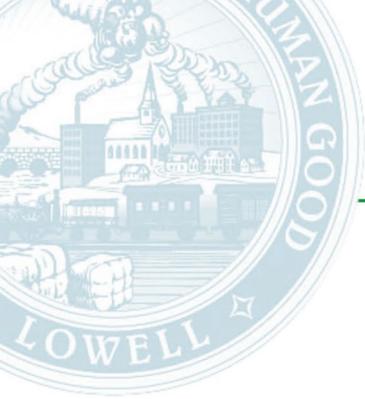
**\$1,740,362.40**

**EMERGENCY SOLUTION GRANT**

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>Component Name</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Project Details</b>
Alternative House	Homelessness Prevention	\$27,583.00	Provide short-term financial assistance and support services to survivors of domestic violence
CMAA	Homelessness Prevention	\$27,583.00	Rental Arrears assistance
Eliot Presbyterian Church c/o Heather Prince Doss	Emergency Shelter/ Day Shelter	\$25,000.00	Eliot Day Center (EDC) is a hub where our unhoused neighbors can access spiritual care, person-centered support, and tangible resources for obtaining and maintaining safe and stable housing
House of Hope, Inc	Emergency Shelter/ Day Shelter	\$20,000.00	Family Shelter operation support
Lowell House	Street Outreach	\$15,000.00	The proposed project will act as a liaison between caseworkers to provide assistance with housing applications, assist with the housing search, and accompany clients for prospective tenant viewings.
Life Connections	Street Outreach	\$15,000.00	Provide community outreach to homeless individuals where they are
SMOC/ Lowell Transitional Living Center	Homelessness Prevention	\$27,583.00	Assist individuals finding shelter options other than homeless shelters

DPD	Admin	\$	14,035.00
ESG Total			\$171,784.00

<b>HOME</b>	
CHDO Reserve	\$162,393.74
Housing Rehab	\$738,150.00
First Time Homebuyer	\$435,000.00
Program Administration	\$94,141.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,429,685.04</b>



Thomas A. Golden, Jr.  
*City Manager*

Shawn Machado  
*Assistant City Manager*

April 2, 2024

To: Mayor Daniel Rourke  
and  
Members of the Lowell City Council

**Reference: FY 2024- 2025 Action Plan**

Dear Mayor Rourke and Members of the City Council:

The City of Lowell Department of Planning and Development (DPD) is pleased to present the annual Action Plan for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. This document provides a strategy for the use of federal entitlement funds granted to the City by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the CDBG, ESG, and HOME programs. Programs and activities described in the plan are intended to primarily benefit low and moderate-income residents of the City, neighborhoods with high concentrations of low- and moderate-income residents, and the City as a whole.

The Action Plan includes tentative funding awards for the 2024 – 2025 Program Year. The CDBG projects proposed were solicited through a competitive RFP process and reviewed by Community Development staff. ESG proposals were reviewed by Community Development staff, Health Department Director Lisa Golden, Homelessness Coordinator, Maura Fitzpatrick and Tyler McEachron from EOLHC Balance of State COC.

A list of funding recommendations is attached to this communication. The Lowell City Council must approve this document before it is submitted to HUD. The Law Department has prepared the necessary vote for your consideration.

If you have any questions about these documents or this process, please feel free to contact Assistant City Manager/DPD Director, Yovani Baez-Rose at 978-674-4252.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Golden Jr.  
City Manager