THE CITY OF ERIE

JOSEPH V. SCHEMBER, MAYOR

2025-2029 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Department of Economic and Community Development

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Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania is federal entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). As a HUD entitlement community, the City is required to prepare a Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) in order to implement any federal programs that fund housing, community development, and economic development within the community. This CP covers the period from FY2025 through FY2029 (July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2030). This CP will be submitted to HUD for approval. The lead entity responsible for the preparation of the CP is the City's Office of Economic and Community Development.

The City of Erie, through the CP, developed a single, consolidated planning and application document in consultation with public and private agencies. The CP for the City will serve the following functions:

- A planning document that enables the city to view its HUD funding, not in isolation, but as one tool in a comprehensive strategy to address housing, community development, and economic development needs
- An application for CDBG funds, HOME funds and ESG funds under HUD's formula grant
- A strategy document to be followed in carrying out HUD programs
- An action plan that provides a basis for assessing performance in the investment of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds.

The purpose of the CP is to guide federal funding decisions in the next five years. The CP is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to a community's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing
- To improve the quality of life and living environments for people with low- to moderate incomes through community reinvestment and improvements to public facilities and infrastructure
- To generate economic opportunities by supporting sustainable development activities that promote long-term community viability and the empowerment of people with low to moderate incomes to achieve self-sufficiency.

The overall priority for the investment of federal funds is to increase self-sufficiency and economic opportunity for lower income residents and individuals with special needs so that they can achieve a reasonable standard of living.

The City expects to receive the following amounts in FY2025 (five-year projections).

- CDBG: $2,775,245 ($13,876,225)
- HOME: $805,148.06 ($4,025,740.30)
- ESG: $261,142 ($1,305,710)

The City anticipates $5,000 in Program Income for FY2025.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

The Strategic Plan provides a framework to address the needs of the City for the next five years using CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. The City's strategy focuses on the need to:

Improve the quality of the housing stock in the community by increasing the amount of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers that is affordable to low- and moderate-income persons and families. This includes creation of new units and preservation and rehabilitation of existing units.

Provide housing and services for households experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Improve Community Assets. Improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for all residents in the community.

Economic Development: Increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.

Outcomes show how programs and activities benefit a community, or the people served. Outcomes that illustrate the benefits of each activity funded by CDBG, HOME, and ESG are improved availability, affordability, and sustainability. All future activities funded in the next five years will support at least one objective and one outcome.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Erie strives to equitably allocate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to income eligible areas and persons throughout the City and has funded activities during the past year to meet the City's FY 2020 to FY 2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Fifth Annual Action Plan goals and objectives. Erie's CDBG Program regularly meets the performance standards established by HUD.

The following demonstrates the priorities addressed and objectives accomplished in FY2023, the most recently completed CAPER for the City of Erie:

Housing:

- Housing Rehabilitation –RACE CDBG Homeowner Rehab: 1 single unit

- HOME Homeowner Rehab: 1 single unit
- Rental Rehabilitation- Richford Arms: 120 units
- Homebuyer: 1 unit

Community Developments:

- Tree Removal/Replacement: 95,805 people
- Infrastructure: Road Reconstruction: 95,805 people
- Public Services: City Summer Recreation: 337 people
    - Summer recreation programs at three neighborhood centers serving 372 youth (MLK-96, BTW-184, Trinity-92)
    - Human Resources at eight neighborhood facilities serving 3,104 people (BTW – 1,455, Trinity Center – 92, JFK – 158, Erie City Mission – 72, UECDC – 55
    - YMCA Teen Center (226 youth)
    - St. Martin Center, Inc. (828 people)
    - Boys & Girls Club – 218
    - Erie Refocused Citizen Response Center – 1,943 (people)
    - Erie Police Athletic League – 301 (youth)
- Accessibility: ADA Improvements- Curb Cuts: 8,541 people

CARES Act: Public Services: Five facilities serving 1,231 people – Paramount Pursuits- 4, BTW -1,173, Erie City Mission HR – 5, GECAC Homeless Prevention- 13, St. Martin Center, Inc. Homeless Prevention -36.

Other Special Needs: GECAC In-Home Services: 108 people

Homeless:

- ESG shelters and transitional housing agencies served 2,262 persons
- City of Erie staff ESG administrative and fiscal management (Other: 1)
- Prevention and Housing - St. Martin Center Rapid Re-Housing: 51 households with 80 individuals

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The City of Erie held two preliminary community development and housing needs public meetings to obtain input from citizens. The meetings were held on January 29, 2025, in Council Chambers at City Hall to provide accessibility for a variety of citizens. Two public hearings to generate comment and feedback on the draft plan were advertised for May 5, 2025, in City Council Chambers.

Public notice for the meetings was published in The Erie Times News in order to inform as many persons as possible regarding the City of Erie's intent to develop the Consolidated Plan. A copy of the public notice is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.

To solicit input on the City of Erie's housing and community development needs and to help establish budget and program priorities for the next five years, the City held five stakeholder workshops for a variety of housing development and service providers. The topics of the workshops were Housing

Affordability; Community and Economic Development; Health/Human Services/Homeless Services; Accessible Housing; and general community needs. A summary of the comments received during the public meetings and stakeholder workshops is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.

Additionally, a survey was made available online to solicit public input. There was also a lived experience survey distributed by paper to emergency shelter and homeless service providers. The responses to both surveys were included throughout this Plan.

5. Summary of public comments

Citizen comments are included in the Citizen Participation Appendix attached to the final version of this Plan.

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

There were no comments that were not accepted by the City of Erie. A complete summary of Citizen Participation is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix attached to the final version of this Plan.

7. Summary

This plan outlines the goals of the City of Erie for its CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. Following extensive outreach and public input, the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan clearly outline programs and activities that will address the identified needs and maximize investment of federal resources.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	ERIE	Department of Economic and Community Development
HOME Administrator	ERIE	Department of Economic and Community Development
ESG Administrator	ERIE	Department of Economic and Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development is the administrating agency for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG program. The Department prepares the Five-Year Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records (ERRs), the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day-to-day basis. In addition, the City of Erie has a private planning consulting firm available to assist the city on an as needed basis.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)

1. Introduction

The City of Erie developed an outreach effort to maximize input from a large cross-section of stakeholders. The outreach effort included public meetings, public meetings notices, and stakeholder/focus group meetings meant to engage a broad variety of stakeholders and City of Erie residents.

The City solicits applications for funding and conducts public hearings to gain information on the needs of the community. During the preparation of the Consolidated Plan, the City conducted public needs meetings and an online survey to determine the needs.

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

The City of Erie acts as the single point of contact to coordinate efforts between public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health, mental health, and social service agencies. The city works with the following agencies to enhance funding and service allocations to address the housing and community development needs of the City:

- City of Erie Housing Authority - coordinate affordable housing (Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing improvements) especially for the very low- and extremely low-income residents of the City.
- Social Services Agencies - coordinate funding allocations to improve the availability and efficacy of social service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- Housing Providers - coordinate rehabilitation and development of affordable housing to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income households.

Each year, as part of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for project funding for eligible project activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and informational meetings, completing survey forms, and commenting on draft plans.

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

The City of Erie participates in the Continuum of Care, Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, comprised of City of Erie and Erie County service providers which offer a variety of housing solutions,

including emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing, with a specific focus on households facing housing instability or chronic homelessness. The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition collects data related to homelessness in the County and City, and the City uses that data to inform its Strategic Plan Needs and Goals.

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

The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition utilizes HMIS to collect data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The City of Erie uses the Home Team Written Standards for the implementation of all CoC funded projects, as well as Systems Performance Measures and Policies and Procedures for the Coordinated Entry System. To the extent feasible, evaluation of applications for ESG funding is conducted in alignment with those Systems Performance Measures and other Continuum policies and priorities.

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

1	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Infinite Erie
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via stakeholder workshop focused on community and economic development needs in the city.
2	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Erie Together
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via stakeholder workshop focused on affordable and accessible housing needs in the city.

3	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Erie County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and homeless service providers. In addition, hazard mitigation and broadband needs were discussed.
4	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Erie Redevelopment Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person interview on affordable housing and community development needs.
5	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Housing Authority of the City of Erie
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.

6	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Bethesda Lutheran Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.
7	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Manus Enterprises
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.
8	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Erie Arts and Culture
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.
9	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Meals on Wheels
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services – Persons with disabilities Services- Elderly Anti-poverty Strategy

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on neighborhood health and safety.
10	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network of Northwestern PA (SSJNN)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Services-Health Services- Youth Services-Elderly
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Housing Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via stakeholder workshop focused on health and human services.
11	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Erie Airport
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in person stakeholder workshop focused on community and economic development needs.

12	**Agency/Group/Organization**	GECAC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.
13	**Agency/Group/Organization**	COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENCE, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshop focused on accessible housing.

14	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Summit Legal Aid/Fair Housing Law Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Fair Housing/Legal
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on accessible housing.
15	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Youth League Institute
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.
16	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Achievers Entrepreneurial Hub
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.
17	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Community Cornerstone Project
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.

18	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Apartment Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Housing Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via in-person stakeholder workshops focused on affordable housing and community development needs.
19	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Gannon Small Business Development Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-Poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via virtual stakeholder workshop.
20	**Agency/Group/Organization**	JFK Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Services-Housing Services-Employment Services-Education Civic Leaders
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-Poverty Strategy
21	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Erie Department of Community & Economic Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other Government-Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted via multiple interviews.

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participate

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

Broadband providers did not participate in consultation. However, the City utilized data and mapping from PolicyMap and the FCC, as well as discussed broadband availability, accessibility and affordability with stakeholders.

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	Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition	The CoC plan to end homelessness is incorporated into this document. To the extent feasible, the City uses the CoC System Performance Measures to allocate ESG dollars.
Erie Refocused	Department of Economic and Community Development	The City's Comprehensive Plan focuses heavily on community revitalization, including affordable housing, economic development, and non-housing community needs.
Infinite Erie	Local Organization	Infinite Erie is a community and economic development strategy designed to harness funding opportunities, unify public, private, and civic stakeholders around a common vision, and advance economic development.
Buffalo Road Neighborhood Plan	Department of Economic and Community Development	This Plan focuses heavily on community revitalization, specifically the Buffalo Road Neighborhood, affordable housing, and non-housing community needs.
East Bayfront Neighborhood Plan	Department of Economic and Community Development	This Plan focuses heavily on community revitalization, specifically the downtown area, economic development, and non-housing community needs.
Downtown Streetscape Master Plan	Department of Economic and Community Development	This Plan focuses on community revitalization and non-housing community needs.
Erie County Hazard Mitigation Plan	Erie County	The Mitigation Plan informed the Hazard Mitigation section of the Market Analysis.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(l))

The City of Erie notifies adjacent municipalities of the Plan's availability for comment. In addition, County agencies were consulted in the development of the homeless strategy as the City and County participate jointly in the Continuum of Care. ESG providers in the City of Erie were also given the opportunity to provide comment.

PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(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 Erie, in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, held two (2) public hearings on January 29, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 on the needs of the City of Erie and collect input on the proposed activities to be funded. Residents were given the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG Program and to offer their suggestions on future CDBG program priorities. The public hearings were advertised in The Erie Times News and posted on the Department of Economic and Community Development webpage. All hearings were held at City Hall, 626 State Street, Erie, PA. This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The City will provide appropriate accommodations for Disabled and Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons, as requested, during these hearings. A copy of the public notices is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.

The City of Erie maintains a stakeholder contact list for the Economic and Community Development program. All stakeholders received applications and emails notifying the listees of all public hearings and meetings. Additionally, a flyer was emailed to the entire stakeholder list inviting input during four sessions during the week of January 28, 2025. A copy of the list can be found in the attached Citizen Participation Appendix.

The City of Erie advertised on April 10, 2025 that a "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the Department of Economic and Community Development on public display online at https://cityof.erie.pa.us/ and at the City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development; 626 State Street; Erie, PA during normal operational hours. The "Draft Plan" was available from April 11, 2025, to May 10, 2025, for review and comment. Two additional public hearings were held on May 5, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Additionally, a survey was made available online to solicit public input. There was also a lived experience survey distributed by paper to emergency shelter and homeless service providers. The responses to both surveys were included throughout this Plan.

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	Public Meeting 10:00 a.m.	Non-targeted/broad community	January 29, 2025 Five persons in attendance.	A complete summary of comments is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.	There were no comments that were not accepted.	
2	Public Meeting 6:00 p.m.	Non-targeted/broad community	January 29, 2025 Two persons in attendance.	A complete summary of comments is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.	There were no comments that were not accepted.	
3	Public Meeting 10:00 a.m.	Non-targeted/broad community	May 5, 2025 TBD	A complete summary of comments is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.	TBD	
4	Public Meeting 6:00 p.m.	Non-targeted/broad community	May 5, 2025 TBD	A complete summary of comments is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.	TBD	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

Housing

Housing problems include cost burden (paying more than 30% of monthly income towards monthly housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of monthly income towards monthly housing costs), overcrowding, and low-quality housing stock. The most common housing problem is cost burden. Hispanic, Black, and Asian households experienced these problems at disproportionately high levels. The elderly also experienced a higher percentage of households with cost burdens.

Disproportionately Greater Need

HUD defines a disproportionately greater housing need when a racial or ethnic group experiences housing problems at a rate greater than 10% more than for the income level as a whole. Disproportionately greater need was identified among low-income and middle-income Asian households, and middle-income Hispanic households experiencing one or more housing problems.

Public Housing

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) owns and manages more than 2,000 quality housing units in the City of Erie for low- and moderate-income families, elderly, and persons with disabilities. HACE also provides rental assistance to more than 1,000 families for units rented from private landlords through the Housing Choice Voucher program.

Homeless

The City's homeless population has increased year over year. The 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count identified its highest figure of unsheltered persons to date. The 76 identified were 36 more than 2023 and 53 greater than the 2022 figure. The 2024 PIT survey indicated that 454 individuals were homeless on the night of January 25th, 2024. There were 37 households led by Veterans who served our country, accounting for 42 persons.

In 2024, 378 homeless persons stayed in emergency shelters and 76 were living unsheltered on the night of the city's Point-in-Time survey. There were 349 households consisting of 567 Erie County residents resided in a PSH or RRH program on January 25, 2024.

Non-Homeless Special Needs Populations

Individuals with special needs but are not homeless include the elderly and frail elderly needing assistance to modify their homes to age-in-place; persons with HIV and AIDS needing better collaboration between existing providers and services to assist those who are living longer; and victims of domestic violence needing safe and secure housing.

Non-Housing Community Development

Non-housing community development needs were identified by the city, including improvements to park and recreation facilities, neighborhood facilities, non- residential historic preservation; demolition of dilapidated structures; street resurfacing, sidewalk replacement; ADA curb ramps; economic development assistance; and public services such as senior services and homeless prevention services.

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

Summary of Housing Needs

High housing costs reduce economic opportunities and access to prosperity, especially among lower-income households in the City of Erie. Between 2020 and 2023, the HUD Adjusted median family income (HAMFI) for City residents actually *declined* by 4.87% after adjusting for inflation. Median contract rent also decreased by 6.5% and median home values increased by 1.53%. This means that rental housing costs have become more affordable for households in the City, but the change may not have been by enough. Given a lack of decent, affordable housing options, the City's lower-income households often face a choice between deficient, substandard housing and cost burden.

As the data below shows, the most significant housing issue identified is cost burden, defined as spending over 30% of household income on housing costs, such as mortgage and rent payments. According to CHAS data, 30.54% of City households are cost burdened. Similarly, severe cost burden is defined as spending over 50% of household income on housing. In the City of Erie, 12.5% of households are severely cost burdened.

Demographics	2009	2020	% Change	2023	% Change
Population	100,680	96,615	-4%	94,156	-2.61%
Households	41,130	40,180	-2%	39,419	-1.93%
Median Income	$34,253.00	$38,655.00	13%	$43,397	10.93%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Housing Costs Table (SUPPLEMENTAL)

	2020	2020 inflation adjusted to 2023	2023	% Change*
Median Home Value	$90,500	$106,547	$108,200	1.53%
Median Contract Rent	$559	$705	$662	-6.50%
Median Income	$38,655.00	$45,509	$43,397	-4.87%

*% Change calculated with 2020 dollars adjust for inflation to 2023 dollars

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	7,685	7,055	8,190	4,330	12,920
Small Family Households	2,250	2,100	2,610	1,455	5,985
Large Family Households	365	475	765	460	770
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	1,305	1,300	2,035	970	2,990

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	735	1,370	1,030	409	870
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	1,395	1,210	1,200	550	830

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	130	85	90	0	305	15	20	30	50	115
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	45	0	35	10	90	10	15	35	0	60
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	165	45	175	30	415	0	55	45	15	115
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	3,280	1,185	150	0	4,615	1,185	495	150	40	1,870

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	950	2,060	770	100	3,880	255	590	675	385	1,905
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	480	0	0	0	480	150	0	0	0	150

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	3,615	1,315	450	40	5,420	1,210	585	260	105	2,160
Having none of four housing problems	2,220	3,445	3,660	1,510	10,835	640	1,710	3,820	2,670	8,840
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	1,595	1,175	270	3,040	285	355	260	900
Large Related	235	160	0	395	55	75	70	200
Elderly	750	945	235	1,930	575	480	310	1,365
Other	1,955	1,040	485	3,480	535	220	205	960
Total need by income	4,535	3,320	990	8,845	1,450	1,130	845	3,425

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	0	0	510	510	260	185	0	445
Large Related	0	0	10	10	45	50	0	95
Elderly	385	305	95	785	395	190	70	655
Other	0	1,625	400	2,025	495	0	0	495
Total need by income	385	1,930	1,015	3,330	1,195	425	70	1,690

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	190	45	130	30	395	10	65	35	0	110

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Multiple, unrelated family households	10	0	65	10	85	0	4	45	15	64
Other, non-family households	4	0	15	0	19	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	204	45	210	40	499	10	69	80	15	174

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present								

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

The CHAS data provided by HUD does not describe this category. According to the 2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, however, single-person households made up approximately 39.38% of all households (15,522 households) in the City. This represents an increase in the number of single-family households from 2018, when single-person households totaled 14,617 households. Notably, of the single-person households in the City, approximately 38% (5,882 households) were 65 years old or older. The number of elderly living alone has also increased in the last five years (up from 5,174), comprising 39% of all elderly households in 2023.

Additionally, the average single-person household in the City of Erie earns less than the median household income. Single-person households earned an annual average income of $28,657 in 2023. Comparatively, the median household income across all households in Erie was $43,397 that same year. Furthermore, the Pennsylvania median annual income in 2023 was $44,365.

No data exists to specifically describe the number or percentage of people living alone who need housing assistance, though it is likely that a substantial portion of the 5,882 single seniors who lived alone in 2023 already require or will require some type of assistance to maintain accessible, affordable housing. The median income for seniors living alone in 2023 was $24,545. This population cohort and its needs are expected to grow within the next five years. These facts together mean that single-person

households struggle to identify affordable housing options and point to a need for additional studio and one-bedroom units, as well as more accessible housing options.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

2023 ACS data reveals that 32.4% of those living with a disability in the City live below the poverty level. The population of individuals with a disability was 17.9%. Of these, 51.94% reported a cognitive disability, referring to a broad range of conditions that include intellectual disability; autism spectrum disorders; severe, persistent mental illness; brain injury; stroke; and Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, was the most common disability. Not only does this demographic also experience housing difficulties, it also points to a greater need for case management and services. During the 2024 Point-In-Time count, of the 454 individuals counted, 9% were fleeing domestic violence.

Stakeholder consultations indicated an increase in the incidence of domestic violence in the city. Survivors of domestic violence have a particularly difficult time finding and keeping housing because of lack of space for their children, bad credit, lack of employment history, and transitioning from a two income to one income household. They often stay in harmful home situations because of these barriers to finding other housing.

What are the most common housing problems?

Cost burden, defined as spending over 30% of household income on housing costs, such as mortgage and rent payments plus utilities, continues to be the most commonly experienced housing problem in the City. According to 2016-2020 CHAS data, approximately 30.54% of all households were cost burdened. Renters were three times as likely to experience cost burden (45.87% vs. 16.4% of owners). Renters earning 0-30% AMI were particularly impacted.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

Other households make up the majority of severely cost burdened households at 50.2%. Other household renters earning 30-50% AMI make up 32.37% of all cost burdened households. Other households are generally defined as all other households: other than small related, large related, or elderly, and are predominantly single person households.

Elderly households make up 26.85% of households that are cost burdened. They also make up 28.69% of households that are severely cost burdened. Elderly renters are more heavily impacted by cost and severe cost burden. As elderly living alone made up 39% of all elderly households, they disproportionately make up single-member households in the city and are thus more likely to need at-home assistance to maintain self-sufficiency.

Families make up 10.7% of households whose income was under the poverty level in 2023. Furthermore, female heads of household make up 58.75% of families who earned less than the poverty level. They represent 84.9% of all single parent households living under the poverty level.

According to stakeholders, there is a need for healthy home programs for elderly individuals who own homes that are on the way of becoming blighted. Additionally, they identified a need for reasonable modification of properties for the elderly, those with physical and mental disabilities. There is also a need for additional home services for these populations, including an increase in single-story housing.

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

It stands to reason that households that are already cost-burdened and have low incomes are going to be the first to be forced from the housing market by escalating housing costs. The lack of sufficient affordable housing makes it difficult for low-income individuals and families with children to maintain a stable household. The City's coordinated entry system evaluates needs and refers households at risk of homelessness to appropriate prevention and diversion activities. When homelessness cannot be avoided, the system and providers will connect households with the appropriate resources to stabilize them in housing as quickly and effectively as possible.

According to an article published in the Erie-Times News on February 19, 2025, one third of Erie's school-aged children lived in poverty in 2023. That is more than double the State of Pennsylvania's percentage, and a slight increase from the previous year. The article continued that a recently published U.S. Census report showed that 33.5% of families with children ages 5 to17 living within the Erie School District's boundaries did not exceed federal poverty thresholds. It's the highest percentage among Pennsylvania's 10 largest cities.

Stakeholders also discussed that low- and extremely-low-income renters have a need for larger units (3 bedroom and 4 bedroom) are in need and are difficult to identify. Furthermore, poor rental history, the need for rental assistance, and the need for legal services for eviction prevention are limiting factors for renters trying to obtain affordable housing.

According to stakeholders, individuals discharged from the hospital but requiring medical services need respite care so that they are not at risk from becoming homeless due to unavailability. They also reported service gaps in connecting people discharging from treatment facilities to housing, identifying transitional housing/step-down housing as an unmet need and an effective model for populations discharging from institutional care. Services such as case management and other services outside normal business hours are not available but are needed.

Subpopulations identified by stakeholders include LGBTQ+ populations, homeless youth and young adults (18-24), including those aging out of foster care. Youth have a need for services that include job training and placement services and mental health services. The Erie Housing Authority has vouchers in partnership with OCY for youth aging out of the foster care system, but these are underutilized. In addition, youth aging out of the foster care system are also eligible to receive a stipend for housing, but

if they accept the Housing Authority voucher, the stipend goes away. This is a difficult population to engage with and identify.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

The City of Erie uses the definition of at-risk populations as defined in 24 CFR 91.5. The households discussed above fit into this definition.

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

The lowest income households are also the highest concentrations of minorities that experience challenges accessing healthcare, housing and services. There remains a strong need for decent, affordable housing. High-cost housing, particularly for households living paycheck to paycheck and experiencing cost-burden, is a risk factor for households to experience homelessness. Further, overcrowding, a lack of affordable housing, and lack of job skills, childcare, and transportation to work are some of the key factors in instability and an increased risk of homelessness. Substance abuse and mental health diagnoses also contribute to instability.

Discussion

The high costs of housing reduce access to opportunity for City residents, particularly those with lower incomes and disabilities. The city will continue its efforts to improve the quality of existing housing stock, while supporting efforts to assist first-time homebuyers. In addition, the city will continue to support the creation of new affordable units.

Both stakeholders and city residents (via the online survey) overwhelmingly listed affordable housing as a challenge in the City of Erie.

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Introduction

This section assesses the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

HUD defines a disproportionately greater housing need when a racial or ethnic group experiences housing problems at a rate over 10 percentage points than that of the corresponding income level as a whole. The data table below summarizes the percentage of each racial/ethnic group experiencing housing problems by HUD Adjusted Median Family Income (HAMFI) levels. Where the HUD tables below report AMI, they refer to HAMFI. Housing problems include:

- Housing units lacking complete kitchen facilities and/or complete plumbing facilities
- Overcrowding (more than one person per room)
- Housing costs greater than 30% of income (i.e., cost burden)

In general, the percentage of households with a housing problem is highest for the lowest income brackets (0-50% AMI) and decreases as income increases. According to the above definitions, Asian households earning 0-30% AMI and 50-100% AMI (note the small sample size), and Hispanic households earning 50-100% AMI in the City of Erie experience one or more housing problems at a disproportionate level.

	0-30% AMI	**30-50% AMI**	**50-80% AMI**	**80-100% AMI**
Racial/ Ethnic Group	**% with one or more housing problems**			
White	77.1%	62.4%	23.8%	13.8%
Black/ African American	77.2%	68.5%	34.0%	19.2%
Asian	**100.0%**	42.9%	**42.0%**	**35.3%**
Hispanic	85.1%	66.9%	**36.6%**	**27.8%**
Jurisdiction as a Whole	78.5%	64.5%	26.3%	14.5%

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	**Has one or more of four housing problems**	**Has none of the four housing problems**	**Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems**
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,030	1,655	0
White	3,635	1,080	0
Black / African American	1,520	450	0
Asian	25	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	24	0	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	630	110	0

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	4,550	2,505	0
White	2,790	1,680	0
Black / African American	1,100	505	0
Asian	30	40	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	475	235	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,155	6,035	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
White	1,465	4,700	0
Black / African American	350	680	0
Asian	145	200	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	130	225	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	630	3,705	0
White	500	3,115	0
Black / African American	75	315	0
Asian	30	55	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	40	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	15	39	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Introduction

This section assesses the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater needs in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole. HUD defines a disproportionate impact as any group that is 10 percentage points higher than the jurisdiction as a whole. Severe housing needs include one or more of the following:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities
3. Is overcrowded with more than 1.5 person per room in the unit
4. Experiences cost burden above 50%

An analysis of the tables below indicates Asian households earning 0-30% AMI and 50-100% AMI experience severe housing problems disproportionately (note the small sample size). As with housing problems, overall, the percentage of households with a severe housing problem is highest for the lowest income brackets (0-50% AMI) and decreases as income increases.

	0-30% AMI	**30-50% AMI**	**50-80% AMI**	**80-100% AMI**
Racial/ Ethnic Group	**% with one or more severe housing problems**			
White	62.0%	27.4%	6.8%	3.2%
Black/ African American	59.9%	29.7%	4.9%	0.0%
Asian	**100%**	0.0%	**35.3%**	**35.3%**
American Indian, Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Hispanic	65.5%	20.4%	12.4%	0.0%
Jurisdiction as a Whole	62.8%	26.9%	8.7%	3.4%

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	**Has one or more of four housing problems**	**Has none of the four housing problems**	**Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems**
Jurisdiction as a whole	4,825	2,860	0
White	2,920	1,790	0
Black / African American	1,180	790	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Asian	25	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	24	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	485	255	0

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,900	5,155	0
White	1,225	3,245	0
Black / African American	475	1,125	0
Asian	0	70	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	145	565	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	710	7,480	0
White	420	5,735	0
Black / African American	50	980	0
Asian	120	220	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	44	310	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	145	4,180	0
White	115	3,500	0
Black / African American	0	390	0
Asian	30	55	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	40	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	55	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

Introduction:

This section assesses the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

HUD defines a disproportionately greater housing need when a racial or ethnic group experiences housing problems at a rate over 10 percentage points than that of the corresponding income level as a whole. Cost burden is defined as paying more than 30% of household income on housing, and severe cost burden is defined as paying greater than 50% of income on housing.

The data table below summarizes the percentage of each racial/ethnic group experiencing cost burden. Based on these definitions, Hispanic households are disproportionately cost and severely cost burdened, and Black/African American households are disproportionately severely cost burdened.

	Less than 30% (No Cost Burden)	30-50%	More than 50%	No/ negative income (not computed)
Racial/ Ethnic Group		**% with housing cost burden**		**%**
White	72.6%	13.0%	14.4%	1.6%
Black/ African American	46.8%	23.8%	**29.4%**	2.5%
Asian	**83.1%**	11.5%	5.4%	0.0%
Hispanic	43.7%	**28.7%**	**27.6%**	1.6%
Jurisdiction as a Whole	67.3%	15.3%	17.4%	1.6%

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	26,595	6,065	6,884	635
White	21,720	3,875	4,315	465
Black / African American	2,660	1,350	1,670	140
Asian	540	75	35	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	85	4	24	0
Pacific Islander	4	0	0	0
Hispanic	935	615	590	35

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

The impact of housing problems in the City of Erie varies primarily by income level. However, the following income tiers experience problems disproportionately, at a rate of at least ten percent points higher than the city as a whole:

Housing Problems

- Asian households earning 0-30% AMI and 50-100% AMI
- Hispanic households earning 50-100% AMI

Severe Housing Problems

- Asian households earning 0-30% AMI and 50-100% AMI

Cost Burden

- Hispanic households are disproportionately cost and severely cost burdened
- Black/African American households are disproportionately severely cost burdened

If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

The needs among race/ethnicities are indicated above. Income categories have more general needs such as described in NA-10 and the Housing Market Analysis.

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

Erie Refocused, the City's Comprehensive Plan, divided the city into 17 planning areas. The plan breaks down the neighborhoods into 5 categories: Highly Distressed, Distressed, Transitional At-Risk, Stable At-Risk, and Healthy. Only two neighborhoods are considered healthy, and three are stable at-risk. There were two highly distressed: East Bayfront and Trinity Park. According to the plan, these areas are the most deeply destabilizing parts of the city's housing market due to the sheer number of vacant and obsolete housing units and their proximity to downtown Erie and transitional neighborhoods. Having such dysfunctional markets so close to downtown blunts the impact of recent and future downtown investments and lowers levels of confidence and reinvestment in all surrounding neighborhoods. These neighborhoods have a 57% minority and 43% poverty rate. The distressed neighborhoods are West Bayfront, Little Italy, and Pulaski-Lighthouse. These neighborhoods have a 30% minority and 37% poverty rate. Finally, the transitional at-risk neighborhoods are Lakeside, Fairmont-McClelland, Academy-Marvintown, and Arbor Heights.

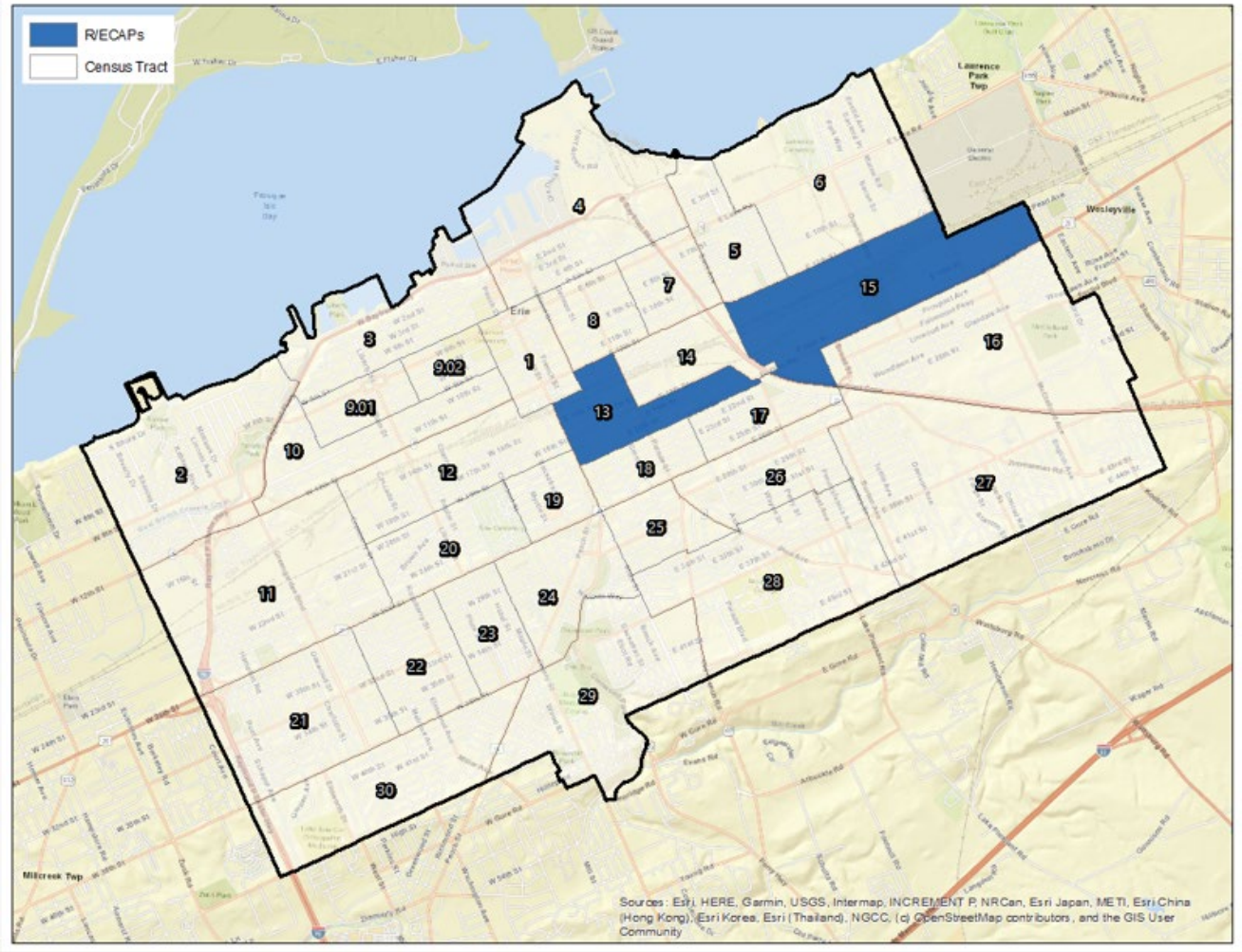


HUD defines R/ECAPs as census tracts with a non-white population of at least 50% (and 20% outside of metropolitan/micropolitan areas) and a poverty rate that either exceeds 40% *or* is three times the average tract poverty rate for the metropolitan/micropolitan area, whichever is lower.

By combining these data, it is possible to determine geographic patterns where there are concentrated areas of poverty among racial/ethnic minorities.

Under HUD's definition of racially/ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAP), no census tract falls under this definition. HUD defines concentrations of racial and ethnic minorities was as a census tract with a non-white population of 50% or more. A concentrated area of poverty is defined as a census tract with 40% or more individuals living at or below the poverty line. It is important to look at disparities between groups in relation to disproportionate poverty and access to community assets to assess fair housing needs.

The map below shows the areas the meet the minority and poverty thresholds. There are two R/ECAP census tracts. These tracts are located in the northeastern quadrant of the City and east-central areas of the City.



Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and 24 CFR Part 8 requires that 5% of all public housing units be accessible to persons with mobility impairments. Another 2% of public housing units must be accessible to persons with sensory impairments. The Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) is the standard against which residential and non-residential spaces are judged to be accessible. There are 1,858 public housing units; 108 of the Housing Authority's units are accessible.

Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders

The greatest needs of households currently living in public housing continue to be stable, decent living conditions and access to opportunity, in the form of employment, education, or transportation connections to neighborhood amenities. Housing Choice Voucher holders often face difficulty finding accessible units. The Housing Authority does have a list of available HVC apartments from landlords wishing to work with the voucher program. The list is on the HAs website and is updated on Wednesdays.

How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large

The needs for safe, decent and sanitary housing are universal needs for residents of the City of Erie.

Discussion

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The City of Erie continues to support Emergency Shelter and Rapid Rehousing needs using its Emergency Solutions Grant. Further, the Erie Continuum of Care uses the Coordinated Entry System to prioritize households entering the homeless continuum based on need and vulnerability. According to the 2024 Point-In-Time (PIT) count, conducted on January 25, 2024, there were 378 sheltered and 76 unsheltered individuals. According to the 2024 Housing Inventory Chart (HIC), there were 992 beds. Of those, 302 were in emergency shelters.

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

The chart below was populated from the City of Erie and Erie County Continuum of Care's 2024 Competition Report. The report covers the dates between October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023. The number of people experiencing homelessness, becoming homeless the first time, and exiting homelessness was not available by population type, only in the aggregate. These figures include the City of Erie and Erie County. Of those counted during the 2024 PIT, 47% of the adults battle mental illness, 36% of adults face substance use disorders, and 9% are fleeing domestic violence.

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	412	7				
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	0				
Persons in Households with Only Adults	609	69				
Chronically Homeless Individuals						

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
Chronically Homeless Families						
Veterans	130	0				
Unaccompanied Child						
Persons with HIV						
Severely Mentally Ill						
Chronic Substance Abuse						
Victims of Domestic Violence						

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	520	51
Black/African American	280	14
Ethnicity:	**Sheltered:**	**Unsheltered (optional)**
Hispanic/Latino	63	3

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

During the 2024 PIT count, there were two households with adults and children totaling seven people that were unsheltered. There were 37 families with children that were sheltered. Children under the age of 18 made up 73 sheltered individuals. Additionally, there were 349 households who resided in a PSH or RRH program. Of those, 90 households were comprised of adults and children. There were 190 children under the age of 18.

Among those counted in 2024, there were 37 households led by veterans accounting for 42 persons. There were also 28 sheltered and three unsheltered youth (aged 18-24 years).

Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.

The majority of those experiencing homelessness and staying in a shelter or PSH or RRH programs are white. Those unsheltered are also predominantly white; however, the population of the City is only 16.16% Black/African American whereas 24.94% of those experiencing homelessness were Black/African American. This means this group is disproportionately impacted by homelessness.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

The 2024 PIT Count identified its highest figure of unsheltered persons to date. The 76 identified were 36 more than 2023 and 53 greater than the 2022 figure. There are multiple factors contributing to the increase, including the ending of rental assistance funds, as well as an improved PIT Count methodology and increase in volunteers for the County, which may lead to the identification of additional persons. Stakeholders reported increases in unsheltered homelessness in previously unoccupied areas; stakeholders also reported that due to shelter limitations, mistrust and other factors, many individuals and families would prefer not to enter shelter, which may also contribute to the increase in unsheltered homelessness.

According to the 2024 Continuum of Care Competition Report, persons in emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing stayed an average of 82.5 days.. During the report year, 910 people

experienced homelessness for the first time. The street outreach program saw only 8% of exits that were to permanent destinations. Emergency shelter, safe haven, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and rapid rehousing collectively had a 32.8% success rate of those existing to permanent housing. Looking at just permanent supportive housing, the persons who remained in applicable housing projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations saw a 86.9% success rate.

The City conducted a survey of persons with lived experience, distributed through supportive service and shelter providers. The survey confirmed many of the needs identified above, including affordable housing inventory, tenant based-rental assistance, other financial resources including rental application fees, security deposits, utility deposits, and payment of rental arrears. Additional shelter capacity was identified as needed. The survey results identified barriers to maintaining stability in housing, including adequate inventory of safe and affordable housing. Barriers also include a lack of landlords willing to rent to these populations, criminal history, deposits and application fees, poor rental history, including legal and eviction issues.

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

Introduction:

Persons with special needs include the elderly and frail elderly, persons with severe mental illness, persons with developmental disabilities, persons with physical disabilities, persons with alcohol/other drug addictions. In addition, many persons with such special needs also have very low incomes.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Elderly

Elderly persons are more likely to live on fixed, very low incomes or require special supportive service to complete their daily routines. This means elderly residents especially need affordable housing options and easy access to service providers.

Representatives from organizations that work with seniors indicate that there is a continued need for affordable senior housing. Seniors often desire to “age in place,” but many also need housing that will accommodate physical disabilities. 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) data shows that within the city/s population, approximately 16% were elderly (15,054 individuals). This was an increase from the last five years, when those age 65 or older made up 14.1% of the City’s total population.

Over one in three (37.19%) persons 65 years and over had at least one disability in 2023. The most common disabilities for this age group were ambulatory (64.94%) and independent living difficulty (39.49%). In addition to living on fixed incomes, the extra cost care can create a further financial burden.

Individuals with Disabilities

There were 16,461 individuals with disabilities across in the city in 2023, representing 17.9% of the population. The most common disability within the City of Erie was cognitive difficulty. Cognitive disability is a term that refers to a broad range of conditions that include intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorders, severe, persistent mental illness, brain injury, stroke, and Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. In the city, living with cognitive difficulty was reported by 8,427 individuals, making up 51.94% of the Erie’s population that live with a disability. Other common disabilities experienced by residents include living with an ambulatory difficulty and living with independent living difficulty, making up 43.66% and 34.46% of all City residents who live with a disability respectively.

Approximately 32.4% of those living with a disability live below the poverty level, compared to 22.8% of people without a disability. The poverty rate across the City’s total population was approximately 24.6%, which is more than double the poverty rate for Pennsylvania as a whole (11.8%). Within the City as a whole, median earnings for people with a disability were $22,771, compared to $31,538 for earners without a disability. These figures underscore the struggle that many Erie households that include a person with a disability experience in finding and maintaining suitable housing.

Erie Meals on Wheels indicated an increased need for severely disabled, non-elderly individuals and Veterans.

Substance Abuse and Addiction

Substance misuse and addiction are factors City residents experiencing housing and other challenges. According to American Addiction Centers, homelessness and addiction often occur simultaneously. Substance abuse can develop due to the stressors associated with homelessness, or addiction can contribute to home loss.

The Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse administers drug and alcohol prevention programs and residential and outpatient treatment programs, as well as provides information and referrals to treatment and services. The Office's case management unit provides drug and alcohol screenings, assessments, treatment referral and monitoring, along with case management support. The Office provides treatment to priority populations such as pregnant women who inject drugs, pregnant women who use substances, persons who inject drugs, overdose survivors and veterans. If the individual does not have health insurance and cannot pay for treatment, the D&A office provides applications assistance and referrals to the appropriate paperwork for medical assistance. No one is denied service because of an inability to pay.

Although the City works through the County's drug and alcohol abuse programs, according to the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the City of Erie has seen overdose incidents increase by 196% and overdose deaths increase by 400% from 2019 to 2020. Data from authorities shows that the rate is not slowing. In the first six months of 2021, Erie experienced a 97% increase in overdose victims.

According to an article published in The Erie Times on February 26, 2024, "For the second straight year, drug deaths in the county approached record numbers in 2023. There were 121 drug-related deaths last year, with the results of toxicology testing on two suspected victims of fatal overdoses last year still pending as of Thursday, according to Erie County Coroner Lyell Cook." The article went on to explain that fact sheets were distributed in the Spring of 2024 to educate residents that readily available drugs are factors in more deaths of Americans under the age of 50 than any other cause of death.

The Erie Times article also described local efforts to help those experiencing drug addiction. The Erie Burau of Police started a program in the summer of 2022 to investigate all overdose deaths and identify at-risk individuals an offer aid in connecting with resources including treatment programs. Educational efforts are an ongoing need to make people aware of the resources and aid available.

According to the Pennsylvania Youth Survey reports, Erie County has one of the highest rates of adolescent substance use in the state. Stakeholders cited the report and indicated that these challenges are further exacerbated by a lack of adequate mental health support and mentorship for young girls.

What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

Individuals who have special needs typically have extremely low incomes and face tremendous challenges finding housing that they can afford. Individuals with special needs also require supportive services in addition to housing that they can afford. Public and private sources have limited funds available for these purposes, making it difficult for non-profit organizations to develop and operate housing and supportive service programs.

Supportive housing for these special needs populations is a critical need. More specifically, supportive services for persons exiting substance misuse and mental health treatment, persons discharging from hospitals or other medical treatment, and persons exiting the prison system require stable environments in order to avoid relapse, recidivism and returns to homelessness. The City determined these needs based on a variety of stakeholder and public meetings comprised of service and housing providers.

Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:

Data for those living with HIV/AIDS was not available through various public health sources, including the CDC, at the city level; therefore, the entirety of Erie County was researched.

Referring to data from the AIDSVu tool, which is presented by Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health in partnership with Gilead Sciences, Inc. and the Center for AIDS Research at Emory University (CFAR), throughout the entire County the incidence of HIV is 153 per 100,000 people in 2022. The highest prevalence of the virus is in males (74.1% of cases). Furthermore, Black/African American individuals are disproportionately impacted as they make up 35.3% of cases but only make up 7% of the total County population in 2022.

If the PJ will establish a preference for a HOME TBRA activity for persons with a specific category of disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness), describe their unmet need for housing and services needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2) (ii))

Discussion:

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

Through CDBG funds, the City of Erie can fund the construction, rehabilitation, or installation of public facilities. Eligible public facilities include neighborhood facilities (such as educational centers, parks, recreation centers, and libraries) and facilities for special needs populations (such as homeless shelters, elderly facilities, or centers for people with disabilities).

Erie Refocused outlined the importance of clean and green vacant city lots typically involve innovative not-for-profit agencies that work closely with municipal planners, park managers, and public works staff. This is necessitated by the wide range of potential end uses for a vacant lot: as rain gardens to limit runoff, as side yards for adjacent homeowners, as community gardens, as public parks or naturalized areas, or as parcels for strategic redevelopment. Investments must be focused on protecting and improving community, cultural, and historic assets in the city.

The plan also suggests providing financial incentives and support for home improvements on blocks with high potential for return on investment and coordinating with improvements to streets, sidewalks, and trees. The city should focus on gateway corridors through streetscape improvements, blight mitigation, and beautification.

The East Bayfront Neighborhood Plan recognizes the community's desire for more park space and suggests a park and trail network.

The Active Erie Transportation Plan is a plan to make Erie more walkable and bikeable. Recommendations in the plan include bikeways along low-stress streets and local connections to destinations including schools, parks, and shopping areas.

The Downtown Streetscape Master Plan proposes improvements to many city streets, such as reducing travel lane widths to reduce traffic speeds and shorten pedestrian crossing distance, and broad concrete sidewalks to facilitate street furnishings and pedestrian access. Adding bicycle lanes will also increase the connectivity of the city and improve a naturally affordable means of transportation.

Stakeholders reported a need for increased shelter capacity in the City. Many households end up in hotels or unsheltered due to lack of capacity.

How were these needs determined?

The public facility needs listed are based on input from multiple stakeholders consulted through sessions, public meetings, and an online survey. These stakeholders included City staff and elected officials, Housing Authority of the City of Erie staff, nonprofit organizations, homeless housing and service providers, organizations serving people with disabilities, housing developers, civic organizations, and City residents.

Needs were also determined based on a review of previous local and regional plans, such as the Downtown Streetscape Master Plan (2010), the Active Erie Transportation Plan (2021), the City's comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused (2016)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

Through CDBG funds, the city can also fund the construction, rehabilitation, or installation of public improvements. Public improvements include, but are not limited to, street and sidewalk improvements, water and sewer installation, and maintenance and ADA compliance construction and rehabilitation.

The improvements to city streets the Downtown Streetscape Master Plan recommends will improve sidewalks so that pedestrians of all ages and abilities will feel safe and be able to travel around the city. The plan also recommends lighting standards which will in-turn add to pedestrian safety and the ability for all to navigate through the streets. The East Bayfront Neighborhood Plan also makes this recommendation. Stakeholders reported that the City is neither walkable nor safely cyclability. It is difficult for low-income individuals to get access to nutritious and affordable food without proper transit to these amenities. Transportation options for households that don't or can't drive were also identified as a need, particularly for households needing to access employment, childcare, housing, etc.

Erie Refocused points out a starkly uneven quality of the built environment, especially downtown. The downtown streets are too wide for the volume of traffic they handle, and their emptiness further reinforces the perceived lack of business activity. Downtown rehabilitation is needed as buildings show signs of deterioration. There are also several vacant and underutilized areas.

The Buffalo Road Neighborhood and the East Bayfront Neighborhood Plans identified and prioritized unsound properties that need to be demolished. Both plans also suggest working with the land trust.

To help bolster the Bayfront area, mixed-use, pedestrian -focused redevelopment is a priority. Erie Refocused suggests developing partnering with the land bank to help guide demolition and blight remediation projects. In addition, even though heavy industry in the Bayfront area has subsided over the last few decades, Lake Erie as a whole remains troubled by pollution from agricultural runoff, as well as more urban sources — particularly stormwater runoff. The City of Erie participates in Erie County's Act 167 Stormwater Management planning process. As demolition activity yields a growing supply of vacant and fallow land, Erie should consider opportunities to leverage vacant land as a tool to store and clean stormwater runoff while simultaneously beautifying and repurposing parts of the city.

The resident survey respondents often mentioned a need for more road and sidewalk improvements.

How were these needs determined?

The public improvement needs listed are based on input from multiple stakeholders consulted through sessions, public meetings, and an online survey. These stakeholders included City staff and elected officials, Housing Authority of the City of Erie staff, nonprofit organizations, homeless housing and service providers, organizations serving people with disabilities, housing developers, civic organizations, and City residents.

Needs were also determined based on a review the Buffalo Road Neighborhood Plan (2023), the East Bayfront Neighborhood Plan (2020), the Downtown Streetscape Master Plan (2010), the City's comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused (2016)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

Through CDBG funds, the City can fund an array of public services. Eligible public services include, but are not limited to, homeless services, education and workforce development programs, homebuyer counseling, elderly care and programs, and childcare and health services for low- moderate-income households.

Stakeholders identified several public services that are needed in the City:

- Continued long-term supportive services for residents who have been at risk previously, including housing stability, case management services
- Elderly housing and services
- Food services, particularly for the elderly, severely disabled and homebound, and Veterans Employment, financial literacy, credit repair and other housing education and counseling for survivors of domestic violence, particularly those with children
- Street outreach services to rapidly place households into shelter or housing
- Continue to prioritize community development and youth empowerment

The resident survey revealed the needs for mental health care, healthcare, and substance abuse services as well as homeless services.

Erie Refocused suggests part of downtown revitalization includes relocating human service functions to areas beyond the central business district.

How were these needs determined?

The public service needs listed are based on input from multiple stakeholders consulted through sessions, public meetings, and an online survey. These stakeholders included City staff and elected officials, Housing Authority of the City of Erie staff, nonprofit organizations, homeless housing and service providers, organizations serving people with disabilities, housing developers, civic organizations, and City residents.

Needs were also determined based on a review of previous local and regional plans, such as the City's comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused (2016).

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

This market analysis identifies the need to preserve existing affordable housing opportunities while advancing efforts to create a diverse supply of additional affordable units. Ideally, the City of Erie will have a mix of housing types to accommodate households of all types and income levels. The City's housing strategies will be especially guided by the increasing mismatch between incomes and housing costs and the specific accommodations necessary to ensure that special needs populations have adequate affordable housing options with appropriate supportive services where needed.

MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

Introduction

The housing stock in the City of Erie is primarily single-family (58%) and owner-occupied (52%). Data from the 2023 ACS indicates that 7.93 % of all adults aged 18-64 live below the poverty line. Among the entire population, 22.2% live below the poverty line. Among children under the age of 18 and seniors over the age of 65, approximately 37.5% and 15.4%, respectively, live below the poverty line. The high incidence of poverty among households with children and persons with disabilities points to the need for affordable housing, particularly within the renter-occupied market.

Of the nearly 21,000 owner-occupied units in the City, 81% consist of three or more bedrooms. Among renter-occupied units, two-bedroom units make up most of the units with just over 39%. One-and three- or more bedroom units make up 23% and 32%, respectively. Single family units – which tend to be larger than multi-family units – comprise over 60% of the housing stock. There is a need for more multi-family housing units which tend to be more affordable, particularly for small families with children and single person households, demographic groups particularly prone to cost burden and severe cost burden.

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	26,000	58%
1-unit, attached structure	1,805	4%
2-4 units	11,100	25%
5-19 units	2,515	6%
20 or more units	2,985	7%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	454	1%
Total	***44,859***	***100%***

Table 22 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	40	0%	1,045	5%
1 bedroom	360	2%	4,400	23%
2 bedrooms	3,495	17%	7,600	39%
3 or more bedrooms	16,995	81%	6,240	32%
Total	***20,890***	***100%***	***19,285***	***99%***

Table 23 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

There are 1,857 housing units owned and managed by the Housing Authority, as well as 1,173 Housing Choice Voucher holders in the City of Erie. Households occupying these units have incomes below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI). In addition, the list below generated by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency identifies the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit assisted inventory within the City of Erie, serving households with incomes below 60% AMI.

In addition, the City of Erie supports Housing and Neighborhood Development Services (HANDS) and other nonprofit housing developers to provide affordable housing options for households with incomes below 80% AMI. The City of Erie also offers a first-time homebuyer program, which provides rehabilitation assistance along with down payment and closing costs for homeowners purchasing and rehabilitating their first home. Up to $24,999 is available per homebuyer. The City of Erie also offers owner-occupied rehabilitation for homeowners up to $24,999 per homeowner.

HACE is currently considering an RFP to project base 50 vouchers to serve chronically homeless. It is also considering applying for a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant.

Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

There are 268 units with subsidies that are expected to expire during the next five-year planning period. Another 254 units have subsidies that will expire within ten years. The City of Erie will continue to prioritize the creation of new and preservation of existing affordable housing units.

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

No. Like most of the nation, the City is currently experiencing a significant shortage of affordable and available rental units for extremely low-income households. According to 2016-2020 CHAS data, there are 7,685 households within the City living at or below 30% AMI. Households within this extremely low-income range experience housing instability at a comparatively higher rate. Nearly four out of five households living at 30% AMI are cost burdened. Over 95% of these households experience a “severe housing problem,” such as lacking a complete kitchen, living without adequate plumbing, being severely overcrowded, or spending 50% or more of their income on housing. As federal, state, and local public funding options have continued to decline, the ability to promote affordable-housing developments in the City of Erie has been increasingly difficult. As a result, it is unlikely that the city’s inventory of affordable and safe housing will keep pace with demand. The gap in affordable and safe housing particularly affects households that are low-income, elderly, and/or those living with a disability.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

According to the Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE), there is a need for more 3- and 4-bedroom homes. Additionally, there is a need for more one-bedroom homes for the elderly.

Stakeholders agree there is a need for safe, sanitary, accessible, and affordable housing throughout the City of Erie. Specifically, there is a strong need for housing affordable to households earning less than 50% of the median income as well as single person households, and practical options are needed to ensure the availability of accessible units for the elderly and people with physical disabilities. CHAS and ACS data revealed that a significant proportion of single-person households are cost burdened/severely cost burdened, if considering "Other" households to be single-person households. In addition, affordable housing for the elderly is a need, as this population represents the largest share of cost-burdened households in the City. Stakeholders also reported the need for affordable housing options, including medical respite care, for adults with disabilities (physical, mental health, substance misuse, and intellectual/developmental). Housing for families was also identified as a need, as the City has experienced an increase in families with children experiencing homelessness for the first time.

Stakeholders also identified needs for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and veterans who need assistance with home maintenance and up keep. There is a need for home services to aid these households to keep their homes in good condition and keep them housed.

MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

Introduction

The HUD-provided table below indicates the number of affordable units available to households with various income levels. The 1,895 rental units identified as affordable to households below 30% of the HUD-adjusted Median Family Income (HAMFI) represent only 7.65% of the rental housing inventory in the city. Given that CHAS data indicates there are 5,775 renter households with incomes below 30% of HAMFI, there are just over three households that need affordable housing at this income level for each affordable unit available, representing a clear and demanding need for additional affordable housing units.

The 2024 Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom unit in Erie is $947 per month. To avoid being cost burdened, a household needs to earn $3,120 per month, or roughly $18 per hour. A minimum wage worker in the city earning $7.25 per hour needs to work in excess of 100 hours per week to afford a two-bedroom unit. As of January 1, 2024, the monthly Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment is $943. Households for which this is the sole source of income can spend $283 monthly on housing, which is less than 30% of the cost of renting a one-bedroom unit. In fact, the entire SSI payment would not cover the rent for a two-bedroom home.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Median Home Value	85,900	90,500	5%
Median Contract Rent	511	559	9%

Table 24 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Housing Costs Table (SUPPLEMENTAL)

	2020	2020 inflation adjusted to 2023	2023	% Change*
Median Home Value	$90,500	$106,547	$108,200	1.53%
Median Contract Rent	$559	$705	$662	-6.50%
Median Income	$38,655.00	$45,509	$43,397	-4.87%

*% Change calculated with 2020 dollars adjust for inflation to 2023 dollars

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than $500	7,115	36.9%
$500-999	10,725	55.6%
$1,000-1,499	1,055	5.5%
$1,500-1,999	250	1.3%
$2,000 or more	139	0.7%

Rent Paid	Number	%
Total	***19,284***	***100.0%***

Table 25 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Housing Affordability

Number of Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	1,895	No Data
50% HAMFI	8,130	3,660
80% HAMFI	14,755	8,070
100% HAMFI	No Data	10,814
Total	***24,780***	***22,544***

Table 26 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent ($)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	703	731	947	1,174	1,301
High HOME Rent	608	631	812	1,027	1,098
Low HOME Rent	585	626	752	868	968

Table 27 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Monthly Rent (Supplemental)

Monthly Rent ($)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	$726	$757	$983	$1,227	$1,345
High HOME Rent	$726	$757	$983	$1,227	$1,345
Low HOME Rent	$705	$755	$906	$1,046	$1,167

Data Source: 2024 HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

No. The tables above show that there is insufficient housing for extremely low and low-income households in the City. HUD calculates that the median household income for Erie in 2023 was $43,397. For extremely low-income households (meaning those who earn at or below 30% of the Median Household Income), the annual earnings for the household would be approximately $13,019. Securing

housing that would be affordable at this income level poses a challenge for a substantial portion of extremely low-income households. According to 2016-2020 CHAS data, although there were 5,840 renter households earning at or below 30% AMI, there were only 1,895 rental housing units that would be considered affordable to those households. That implies that for every affordable rental unit there are more than three households that need a unit available at this income tier. This calculation also assumes that only those earning low incomes are occupying the units in that rental price range.

HUD estimates that there are 6,515 low-income households and 11,790 housing units (8,130 rental units and 3,660 units for homeownership) considered affordable to these households. While it appears there are sufficient units, the median rent is $662, and low-income households can pay no more than $325-$542 in rent and utilities without experiencing cost burden. Without subsidy, the available units are still unaffordable to the lowest income populations, forcing them to choose between quality units and affordability.

How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

As depicted in the supplemental housing costs table, the cost of rent decreased 4.87% from 2020 to 2023. According to 2023 ACS, median contract rent in the City of Erie was $662. It is unusual for rent prices to drop and it is likely that rents will rise given the steadily increasing mortgage rates. While increasing median home values are important for building equity, they also make home purchasing less affordable as the supply of low-priced homes decreases. Without significant new production, this trend is expected to continue, meaning housing is likely to become less affordable over time. It is likely that housing affordability will continue to be an issue for City residents over and beyond the next five years. Additionally, with fewer homeowners selling and more renters remaining renters, demand will continue to outpace the supply meaning that housing affordability in the city will remain a challenge and likely worsen, particularly as subsidized units are lost from the inventory.

How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

HUD HOME Rent limits and Fair Market rents as reported above are higher than the median gross rent as reported by the 2019-2023 ACS Five Year Estimates. This does not mean there is sufficient supply of affordable housing in the City of Erie. Even with landlord incentive programs (paying security deposits), stakeholders report it is difficult to find affordable rental housing due to insufficient inventory. Further, stakeholders reported higher rents than the FMR and Median rents. For a one bedroom, stakeholders indicated landlords charge about $1,000/month.

Preserving affordable housing is an ongoing goal of the city. As housing construction and rehabilitation costs continue to rise, it will be increasingly difficult to produce affordable housing and preserve current affordable housing. Developing new units of affordable housing, particularly rental housing for families and the elderly, continues to be a goal.

MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

Introduction

The following data provides an overview of the condition of housing in the City.

Describe the jurisdiction's definition of "standard condition" and "substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation":

Standard Condition: No major structural defects; adequate plumbing and kitchen facilities; appearance which does not create a blighting influence; and the house meets additional, more stringent, local standards and building codes, including lead-based paint clearance.

Substandard Condition: Major structural defects, lack of or inadequate plumbing and kitchen facilities, appearance that creates a blighting influence, and failure to meet or comply with housing and building codes.

Substandard Condition but Suitable for Rehabilitation: The nature of the substandard condition makes rehabilitation both financially and structurally feasible.

Housing Conditions: Condition of units is assessed using the same criteria as in the Needs Assessment. This includes: 1) lacks complete plumbing facilities, 2) lacks complete kitchen facilities, 3) more than one person per room, 4) cost burden (amount of income allocated to housing) is greater than 30%, and 5) complies with applicable building code standards.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	4,135	20%	8,975	47%
With two selected Conditions	145	1%	455	2%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	25	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	16,615	80%	9,835	51%
Total	***20,895***	***101%***	***19,290***	***100%***

Table 28 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	470	2%	870	5%
1980-1999	975	5%	2,470	13%
1950-1979	9,575	46%	6,655	35%

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Before 1950	9,870	47%	9,300	48%
Total	***20,890***	***100%***	***19,295***	***101%***

Table 29 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	19,445	93%	15,955	83%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	925	4%	285	1%

Table 30 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Total Units) 2016-2020 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units			
Abandoned Vacant Units			
REO Properties			
Abandoned REO Properties			

Table 31 - Vacant Units

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

The housing stock in Erie is aged. Older housing typically requires more continual maintenance. In the absence of routine maintenance, older housing can quickly become substandard. A common age threshold used to signal a potential deficiency is approximately 50 years or more. Nearly half of the homes in the City were constructed prior to 1950 (47.72%). Another 40.4% of all the total housing stock was built between 1950 and 1979.

Renter-occupied units have a much higher prevalence (47%) of having at least one selected condition than owner-occupied units (20%). This may indicate that more renter-occupied units than owner-occupied units require rehabilitation, although “selected condition” includes cost burden and overcrowding, which are not reflections of the physical state of the unit. It is uncommon for both owner- and renter-occupied units to have more than one selected condition.

This suggests that rehabilitation is a need for both household groups. Stakeholders also reported deferred maintenance of owner-occupied homes results when homeowners, particularly elderly homeowners, choose food, medicine and other daily expenses over the cost to keep up an older home.

New/first-time homeowners and renters are also burdened with the cost of maintaining a home on limited income.

The City of Erie has a rental registration ordinance and Tenant Bill of Rights, which includes an inspection component. Data was not available regarding the inspections and the number of substandard units.

Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

Lead-based paint was banned from residential use in 1978. All houses constructed before 1978 are therefore considered at risk for containing lead-based paint. HUD has made the elimination of housing units containing lead-based paint a priority. The poisoning of children from contact with lead-based paint has been recognized as a major public health problem by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). In 2024, the CDC estimates that about half a million US children aged 1 to 5 have blood lead levels above 5 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL), which is the level at which the CDC recommends public health action. Lead poisoning causes IQ reductions, reading and learning disabilities, decreased attention span, hyperactivity, and aggressive behavior.

Lead-based paint hazards pose the greatest risk for children, especially those under seven years of age. The HUD IDIS-generated table above provides data on owner-occupied and renter- occupied units built before 1980 with children present. As the table indicates, children living in housing constructed before 1980, whether owner- or renter-occupied, face a substantially higher risk of encountering lead-based paint.

According to Table 39 above, 4% of owner-occupied and 1% renter-occupied housing units built prior to 1980 have children present. According to the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie, (RACE) Erie County has the 10th highest number of childhood lead poisonings annually. It is also three times more black children, and 1.5 times more Hispanic children poisoned than white children.

RACE runs the Healthy Homes program. The goal of this program is to promote healthy and safe housing to reduce lead poisoning, hospitalizations, injuries, illnesses, or deaths caused by preventable home health or safety hazards. This program builds on the Authority's other rehabilitation programs to address a variety of environmental health and safety concerns, including lead, allergens, asthma, carbon monoxide, home safety, and pests.

The program:

- Conducts comprehensive Healthy Home Assessments of your home to identify potential health/safety risks, including biological agents, chemical agents, and structural deficiencies.
- Provides education and intervention strategies that can be implemented to prevent or reduce identified risks before negative outcomes occur or worsen.
- Collaborates with healthcare providers and neighborhood groups throughout the city to increase awareness of healthy homes principles and services available to mitigate hazards, particularly for households within qualified census tracts (QCTs).

- Promotes a healthy homes philosophy to the general public and local government entities to increase awareness and understanding of potential hazards and the types of illnesses and injuries related to those hazards.

Discussion

The vacant unit table does not populate; however, according to 2023 ACS 5-year estimates, the percentage of vacant units in the City of Erie significantly decreased by 27.5% from 12.8% to 10.04%. Erie is getting closer to a healthy vacancy rate. A healthy vacancy rate is considered to be between 5-10% as it indicates a balance between supply and demand. The City does not have a comprehensive inventory of abandoned properties or vacant properties suitable for rehabilitation, but its neighborhood plans identify some properties that need to be demolished. The City does invest funding towards blight remediation and demolition.

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

Introduction

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) owns and manages more than 2,000 quality housing units in the City of Erie for low- and moderate-income families, elderly, and persons with disabilities.

HACE also provides rental assistance to more than 1,000 families for units rented from private landlords through the Housing Choice Voucher program. The housing choice voucher program is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. Since housing assistance is provided on behalf of the family or individual, participants are able to find their own housing, including single-family homes, townhouses and apartments.

The types of housing in our programs are varied. From multi-family units to single family homes, from suburban apartment style complexes to high rise buildings, we have the housing available to meet many low-income needs.

Totals Number of Units

Program Type									
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	42	1,858	1,104	44	1,060	427	0	0
# of accessible units									
***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**									

Table 32 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

In the City of Erie, there are seven public housing developments with 1,857 units.

Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

Consistent with 24 CFR 8.25, to the greatest extent possible, HACE is required to have at least five percent of their units accessible to people with disabilities. HACE includes accessibility improvements in every modernization project. The table below contains the most recent (2023) inspection scores for public housing properties in the HACE portfolio as reported by HUD's REAC database, with 100 being a perfect score. A score of 90 to 100 is a great score and the property will be inspected every 3 years. A score of 80 to 89 is a good score and the property will be inspected every 2 years. A score of 79 or below means there were several areas of concern and will be inspected annually. A passing score is considered anything above 60. There are no developments that scored less than 60.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Harbor Homes	64c*
Lake City	63c*
Horan Garden Apts.	78c*
Pineview	74c*
Joseph A. Schmid Towers	60c
Friendship Apts.	91b
Leonard J. Ostrow Apartments	91b*

Table 33 - Public Housing Condition

Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

There are five housing developments that scored less than 79, meaning they are in need of improvements and will be inspected annually. The other two developments are in good shape and will not need any immediate revitalization.

Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:

The Housing Authority works to ensure safe and healthy homes for its residents. It has planned renovations and maintenance for many of the units it owns and manages. A large number of the major improvements will occur in the most in need properties:

Harbor homes – extensive renovations are planned for kitchens, bathrooms, lighting, doors, insulation, and flooring. Roof shingles will be replaced and gutter guards installed. Some units will also have air conditioning units replaced. Sidewalk repairs and parking lot repaving are also scheduled.

Lake City – Water pipes will be replaced (and associated work). There will also be flooring and security lighting upgrades. The cold air return will be updated, stoops and handrails will be replaced, and upgrades will be made to wingwalls and façade. Sidewalk repairs and parking lot repaving are also scheduled.

Horan Garden Apartments – Upgrades will be made to the plumbing, roof (including gutters and downspouts), stoops, handrails, and flooring. The exterior doors, frames, and locksets will be replaced. Windows and screens will be replaced, and new insulation will be installed in the attic and in the exterior walls. Exterior upgrades include fencing, playgrounds, painting, siding, sidewalk repairs, and parking lot repaving.

Pineview – There will be upgrades and repairs to kitchens and bathrooms, stoops and handrails, and repairs to sidewalks and curbing. Work will include the replacement of the roof (including gutters and downspouts).

Joseph A. Schmid Towers – Upgrades will include flooring, heating system, sanitary pipes, interior doors, exteriors doors, heaters, and apartment doors. The exhaust units on the rooftop will be replaced and duct work will be cleaned. Exterior work will include replacing sidewalks, curbs, and lighting.

Discussion:

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

Introduction

The City of Erie works with the Erie County Department of Human Services to provide homeless persons with assistance through the Erie County Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition (the Erie City and Erie County Continuum of Care).

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	122	51	53	301	
Households with Only Adults	190	0	47	127	
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	190	
Veterans	3	0	0	122	
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	12	0	

Table 34 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are use to complement services targeted to homeless persons

The City of Erie has many organizations offering services dedicated to assisting those experiencing homelessness.

The Erie County Department of Human Services provides case management for households experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The Department oversees care for children and youth, drug and alcohol abuse, intellectual disabilities and autism, and mental health. Mental health programs include free parent training and parent support groups, and several programs focus on drug use prevention, awareness, and overdoes prevention. The dedicated website for mental health also provides a map of county providers for adults, children and youth. Stairways Behavioral Health also provides mental health and addiction services.

St. Paul's Neighborhood Clinic and Community Health Net's (CHN) provide professional healthcare and dental services for those experiencing homelessness. CHN also provides integrated behavioral health (including addiction services), and operates the Ryan White Part C Program which is committed to providing comprehensive HIV/AIDS medical care.

Family Services of Northwestern Pennsylvania's services include Child Welfare Services; In-Home Behavioral Health Services; Outpatient Psychiatric Services, School-Based Services; and Mentoring and Education Services. The Mental Health Association of Northwestern Pennsylvania also provides support and services for those in recovery.

The Gaudenzia Community House offers drug and alcohol addiction treatment to women, women who are pregnant, and women with children.

The Mercyhurst University Thomas J. Gamble Civic Institute is a university-community partnership dedicated to the well-being of the Erie region. It collaborates with several community partners in areas including child welfare, domestic violence, housing and homelessness, drugs and alcohol, criminal justice, and health. The Civic Institute promotes positive outcomes within our community by linking resources and facilitating discussions with key partners and decision-makers.

St. Martin's Center helps to address both emergency needs and long-term goals of the community. It provides a food pantry, assistance for security deposits and/or rent, mortgage assistance, financial literacy counseling, basic budge counseling, home buying education, and early learning.

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.

The City of Erie has many services and facilities that strive to meet the needs of homeless persons.

- City Mission/Grace House - To effectively meet both the immediate and long-term challenges of those we serve, the Erie City Mission has five core programs that focus on both intervention and prevention needs. Our intervention programs include an emergency men's shelter, long-term addictions recovery for men and women, and hunger relief through free meals. Our prevention program, Urban University, offers educational, leadership, and career exploration opportunities to inner-city youth. The City Mission provides 56 individual beds for the Emergency Shelter. The agency has 96 beds available for all of their programs.

- Community Shelter Services - This organization provides emergency shelter mainly to people in single-parent families with children and unaccompanied adult men. It has an inventory of 55 total beds (30 for individuals and 25 for families). This organization also offers outreach programs to the homeless of the area, three meals per day to its clients, and clothing when and if it is available.

- Community of Caring - This facility provides 24 beds of emergency shelter. Its main clients are men, women, and those with a mental illness.

- St. Patrick's Haven - This facility provides homeless shelter to men of the area. Currently, it has undergone renovations and now has the capacity to serve 21 individuals.

- The Refuge - This organization provides emergency assistance to homeless families. It serves 15 families on average and is always nearly 100% occupied. Many of the clients are victims of domestic violence, have mental health problems, or drug and alcohol problems. The Refuge has a total of 32 beds.

- SafeNet - Hospitality House - This organization has beds for 43 persons in families with children and provides services for abused females and children.

- Mercy Center for Women - The Center provides housing for 25-27 residents at any given time. This agency also provides mentoring programs, a professional clothing program, self-esteem/self-empowerment, and addictive relationships counseling.

- SafeNet-TLC Program and Bridge House –Transitional Housing. TLC has six (6) beds and Bridge House has 20 beds.

- Erie United Methodist Alliance -- In partnership with Family Services of NW PA and Bethesda Lutheran Services, EUMA began the Journey Home program that provides youth aging out of foster care with independent and supportive living apartments. These traditional apartments and the supportive living environment that EUMA provides helps them learn to live independently after turning 18. At all supportive living sites, an EUMA live-in resident assistant provides safety, security and is a partner in helping youth navigate life on their own.

- The Upper Room – This organization provides a safe and welcoming place for Erie’s poor and homeless year-round. It offers its guests a warm, comfortable place where they are free to spend as much time as they wish. It provides important daily services such as: restroom facilities, access to showers through the Downtown YMCA, telephone privileges, daily newspapers, limited computer use, and an address for receiving essential correspondence. It also serves daily hot coffee, occasional donated snacks, and regular Sunday meals.

- GECAC - In order to reduce poverty in its community, a Community Action Agency works to better focus available local, state, federal, and private resources to assist low-income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge, to gain access to new opportunities, and

achieve economic self-sufficiency. This agency provides advocacy, education, technical assistance, collaboration, and networking.

- The Erie County Department of Veteran Services – This department is committed to aiding and assisting all Erie County Veterans and their families in obtaining federal, state and county benefits.

The City also has a tight network of Community Centers that, among other services, offer housing assistance, after school programs, childcare, and financial empowerment training. Working together in a collaborative manner, they have created the Minority Community Investment Coalition. The goal of the coalition is to better coordinate services and speak as one as they seek more financial resources.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)

Introduction

Various supportive housing needs of the non-homeless have been identified by service providers who were interviewed during the Consolidated Plan process. These needs include home repair, maintenance, and modifications for the elderly and physically disabled, and quality affordable housing for all sub-populations. Nearly all of the stakeholders interviewed identified the lack of safe, decent affordable housing as one of the major unmet needs facing special needs populations in the City of Erie.

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

Various populations with special needs require supportive housing. For some individuals, supportive housing is needed because they are unable to undertake the activities of daily living without assistance. Such assistance includes financial literacy/home maintenance education, food and meal delivery services for the elderly and disabled, mental health and substance misuse counseling.

Elderly

For seniors, housing maintenance was identified as a key issue among stakeholders. The housing stock in Erie is old and deteriorating. Many of the city's elderly residents are on fixed income and are unable to afford repairs to keep their home in good condition. Elderly households with disabilities are more likely to live below the poverty level in the City of Erie.

Individuals with Disabilities

Mental health issues were identified as a concern by stakeholders, particularly for the homeless population. In addition, homeless service providers often do not have the expertise or capacity to meet the needs of homeless clients who are diagnosed with severe mental illness. Severe mental illness includes the diagnoses of psychoses and major affective disorders such as bipolar and major depression. The condition must be chronic, meaning it has existed for at least one year, to meet the HUD definition for a disability. The city has many services available to assist with mental health, but wraparound services are necessary to ensure stability in housing is achieved. Mental health diagnoses often present barriers to affordable housing for many, given the stigmas associated.

Substance Abuse and Addiction

There has been an increase in the number of drug overdose-related deaths in the City of Erie. As discussed in NA-45, to help combat the increasing number of overdoes-related deaths, the city now has several programs to assist those with drug and alcohol issues. Additionally, there are many educational campaigns in effect to help residents stay informed about the issue, how to prevent it, and how to seek

help for themselves or loved ones. An increase in housing to assist this subpopulation is a need for the city.

Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing

While the City of Erie follows Pennsylvania's state mandated procedures for discharge from institutions, there is a need for supportive housing for these residents. Inventory is limited, though, and discharge to shelter or other temporary housing is not uncommon.

Housing may be an issue, but there are a number of services available to help sub populations, including those returning from an institution:

- Bethesda Trinity Center provides individualized mental and behavioral health services in a residential, school, or community setting to children, youth, and families. They Boys & Girls Club of Erie enables youth to improve their educational and technological skills, and to receive assistance in solving emotional and inter-personal problems.

- Community Resources for Independence (CRI) is a community based, non-residential, non-profit corporation that connects community resources for independent living to individuals with disabilities in order to maximize their independence and the accessibility of the communities in which they live. This agency helps those with physical and intellectual disabilities, adults with autism, veterans, and the elderly.

- Voices for Independence is dedicated to creating a service delivery system that empowers people with disabilities to take control of their lives, and become active and productive members of their communities. This organization provides home care, nursing home transition care, and can assist with home modifications by helping evaluate solutions and opportunities for affordability and potential funding.

- The YMCA of Greater Erie runs the Erie County Re-Entry Services and Support Alliance (ECRSSA) program. It offers support and services for those re-entering a law-abiding life. A person in need of these services can work with a client mentor and receive faith-based community mentoring. This program also provides job training, employment, education, medical and mental health care.

Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

[Need one-year goals]

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

[Need one-year goals]

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

Public policies and plans can impact on municipalities affordable housing options. Local zoning code and comprehensive plans guide the development of communities. Restrictive zoning codes on type and density of housing can create affordable housing issues. Restrictive zoning can make it more expensive for developers to increase the supply of housing and thus the housing that is created is not affordable to low- to moderate-income households.

The City of Erie has 17 zoning districts: six residential, seven commercial, and four manufacturing/industrial. Overall, Erie's zoning code contains many provisions that will not restrict affordable housing. The City allows accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all of its residential districts and several other non-residential districts. ADUs are essential for supplying affordable units and supplementing rental income to those struggling to afford their existing home. The City also allows for multi-family housing developments in several of its residential and non-residential districts.

Additionally, the City allows group homes in several districts and does not have an overly restrictive definition, which allows more who need assistance to reside in the home. It also does not restrict emergency housing, shelters, temporary housing, or permanent supportive housing facilities to non-residential zoning districts.

The city's zoning code does have some room for improvement, as there are some regulations that could restrict affordable housing. For instance, the City has a broad definition of "family", but it is still limiting. It defines family as "a) A single person occupying a dwelling unit and maintaining a household; or (b) Two or more relatives, occupying a dwelling unit, living together and maintaining a common household, including not more than two boarders or roomers. (c) Not more than four (4) unrelated persons occupying a dwelling unit, living together and maintaining a common household. (d) Permanent group homes for the disabled or family-like living arrangements for disabled persons. Groups of more than four three unrelated persons may be treated as a "family" if they are defined as disabled under the Fair Housing Act Amendments to the Federal Civil Rights Act, and meet the criteria of a group home special exception. Please note: Disabled persons shall be those who are so designated under the Fair Housing Amendment (1988) to the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1968." The city could consider removing the four unrelated persons cap and put the focus on functioning as a single housekeeping unit.

Furthermore, the City should consider allowing manufactured or modular housing on single lots like single family dwelling units.

Erie Refocused, the City's Comprehensive Plan, points out that the City of Erie's housing market neighborhoods have been dangerously weakened by decades of disinvestment brought about by the imbalance of supply and demand for all real estate, public and private. Disinvestment is pervasive and 45% of residential properties are located on or adjacent to blocks where one or more properties are visibly distressed; 39% of residential properties are located on or adjacent to blocks where at least 10%

of properties are visibly distressed. The average sale price of a house in very good condition is $157,000 when the house is surrounded by similar properties. That price drops to $91,000 when the house is on a block where maintenance standards are in the middle – with numerous properties showing at least small signs of disinvestment. And the price falls to $52,000 when that very good house is on a block that is noticeably distressed – a scenario that costs the city approximately $12,002 in property tax revenue each year as a result of stunted property values. This has put the housing market in the city in an uncompetitive position in the region's residential and retail markets. Erie has a demolition and blight remediation program. Continuing to invest funding into these efforts will greatly improve the residential investment in the City.

Erie Refocused suggests the critical imbalance of supply and demand can be addressed in a new zoning code by stipulating that, for as long as weak-market conditions persist, sections of the City cannot be up-zoned (upgraded in density or intensity of use) without a complementary down-zoning somewhere else. General down-zoning of sections of the City should also be explored, which would typically involve the conversion of vacant land controlled by the City, some other public agency, or a land trust, to a "conservation" status that effectively prohibits development until strong growth pressures return. Correcting this imbalance could help revitalize neighborhoods and allow for appropriate redevelopment and the potential for additional affordable housing.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

Introduction

The City of Erie's comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, stresses the need to revitalize downtown Erie as a starting point for growth elsewhere in the City of Erie. The City of Erie's economic development strategy will focus on leveraging downtown, the Bayfront and the City of Erie's educational institutions to encourage development and therefore demand.

The Erie Downtown Development Corporation (EDDC) strategy focuses on acquisition and rehabilitation of commercial property in the Central Business District (current plans include a restaurant incubator, retail uses, and mixed income residential uses along a core stretch of the City of Erie's downtown); attraction of new businesses by leveraging Opportunity Zone areas; enhancement of public spaces; activation of the Central Business District as programmable space to spur commercial development. The Gannon Small Business Development Center (SBDC) indicates many of its clients are looking to expand their businesses.

As indicated in the tables below, the key industries in the City of Erie, which hold the most share of workers, are:

- Education and Health Care Services
- Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations
- Manufacturing

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	134	44	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	5,094	3,785	14	8	-6
Construction	1,081	1,612	3	4	1
Education and Health Care Services	10,566	18,042	29	40	11
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	2,147	4,930	6	11	5
Information	419	385	1	1	0
Manufacturing	4,835	5,299	13	12	-2
Other Services	1,690	2,039	5	4	0

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	1,588	2,242	4	5	1
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	4,391	2,922	12	6	-6
Transportation and Warehousing	828	622	2	1	-1
Wholesale Trade	1,038	1,665	3	4	1
Total	33,811	43,587	--	--	--

Table 35 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Workers), 2020 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	46,210
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	42,495
Unemployment Rate	8.07
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	19.28
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.13

Table 36 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	7,425
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	1,325
Service	7,575
Sales and office	8,795
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	2,350
Production, transportation and material moving	2,580

Table 37 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	34,432	85%
30-59 Minutes	4,891	12%
60 or More Minutes	1,207	3%
Total	***40,530***	***100%***

Table 38 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force
Less than high school graduate	2,760	500	3,185

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	11,685	1,020	5,400
Some college or Associate's degree	9,455	665	2,965
Bachelor's degree or higher	9,585	345	1,625

Table 39 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	200	310	510	1,335	765
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	1,175	1,585	860	1,850	1,330
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	3,785	4,960	3,330	9,845	6,430
Some college, no degree	4,445	2,720	1,485	4,425	2,495
Associate's degree	555	1,675	1,280	1,530	955
Bachelor's degree	1,065	3,485	1,660	3,015	1,500
Graduate or professional degree	90	1,165	835	1,430	895

Table 40 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	20,790
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	26,253
Some college or Associate's degree	30,745
Bachelor's degree	38,078
Graduate or professional degree	55,028

Table 41 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

The City of Erie contains a number of healthcare, educational and professional institutions. This is reflected in the tables above, which identify the employment sectors with the greatest number of jobs in the City of Erie as Education and Health Care Services, Manufacturing and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate. The City of Erie is also home to Erie Insurance, a major insurance provider in the region.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

The "Jobs Less Workers" column indicates commuting. A negative number suggests that residents leave the City for their jobs, while a positive number indicates that workers in the City reside outside of its boundaries. Table 45 above shows that while the Education and Healthcare Services sector has the greatest number of jobs available, there is a shortage of workers in that industry meaning that they are attracting workers from outside the city for employment. This is also true for the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate sector. Workforce development activities could focus on making resources available to train workers in those industries to help fill this employment gap. The SBDC identified AI as a new skillset for which training and education could be provided-specifically how employees can use it for marketing and other business purposes.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

Infinite Erie is a community and economic development strategy designed to harness funding opportunities, unify public, private, and civic stakeholders around a common vision, and advance economic development across Erie County. The City of Erie shares Infinite Erie's goals to foster economic growth; promote vibrant neighborhoods; and build an economy that benefits everyone.

Infinite Erie's Investment Playbook outlines a pipeline of projects that align with community needs and transformative goals and guides stakeholders to align around priority projects that enhance community development, drive market momentum, and contribute to Erie's economic vitality. If fully implemented, projects supported by the Infinite Erie Playbook will generate $500 million of economic impact, support and sustain over 3,500 jobs and contribute $21 million to the state and local tax base. Consistent with Infinite Erie, the following efforts are underway in the City, undertaken by a variety of partner organizations.

Over the last decade, major anchor institutions in the region have invested nearly $600 million dollars in capital projects. The City of Erie has an emerging Innovation District - focusing on cybersecurity, data science, Insurtech, fintech, and other emerging industries - is poised to create jobs for the 21st century in Erie County. Radius CoWork and the Erie Technology Incubator hatch new startups everyday –and will continue to create a diverse mix of tech-enabled jobs in the region.

The Erie Downtown Development Corporation (EDDC) is a non-profit organization looking to revive the City's downtown. Its goals include businesses and investment attraction, creation of programming, and supporting local businesses. The EDDC works closely with the Erie Downtown Equity Fund ("EDEF"), a for-profit private equity fund raised to provide "gap financing" to assist the EDDC's real estate development activity. The EDEF has raised over $30 million, led by the efforts of community stakeholders, including Erie Insurance, UPMC Hamot, Gannon University, Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie Community Foundation, Marquette Savings Bank, Erie Bank, and Northwest Bank.

The Erie County Redevelopment Authority and the Enterprise Development Center of Erie County are currently undertaking major redevelopment efforts on the City's former industrial sites. The former Erie Malleable site, a former brownfield, is undergoing transformative rehabilitation, updating existing buildings into office space. Demolition and reconstruction will also occur on the site, which will provide office space for light manufacturing facilities. The proposed redevelopment, Ironworks Square, expects to create or retain 200 jobs in the City. In addition, the EDC is proposing demolition of the remaining smokestacks at the former Hammermill site to make way for advanced manufacturing uses on the site. Finally, the RDA in partnership with Grow Erie is in the process of establishing the Savocchio Opportunity Park, an urban agriculture facility and community greenhouse. The commercial facility is expected to contain more than 17,000 square feet of all-season, high-tech greenhouses where fish and plants will be integrated. The proposed aquaponics facility is projected to provide more than 20 direct and indirect jobs to neighborhood residents. The other building, a community greenhouse, will be a 2,500-square-foot polycarbonate facility open to residents. The climate-controlled greenhouse will allow for year-round crop production. The project could generate at least 50 jobs once fully realized, with later phases including a commercial kitchen incubator and a co-packing facility.

The City of Erie works with Kiva, a microloan organization that provides interest free loans from $1,000 to $15,000 to small businesses. Repayments are flexible and loans are not granted based on credit scores or history. Kiva prioritizes character, the impact the loan will have on the community, and how much community support is behind the business/endeavor. To support downtown business development and expansion, the Gannon Small Business Development Center works with businesses to establish or expand existing downtown businesses by providing technical assistance and planning services designed to increase revenue and jobs over time.

As mentioned in NA-50, the Active Erie Transportation Plan and Downtown Streetscape Master Plan propose recommendations to make Erie more walkable and bikeable. Recommendations in the plans include bikeways along low-stress streets and local connections to destinations including schools, parks, and shopping areas. Adding bicycle lanes will also increase the connectivity of the city and improve a naturally affordable means of transportation. Additionally, improvements to many city streets, such as reducing travel lane widths to reduce traffic speeds and shorten pedestrian crossing distance, will help make pedestrian travel around the city safer and more feasible for a greater number of residents.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

A skillful and well-educated workforce is essential to attracting and retaining employers and growing the City of Erie's economy. According to the HUD dataset, the City's unemployment rate in 2020 was 8.07%, which is down from 2015 (9.99%). As expected, residents with a bachelor's degree or higher were less likely to be unemployed than residents with less educational attainment. Additionally, the number of residents with the highest levels of education are more likely to participate in the labor force than other levels of educational attainment. Residents without a high school diploma or equivalent were split almost evenly between being employed or being either unemployed or out of the labor force altogether.

Taken together, these facts suggest that the skills and education of the City's workforce may not be well aligned with employment opportunities in the area.

As indicated above, there is an apparent shortage of workers in the City of Erie in the Education and Health Care Services industry. Employment and training programs that focus on these industries could help fill this gap with city residents.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

The Erie Technology Incubator at Gannon University serves Northwest Pennsylvania with a unique blend of strategic guidance, dedicated mentor teams, 1:1 coaching, and networking opportunities. The incubator provides early-stage technology-enabled companies with critical resources and support to guide clients through key milestones and phases of their entrepreneurial journey. Gannon also has the Small Business Development Center which offers no-cost, confidential consulting services for small businesses and entrepreneurs looking to start or expand a business.

In an article published in The Erie Times-News on February 7, 2025, Erie Community College (EC3) is doubling the space it occupies at the Erie County Technical School Skills Center (ECTS). College President Chris Gray stated, "The college intends to expand its manufacturing programs, including CNC (Computer Numeric Controlled) and IMM (Industrial Machine Maintenance) to fill the void in the Erie County workforce," Gray said. "This program will also allow ECTS students a pathway forward into continuing education." The partnership between EC3 and ECTS works to offer viable programs for students and employers. Such programs could create a pipeline of workforce to fill positions created by the ongoing development and redevelopment efforts in the City.

Erie's Public Schools Adult Education Program Teach After Hours focus is to fulfill educational, instructional, and support services for the Erie Community to earn industry credentials in the focused fields of training and high school diploma program. Training includes the fields of welding, machinist, construction trades and health careers. This program also includes resume/portfolio and soft skill development. This program also offers individualized training programs that can be designed based on an employer's needs.

The Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC) works to reduce poverty by focusing all available funding and resources to assist low-income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge, to gain access to new opportunities, and achieve economic self-sufficiency. This agency will help develop a plan to tackle an individual's short and long-term career goals and teach the steps and skills to get a good job. Through its partnerships with universities, technical schools, and local businesses, its programs get people to work.

Urban Erie Community Development Corp (UECDC) provides free quality educational and employment programming including: workforce development training, an after-school youth program, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and G.E.D. courses.

The City has a robust and vibrant network of Community Centers that offer a wide range of services including financial empowerment training, adult learning, and workforce training. These programs will assist in helping those in need gain job skills to give them a greater range of employment opportunities. These programs in turn help the business community by encouraging local businesses with a local workforce that enhances the community character for the entire City. The Booker T. Washington Development and Education Center is located in the heart of the City of Erie, PA and is focused on creating quality educational programs and resources available to the public, including after-school programs and other educational programming that invests in youth.

The Erie Center for Arts & Technology is expanding its Construction and Trades Training Program to add on-the-job training (OJT). This will help alleviate the significant challenge of identifying qualified firms to provide home repair and rehabilitation while providing training and new employment opportunities for individuals within the City's urban core.

Stakeholders identified needs not only for workforce training, but also the need for programming at the high school level to educate on financial literacy, including credit scores, and how to care for a home. This is a partnership opportunity. Additionally, finding ways to link transportation and employment opportunities would greatly benefit the lower income workforce.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

Yes

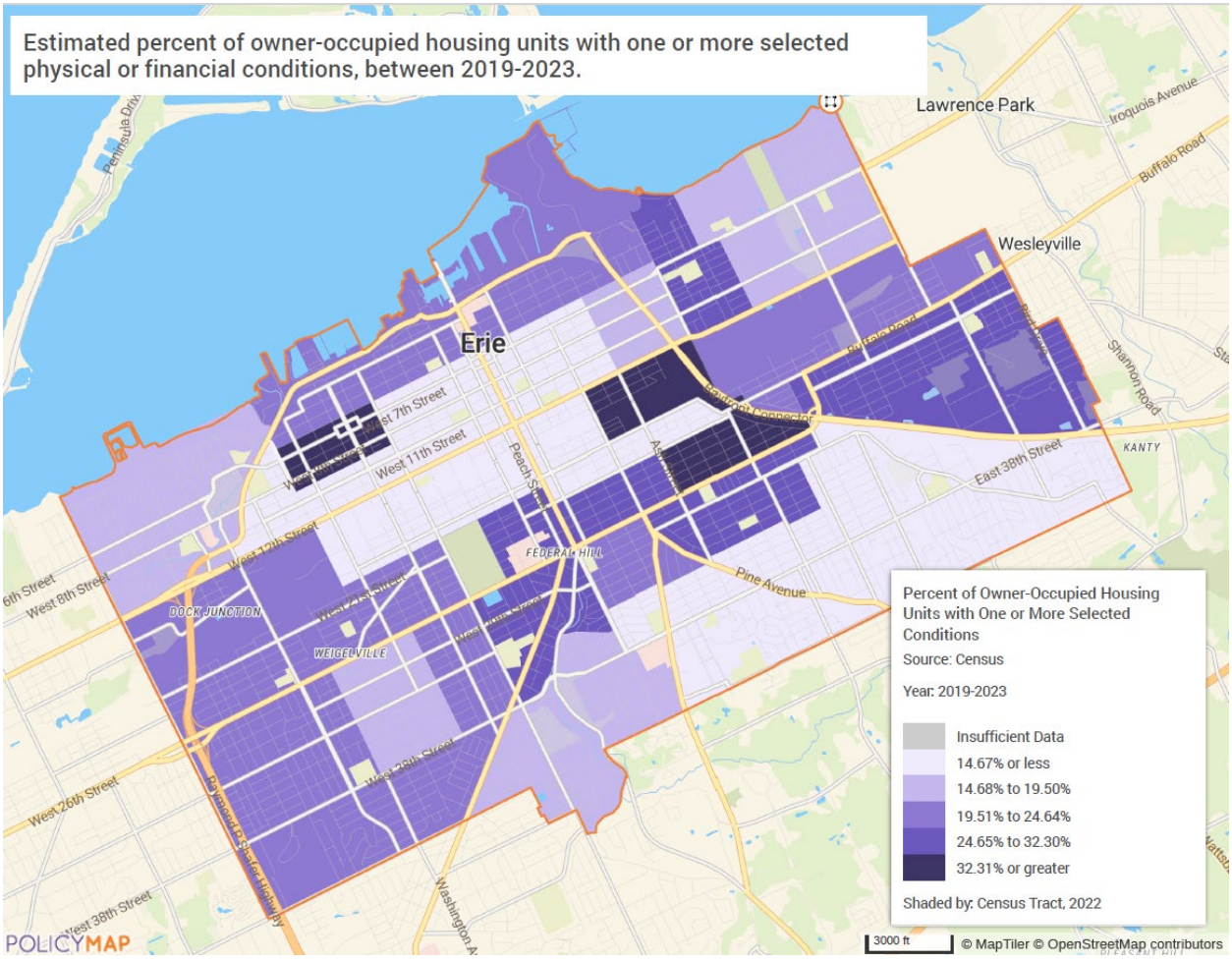
If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

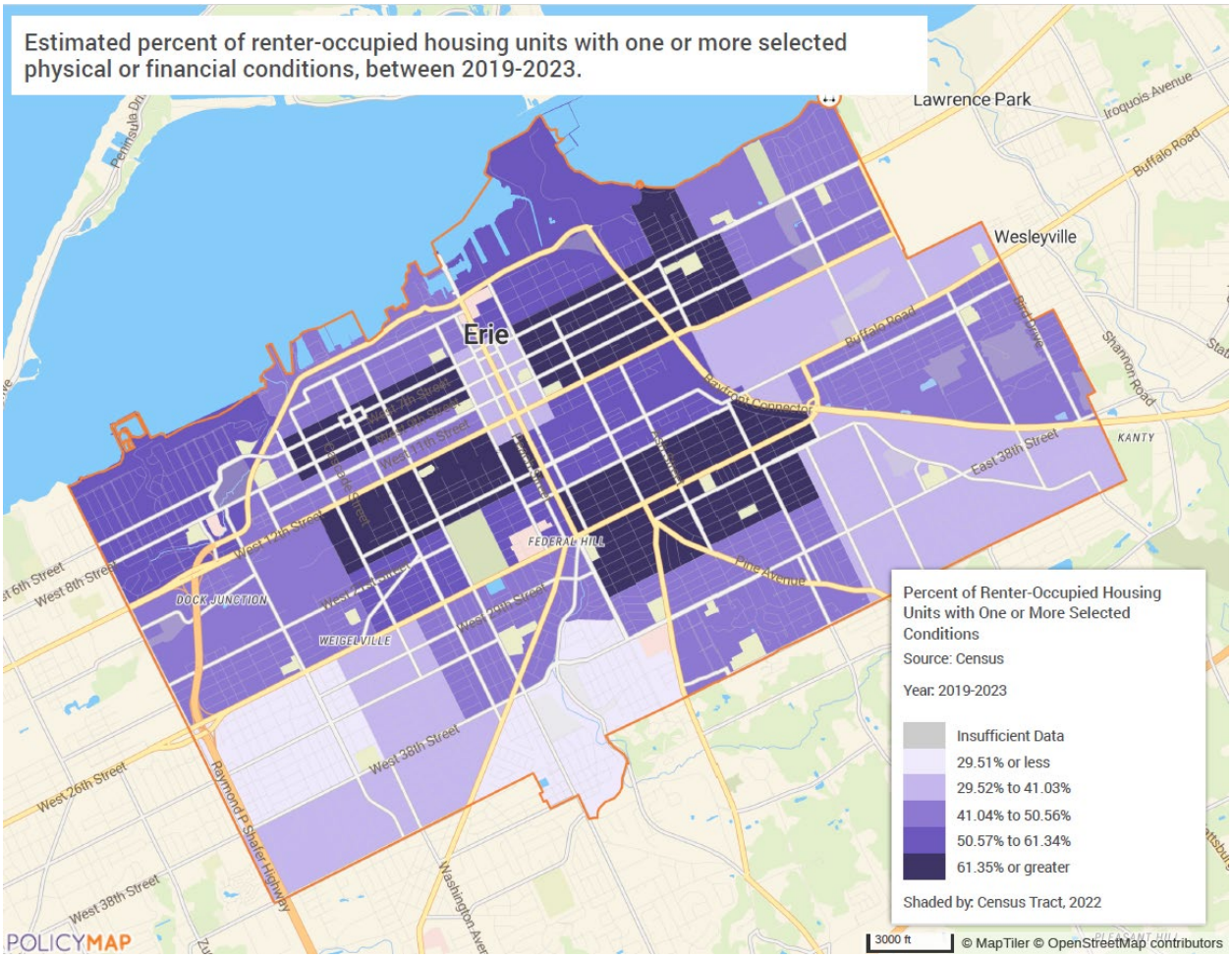
The City of Erie participates in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Northwest Pennsylvania. The most recent CEDS was published in December 2021. The CEDS identified Erie as having a robust entrepreneurial support ecosystem, and the region relies on small businesses for a majority of its jobs. Erie has well-integrated resources and support organizations for entrepreneurs, including accelerators, incubators, networking groups, and specialty resources, such as sector-specific business support groups. Strategies identified in the CEDS that are strategies identified in this Consolidated Plan include Entrepreneurship Development; Business Expansion, Retention and Recruitment; Workforce Development and Education. The Small Business Development Center work and workforce development initiatives described above align with the goals of the Consolidated Plan.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

Using 2023 ACS data, the below maps show the percentage of housing units each Census Tract in the City of Erie that have two or more selected conditions. The first map shows owner-occupied units. The second map shows rental units. Important note: although the maps use the same color gradient and same amount of color variations, the homeowner's highest percentage range begins at 32.31% while the rental unit's highest percentage range begins at 61.35%. Downtown sees high concentrations of renter-occupied units with selected conditions, whereas the concentration of owner-occupied units is not as high, possibly due to there not being as many owner-occupied units. The southern corner of the City has higher concentrations of owner-occupied units with multiple housing problems. Looking at the renter-occupied map, there are only a few areas in the southern corner of the city that clearly have less than 30% of units with one or more condition.





Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

As discussed in NA-30, East Bayfront and Trinity Park are the highly distressed areas of the city. These neighborhoods have a 57% minority and 43% poverty rate. The distressed neighborhoods are West Bayfront, Little Italy, and Pulaski-Lighthouse. These neighborhoods have a 30% minority and 37% poverty rate.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

As the Erie Refocused plan outlined, these areas are the most deeply destabilizing parts of the City of Erie's housing market due to the sheer number of vacant and obsolete housing units and their proximity to downtown Erie and transitional neighborhoods. Having such distressed markets so close to downtown blunts the impact of recent and future downtown investments and lowers levels of confidence and reinvestment in all surrounding neighborhoods.

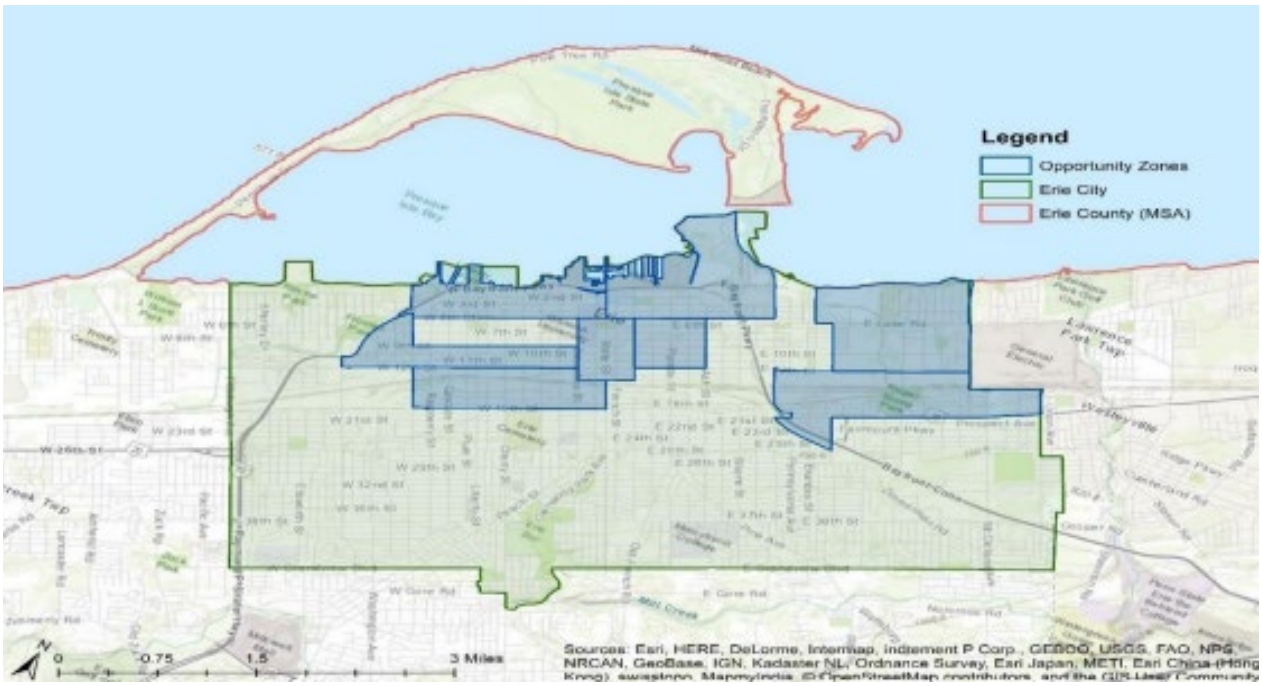
Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

As shown on the map below, these neighborhoods are in close proximity to several cultural and recreational areas.



Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

The City of Erie has recognized eight opportunity zone tracts as shown in the map below. These opportunity zones align with the highly distressed and distressed neighborhoods mentioned above.


Legend
Opportunity Zones
Erie City
Erie County (MSA)
0
0.75
1.5
3 Miles
Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong

MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

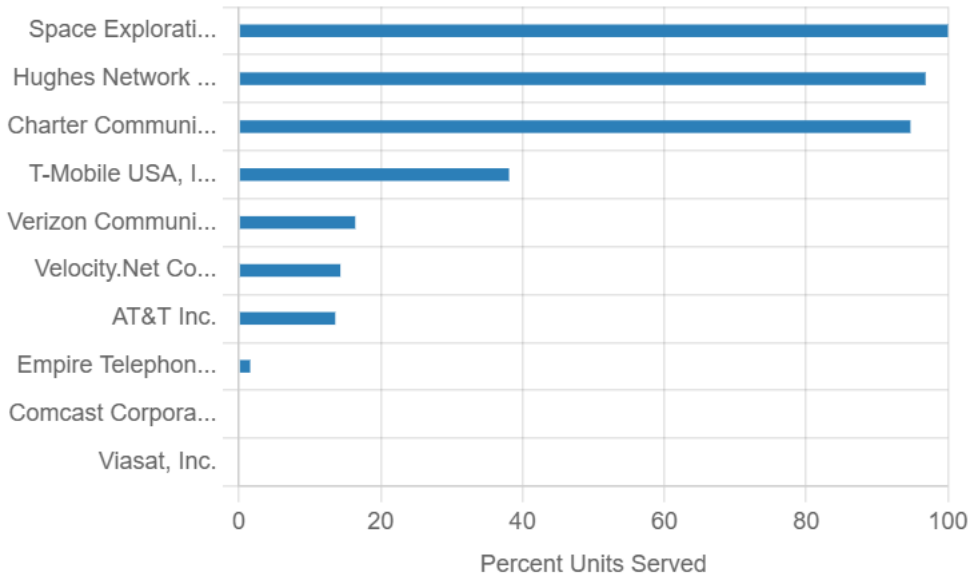
Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

According to the Federal Communications Commission, the City of Erie is 100% covered by fixed download speeds up to 100/20megabits per second (Mbps). For 250/25 Mbps, about 95% of the residential units are covered. The speed does significantly drop to about 16% coverage for 1000/100 Mbps. This indicates a need for more for the highest speed. For mobile broadband, nearly 100% of the city is covered.

According to 2023 ACS data, 85.6% of households have an internet subscription. Of those with a subscription, 99.8% use any type of broadband. For households earning less than $20,000, only 73.9% have an internet subscription; however, 99.75% of those households have broadband. Looking at households earning between $20,000 and $75,000, 84.9% have a subscription to the internet. Of those households, 99.7% have broadband. Cost is the most probable barrier to the number of households without an internet subscription.

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

As the graph below indicates, more than 90% of the City is served by at least three providers. The fourth provider only serves nearly 40% of the city. Erie does have multiple options for broadband service providers and therefore does not currently have a need for additional providers.



MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

The City of Erie is part of the 2023 update to the Erie County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Erie County considered the full range of natural and non-natural hazards that could impact the County and then identified and ranked hazards of greatest concern. The list below identifies these hazards.

- Coastal Erosion
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Extreme Temperature
- Flood, Flash Flood, Ice Jam
- Invasive Species
- Landslide
- Tornado, Wind Storm
- Winter Storm
- Lake Hazards

The risk assessment section in the hazard mitigation plan contains information on identified hazards that threaten Erie County and the surrounding region as well as vulnerability as it relates to the City's assets. The concerns that have the highest risk, and are most likely to impact the City of Erie, are:

- Coastal erosion -- Shoreline erosion and bluff recession may be influenced by future climate-related changes such as warmer temperatures, increases in precipitation, and increases in the frequency and severity of storms. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expects intensified flooding and drought conditions in Pennsylvania. Significant changes in these events may cause increased variability in lake levels, thereby increasing the risk of erosion. Increased winter precipitation and rising temperatures will melt snow earlier in the spring, which could influence the ice that builds up during the winter (i.e., minimal ice formation), thereby decreasing seasonal mitigative factors.

- Flood, flash flood, ice jam -- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) notes that the most likely impact of climate change on Pennsylvania will be an increase in extreme precipitation. Interestingly, a secondary consequence of that precipitation is a quick-rising flood. Further, the IPCC lists increased flooding as a primary impact in the Midwest and a significant impact in the Northeast.

- Invasive species -- Human activity, usually unintentional, is the primary means invasive species appear and spread in new ecosystems. International trade and travel allow species to be carried from their native environment to new locations on shipping containers, ballasts, crates, and

pallets (NWF, 2023). The opportunity for non-native species to be introduced to new areas will continue due to the rise of international trade.

- Tornado, windstorm -- Future wind and tornado events will affect areas of Erie County differently. The agricultural industry, including the vineyards, would be heavily affected. Fruit, fruit trees, and crops are vulnerable to the effects of windstorms and tornadoes. Residential sections would likely experience structure, tree, and utility damage. The IPCC suggests that severe weather in Pennsylvania may increase in frequency and intensity, and this weather could result in an uptick in tornado occurrences.

- Winter storms – The City of Erie has historically been prone to harsh winter weather and storms, largely due to the effects of Lake Erie; however, the severity of severe winter storms may change in the future. For instance, heavy winter precipitation and blizzard conditions can impact power distribution utilities. As those systems age, weather-related impacts may become more frequent in the form of power outages. The National Climate Assessment identifies a shortened snow season in the Northeast U.S., of which its report considers Pennsylvania a part. The report cites the increase in winter precipitation that falls as rain due to a likely northward shift in the rain-snow transition zone. Some data suggest a connection between arctic amplification and frequent, heavy snowfall winter storms. Enhanced arctic warming increases the amplification or waviness of jet stream patterns, allowing cold arctic air masses to reach the Northeast United States. This phenomenon could increase intense snowstorms in Erie County as the climate transitions to a warmer average. Erie County has seen a 5 to 10% change in the snow-to-rain precipitation ratio over a nearly 70-year period. Under a high emissions climate scenario, researchers expected winter precipitation to increase by 10 to 15% across Pennsylvania.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

The identified hazards above, particularly the increase in frequency and severity of storms and flooding could cause displacement due to imminent danger or due to damage to the dwelling. In either case, elderly, individuals with disabilities, and low- and moderate-income households will have fewer financial resources to relocate and recover from climate change-related natural hazards. Furthermore, if renters are not required to have insurance, they could have to replace personal property as well as find new accommodation, even if only temporarily. Also, low-income households are unlikely to afford flood insurance and have the potential to lose their home or sustain significant damage in the event of a flooding event. Damage that is not repaired can lead to mold and other health hazards for the occupants. In addition, winter storms and detrimental weather with the ability to interrupt utility services are particularly dangerous for the elderly and persons with disabilities. The City of Erie will continue to prioritize resources for rehabilitation programs to assist low-income households that may need assistance at any time, but particularly as they recover from natural disasters.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to guide the use of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds in the City of Erie over the next five years. The plan is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to the City's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock in both the rental and homeowner markets, increasing the availability of affordable housing by reducing barriers, and increasing the number of accessible units.
- To improve the quality of life and living conditions for low- and moderate-income individuals through improvements in public facilities and infrastructure and the removal of slum/blighting influences.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low- and moderate- income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency.

The City of Erie's priority needs were determined based on existing data on the needs of the community, as well as consultation with City staff, extensive stakeholder outreach workshops, public hearings, and citizen surveys.

- Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
- Provide Homeless Housing and Services
- Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
- Provide Public Services
- Eliminate Slum/Blighting Influences
- Economic Development

SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

Geographic Area

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-Wide	39%
CD Impact Area	61%
CD Impact Area LMI	

Table 42 - Geographic Priority Areas

General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

The system for establishing priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program;
- Meeting the needs of very-low, low-, and moderate-income residents;
- Coordination and leveraging of resources;
- Response to expressed needs;
- Sustainability and/or long term impact;
- The ability to measure or demonstrate progress and success

SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

Priority Needs

1	**Priority Need Name**	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Low Moderate Families with Children Elderly Persons with Physical Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide CD Impact Area
	Associated Goals	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Provide Rental Rehabilitation Assistance Create New Affordable Rental Housing Increase Homeownership
	Description	The City of Erie will utilize HOME and CDBG dollars to increase affordable housing opportunities for both homeowners and renters through the creation of new and preservation of existing units.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Through both data analysis and public participation for Consolidated Plan development, it was determined there was a high need for quality affordable housing for the low- and moderate-income population.
2	**Priority Need Name**	Provide Homeless Housing and Services
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Large Families Families with Children Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse Veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Provide Homeless Housing and Services
	Description	City of Erie ESG funds address a number of homeless issues, including emergency shelter operations, transitional housing, shelter and assistance for victims of domestic violence, and rental and financial assistance for households that are literally homeless.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Addressing the needs of homeless persons in the City of Erie continues to be a high priority.
3	**Priority Need Name**	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	CD Impact Area
	Associated Goals	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure

	Description	Public infrastructure in many CDBG-eligible areas of the City of Erie is inadequate for current demands. Priority projects in the infrastructure category include the reconstruction of streets (including streetscaping amenities such as street lighting, tree planting, and curb cut improvements) and the installation/reconstruction of sidewalks to be brought into compliance with ADA standards. In addition, water and sewer improvements and storm water management improvements are a high priority in the City. The City of Erie will continue to support its various community development needs through upgrades to existing recreation and community amenities and the creation of new opportunities. Infrastructure and Recreation improvement projects will contribute to the safety and quality of life of neighborhoods and municipalities throughout the City and will benefit LMI persons.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultation with public, nonprofit, and private entities.
4	**Priority Need Name**	Provide Public Services
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide CD Impact Area
	Associated Goals	Provide Public Services
	Description	Providing public services is a high priority for the City of Erie. Dollars will be used for activities that improve public safety and provide community policing throughout the City of Erie.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Public services are a priority for the City of Erie to enhance neighborhood safety.
5	**Priority Need Name**	Eliminate Slum/Blighting Influences
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	CD Impact Area

	Associated Goals	Code Enforcement Demolish Dilapidated Structures
	Description	In order to provide safe, livable communities for its residents, the City of Erie will use CDBG funds to acquire, demolish, and dispose of blighted properties that present safety hazards in various communities throughout the City of Erie. While most of the properties will be vacant and uninhabitable, as necessary, any occupants of the properties will be relocated.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Removing blighting influences was identified as a need and priority for the City of Erie.
6	**Priority Need Name**	Economic Development
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	CD Impact Area
	Associated Goals	Economic Development Revitalize Central Business District
	Description	The City of Erie will use CDBG dollars for activities that promote employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Economic development activities that promote self-sufficiency and revitalization of Central Business District are high priorities for the City of Erie.
7	**Priority Need Name**	Planning and Administration
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Other
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Planning and Administration
	Description	The City of Erie will provide effective administration of the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs to ensure compliance with all federal regulations.

	Basis for Relative Priority	Planning and administration of the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs continues to be a high priority.

Table 43 – Priority Needs Summary

SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	According to stakeholders, market rents are lower than Fair Market Rent standards. There is a waiting list for public housing units, though, demonstrating the need for tenant-based rental assistance. The more pressing need in the City of Erie is the creation of new and preservation of existing affordable units.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	According to stakeholders, market rents are lower than Fair Market Rent standards. There is a waiting list for public housing units, though, demonstrating the need for tenant-based rental assistance. The more pressing need in the City of Erie is the creation of new and preservation of existing affordable units.
New Unit Production	The housing needs in the City of Erie are for decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing units. Given the limited amount of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds and the high cost of new unit production, the housing priority for the City of Erie is to provide rehabilitation and new construction assistance to housing providers for activities that result in the best mix of leveraging and matching.
Rehabilitation	Housing rehabilitation is an effective way to preserve the City's affordable housing inventory, particularly if the market value of the home is such that the cost and extent of rehabilitation does not exceed the value that can be achieved. The City of Erie will leverage partnerships to ensure rehabilitation efforts include, to the extent practical, the ability to update the entire building envelope. This includes upgrades to the home to allow for aging in place as well as provide for lead/asbestos abatement and mold remediation.
Acquisition, including preservation	The cost to acquire property is expensive for the City of Erie to undertake. The City of Erie does not acquire properties for rehabilitation or development, but the Erie Redevelopment Authority does receive an allocation for acquisition. The City of Erie anticipates a continuing need to acquire and rehabilitate existing units to provide additional affordable housing over the next five years.

Table 44 – Influence of Market Conditions

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The City of Erie receives Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on an annual basis. The table below shows the City's grant allocations for the 2025 program year, along with anticipated grant funding for the remaining four years covered by this Consolidated Plan. This estimate assumes that funding over those four years will average to be about the same as the 2025 allocations. All grant funds will be used to support the City's goals to provide decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic development.

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	2,775,245	5,000.00	0	2,780,245	11,120,980	Funds for housing and non-housing community development needs. Remainder available is approximately four times annual allocation.
HOME	Public-federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	805,148.06	0	0	805,148.06	3,220,592.24	Funds for housing development. Remainder available is approximately four times annual allocation.
ESG	Public-federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	261,142	0	0	261,142	1,048,568	Funds for homeless activities. Remainder available is approximately four times annual allocation

Table 45 - Anticipated Resources

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 of Erie will continue to partner with other public agencies and non-profit organizations, when feasible, to leverage resources and maximize outcomes in housing and community development. Leveraged resources include, but are not limited to, Continuum of Care dollars, Erie County Homeless Assistance Program dollars, Erie County Department of Human Services dollars, Housing Authority resources, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol services, and LIHTC. The City of Erie received a 100% match reduction due to fiscal distress.

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

Not applicable.

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
City of Erie	Government	Planning	Jurisdiction
Housing Authority of the City of Erie	PHA	Public Housing	Jurisdiction
Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition	Continuum of Care	Homelessness	Region
Erie Redevelopment Authority	Government	Non-Housing Community Development	Jurisdiction
Erie County Redevelopment Authority	Government	Non-Housing Community Development	Region

Table 46 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The City of Erie's Economic and Community Development Department coordinates the allocation of CDBG, HOME, ESG and other grants. The City of Erie prepares all applications for funding, administers the Home Rehabilitation Program, the Homebuyer Assistance Program, and revolving loan funds available for economic development activities. The City of Erie also coordinates with the Housing Authority of the City of Erie on affordable housing priorities and activities as well as self-sufficiency programming. The City of Erie participates in the Erie County Continuum of Care and consults on homelessness issues including emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing activities.

The largest gap in the delivery of services to low- moderate-income households is the lack of adequate funding to address the housing and community development needs of the City of Erie.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	
Legal Assistance	X		
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X	X	
Utilities Assistance	X	X	
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X	X	
Mobile Clinics	X	X	
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	
Child Care	X		
Education	X	X	
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X
Life Skills	X	X	
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation	X	X	X
Other			
Other			

Table 47 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)

Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, the local Continuum of Care, provides a comprehensive service delivery system designed to meet the needs of persons experiencing homelessness and those at-risk of homelessness. Emergency Shelter and transitional housing programs develop plans to return households to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Rapid rehousing assistance is available to provide short term assistance and help households regain stability in housing. In addition to housing services, case managers refer program participants to other necessary services such as mental health services, drug/alcohol counseling, and life skills and employment services. The Coordinated Entry process assesses needs based on the highest levels of risk and vulnerability and ensures that households presenting to the Continuum are directed to the services most appropriate for them.

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above

The City of Erie is a member of the Continuum of Care and participates in all planning processes associated with the Continuum. The City of Erie works to ensure ESG dollars are spent in accordance with the CoC strategy and priorities. Stakeholders reported that emergency shelter, street outreach, temporary housing for crime victims, and medical respite care were gaps in the services delivery system. In addition, the number of affordable, accessible units in good condition is insufficient to meet the needs of City residents.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

The main gaps in the current institutional structure and service delivery system are related to limited funding and staffing for the various agencies and other stakeholders that the City of Erie relies on to implement its five-year strategy and to address the specific needs identified in the plan.

The City of Erie will continue to support the work of these agencies and stakeholders, including their efforts to identify, increase and obtain the amount of funding that is available to address the needs of their clients.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing Provide Special Needs Housing and Services	CDBG: $1,500,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 345 housing units
2	Provide Rental Rehabilitation Assistance	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing Provide Special Needs Housing and Services	HOME: $1,500,000	Rental Housing Rehabilitated: 10 housing units
3	Create New Affordable Rental Housing	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing	HOME: $1,623,166.30	Rental Units Constructed: 20 housing units
4	Increase Homeownership	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing	HOME: $500,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 30 households

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Provide Homeless Housing and Services	2025	2029	Affordable Housing Homeless	City-Wide	Provide Homeless Housing and Services	ESG: $1,309,710	Tenant-based rental assistance/Rapid Rehousing: 315households Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 8,175persons
6	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure	CDBG: $2,070,980	Public Facility or Infrastructure other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 57,661 persons
7	Provide Public Services	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Provide Public Services	CDBG: $3,750,000	Public Service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9,060 persons
8	Code Enforcement	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Eliminate Slum/Blighting Influences	CDBG: $250,000	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 2,500 housing units
9	Demolish Dilapidated Structures	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Eliminate Slum/Blighting Influences	CDBG: $1,500,000	Buildings Demolished: 50 buildings Other: 40 Other
10	Economic Development	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	CD Impact Area	Economic Development	CDBG: $1,650,000	Jobs created/retained: 60 jobs

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
11	Revitalize Central Business District	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	CD Impact Area	Economic Development	CDBG: $375,000	Façade treatment/business building rehabilitations: 10 businesses
12	Fair Housing Education and Services	2025	2029	Affordable Housing Public Housing	City-Wide	Fair Housing Education and Services	CDBG: $25,000	Public Service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 95,000 persons
13	Planning and Administration	2025	2029	Admin	City-Wide	Planning and Administration	CDBG: $2,780,245 HOME: $402,574	Other: 10 Other

Table 48 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	**Goal Name**	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide financial assistance and emergency repair assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate their existing owner-occupied housing. This includes accessibility improvements for the physically disabled.
2	**Goal Name**	Provide Rental Rehabilitation Assistance
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide financial assistance to rental property owners to rehabilitate housing units to be available for lease to low- and moderate-income households.
3	**Goal Name**	Create New Affordable Rental Housing
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide resources to increase the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and accessible rental housing that is affordable to low- moderate-income households. This could be construction of new units or rehabilitation of existing vacant units/buildings into affordable rental units.

4	**Goal Name**	Increase Homeownership
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide resources to income-qualified first-time homebuyers by providing down payment and closing cost assistance, requiring housing counseling, and in some cases providing resources to rehabilitate the home to be acquired.
5	**Goal Name**	Provide Homeless Housing and Services
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will use ESG funds to address a number of homeless issues, including emergency shelter operations, shelter and assistance for victims of domestic violence, and rental and financial assistance for households that are literally homeless.
6	**Goal Name**	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Public facility improvements in the City of Erie are important to supporting the quality of life by providing adequate space for the provision of services, holding of events that bring the community together, and addressing public safety concerns. In addition, ensuring the City of Erie's public facilities are free of architectural barriers continues to be a priority for ensuring access to the City's services and facilities by all residents. The City of Erie will continue to support its various community development needs through public facilities improvements. In addition, the City of Erie will continue to support its various community development needs through upgrades to existing recreation amenities and creation of new opportunities.
7	**Goal Name**	Provide Public Services
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide resources to support public safety and community policing activities in order to promote neighborhood and community development.
8	**Goal Name**	Code Enforcement
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide resources to enforce the local building code and ordinances through targeted code enforcement efforts.
9	**Goal Name**	Demolish Dilapidated Structures
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will use CDBG funds for code enforcement demolition and acquisition/demolition/disposition in areas of the City prone to blighting influences.

10	**Goal Name**	Economic Development
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will use CDBG dollars for activities that promote employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.
11	**Goal Name**	Revitalize Central Business District
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide resources to revitalize the downtown business district as well as selected sites throughout the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas. Resources include tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), tax abatement programs, Enterprise Zone/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees as well as local economic development funds.
12	**Goal Name**	Fair Housing Education and Services
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide resources for fair housing outreach, education and services.
13	**Goal Name**	Planning and Administration
	Goal Description	Provide effective and efficient implementation of CDBG, HOME and ESG funding in accordance with federal regulations.

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

The City of Erie estimates that 250 households will benefit from affordable housing development over the five-year period.

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)

Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie is not bound by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement as it currently meets the minimum 5% accessible unit requirement in its public housing stock.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) Senior Tenant Council is composed of residents in each high-rise apartment building – Curry/Schell Apartments, Ostrow Apartments, Schmid Towers, and Friendship Apartments.

Officers are elected yearly under guidelines set forth by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The primary purpose for electing Tenant Councils is to give residents an opportunity to explain their needs and points of view to the manager of the building in order to have a part in decisions and policy making. Tenant Councils also plan and promote activities that enhance the health and welfare, educational opportunities and recreational activities available to each building's residents.

HACE also has an active Resident Advisory Board comprised of elected officers from each of the Tenant Councils. These include Lake City, Ostrow Apartments, Erie Heights, Friendship Apartments, Harbor Homes, Harbor Homes Annex, John E. Horan Garden Apartments, Pineview, Agnes R. Priscaro Apartments, Schmid Towers, Section 8, and Section 8 Family Self Sufficiency.

When there is no functioning Tenant Council, community representatives from the family developments or high-rise buildings are asked to serve on the Resident Advisory Board. Members of the Resident Advisory Board meet regularly with Authority staff to provide input on policy matters, Capital Fund expenditures, and new program development.

Educating residents on the purpose of the tenant councils and resident advisory boards, and how their feedback will be used to inform planning efforts, can help encourage participation. HACE also conducts an annual resident satisfaction survey to gauge the happiness of its residents and determine actions for improving living conditions. While HACE exists to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing for lower-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, HACE is much more than a housing provider. Jobs, job training, education, and health care, as well as fostering the arts and neighborhood beautification, are also part of what HACE does. The initiatives, goals, and accomplishments of the Authority are published in the spring, summer, fall, and winter editions of the HACE newsletter, "News & Views," which you can find on the HACE website.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

No, the PHA is not troubled.

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation

N/A; the PHA is not troubled.

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Public policies and plans can impact on municipalities affordable housing options. Local zoning code and comprehensive plans guide the development of communities. Restrictive zoning codes on type and density of housing can create affordable housing issues. Restrictive zoning can make it more expensive for developers to increase the supply of housing and thus the housing that is created is not affordable to low- to moderate-income households.

The City of Erie has 17 zoning districts: six residential, seven commercial, and four manufacturing/industrial. Overall, Erie's zoning code contains many provisions that will not restrict affordable housing. The City allows accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all of its residential districts and several other non-residential districts. ADUs are essential for supplying affordable units and supplementing rental income to those struggling to afford their existing home. The City also allows for multi-family housing developments in several of its residential and non-residential districts.

Additionally, the City allows group homes in several districts and does not have an overly restrictive definition, which allows more who need assistance to reside in the home. It also does not restrict emergency housing, shelters, temporary housing, or permanent supportive housing facilities to non-residential zoning districts.

The City's zoning code does have some room for improvement, as there are some regulations that could restrict affordable housing. For instance, the City has a broad definition of "family", but it is still limiting. It defines family as "a) A single person occupying a dwelling unit and maintaining a household; or (b) Two or more relatives, occupying a dwelling unit, living together and maintaining a common household, including not more than two boarders or roomers. (c) Not more than four (4) unrelated persons occupying a dwelling unit, living together and maintaining a common household. (d) Permanent group homes for the disabled or family-like living arrangements for disabled persons. Groups of more than four three unrelated persons may be treated as a "family" if they are defined as disabled under the Fair Housing Act Amendments to the Federal Civil Rights Act, and meet the criteria of a group home special exception. Please note: Disabled persons shall be those who are so designated under the Fair Housing Amendment (1988) to the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1968." The City could consider removing the four unrelated persons cap and put the focus on functioning as a single housekeeping unit.

Furthermore, the City should consider allowing manufactured or modular housing on single lots like single family dwelling units.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

The Erie City-County Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry System (CES) provides a strategy to quickly move people from homelessness to permanent housing by establishing a streamlined and uniform method of serving clients in need of housing crisis services, using a single point of entry model; reducing burden on both client and provider by having a unified approach to quickly identify, assess, and refer clients to the best intervention to meet clients' specific needs at first contact; increasing collaboration between agencies in serving client needs more effectively and efficiently; and collecting data on community trends of housing needs to better target limited resources. When households or individuals present to the Continuum, the household is assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need. The City of Erie will continue to support efforts focusing on street outreach to the unsheltered homeless, especially unsheltered youth and unsheltered chronically homeless.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

PAHMIS captures Point in Time data, Systems Performance Measures and Coordinated Entry data to evaluate the emergency needs of persons in the County experiencing homelessness. While no longer a priority at the federal level, there are transitional housing needs that still exist in the City of Erie, in addition to robust case management services. The City of Erie will use the information generated by the PAHMIS to inform Strategic Plan priorities as well as CDBG, HOME and ESG budget and planning processes.

As discussed above, all persons presenting to the continuum are assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need. The CoC's strategy seeks to place persons in permanent housing as quickly as possible, then provide supportive services to promote stability in housing. Potential interventions include transitional housing, rapid rehousing or permanent supportive housing. There are currently emergency shelters available for homeless individuals and families, including victims of domestic violence.

The City has seen an increase in the number of unsheltered homeless individuals, as well as longer lengths of stay for households in shelter. Limited shelter capacity results in more households in unsheltered situations. Driven largely by Infinite Erie, the City has plans to construct a new facility that would provide long-term housing for up to 50 homeless individuals and feature on-site supportive social services such as medical and mental health care. The City is also exploring ways to increase rental housing inventory through the City. The City will continue to leverage its federal resources to reduce the number of unsheltered homeless individuals and families, with an emphasis on chronically homeless households that require deep subsidy and robust services.

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.

Ending chronic homelessness is a priority for the City. The CoC prioritized serving persons experiencing chronic homelessness in all of its permanent supportive housing beds. As discussed above, all persons presenting to the Continuum of Care are assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need. The CoC implements policies and practices that place persons in permanent housing as quickly as possible, then provide supportive services to promote stability in housing. In addition, the CoC ranks projects seeking federal dollars based on their ability to meet certain Systems Performance Measures, including keeping the length of stay under 30 days (i.e. placement in RRH/PSH within 30 days of presenting to the CoC) and participants ability to remain in or move into permanent housing. Ensuring proper services are in place will also be prioritized to prevent recidivism and returns to homelessness.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

While the City of Erie and County follow Pennsylvania state mandated procedures for discharge from mental health institutions, stakeholders reported a widespread need for medical respite care to ensure folks discharging from substance treatment centers, hospitals and mental health institutions receive interim care prior to placement in supportive housing. GECAC receives County Homeless Assistance Program dollars for homeless prevention activities; assistance includes rental and utility assistance. In addition, GECAC also administers weatherization and energy education programs to help households reduce utility bills and avoid evictions and shutoffs.

Providers will be working toward the goal of enabling people at greatest risk of homelessness to maintain permanent housing through targeted prevention and diversion activities. When homelessness cannot be avoided, providers will connect people with appropriate resources to stabilize them in housing as quickly and effectively as possible.

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

Lead-based paint was banned from residential uses in 1978. All houses constructed before 1978 are therefore considered at risk for containing lead-based paint. HUD has made the elimination of housing units containing lead-based paint a priority. The poisoning of children from contact with lead-based paint has been recognized as a major public health problem by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). According to the CDC, lead is the number one environmental health hazard to American children. Lead poisoning causes IQ reductions, reading and learning disabilities, decreased attention span, hyperactivity, and aggressive behavior.). In 2024, the CDC estimates that about half a million US children aged 1 to 5 have blood lead levels above 5 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL), which is the level at which the CDC recommends public health action.

Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie (RACE) runs the Healthy Homes program. The goal of this program is to promote healthy and safe housing to reduce lead poisoning, hospitalizations, injuries, illnesses, or deaths caused by preventable home health or safety hazards. This program builds on the Authority's other rehabilitation programs to address a variety of environmental health and safety concerns, including lead, allergens, asthma, carbon monoxide, home safety, and pests.

The program:

- Conducts comprehensive Healthy Home Assessments of your home to identify potential health/safety risks, including biological agents, chemical agents, and structural deficiencies.
- Provides education and intervention strategies that can be implemented to prevent or reduce identified risks before negative outcomes occur or worsen.
- Collaborates with healthcare providers and neighborhood groups throughout the city to increase awareness of healthy homes principles and services available to mitigate hazards, particularly for households within qualified census tracts (QCTs).
- Promotes a healthy homes philosophy to the general public and local government entities to increase awareness and understanding of potential hazards and the types of illnesses and injuries related to those hazards.

The City of Erie will reserve funds to provide interim controls during all housing rehabilitation projects where lead hazards are identified.

How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

These actions are directly related to households with children under 6 and seek to reduce lead hazards in homes where children reside.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

Federal lead-based paint regulations contain provisions to protect occupants and workers from lead-based paint hazards until lead hazard reduction work is completed. These federal lead-based paint

regulations have been incorporated into the City of Erie's Home Rehabilitation and Homebuyer Assistance Programs, which are administered by the City. City staff are trained to identify lead-based paint hazards, and contractors are trained and certified to perform the rehabilitation work using lead-safe work practices. The inspection process incorporates the required lead risk assessment procedures prior to the start of the rehabilitation activities, as well as the clearance testing at the conclusion of the rehabilitation. The lead risk assessments and clearance tests are performed by a third party. If needed, a temporary relocation policy is developed and utilized.

The City of Erie will continue to implement the federal lead-based paint regulations within the City's Home Rehabilitation and Homebuyer Assistance Programs. Upon conclusion of all rehabilitation work, the unit must pass a clearance test. Through these programs, the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards will decrease, thereby increasing the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, very low-income, and moderate-income families throughout the City of Erie.

In addition, participants in the HACE Housing Choice Voucher Program must have their units inspected for lead hazards. Any hazards identified during the inspection require interim controls before a household can move in.

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

The City of Erie, in partnership with non-profit organizations and businesses, can improve the chances for poverty-stricken residents to move up and out of poverty by supporting organizations that offer job training and placement services, improving the quality and availability of affordable housing, providing public amenities and revitalizing neighborhoods.

The City of Erie, through its various departments, will continue to provide incentives for businesses to locate in low-income areas, to support organizations that provide job training and placement services through the Training Assistance Program Fund, to support rapid rehousing activities, and to preserve and improve affordable housing options, as part of its strategy to prevent and alleviate poverty in the City of Erie.

In addition, the Housing Authority of the City of Erie will continue to offer the Section 8 and public housing homeownership programs, which offer assistance for current residents to convert their rental assistance to mortgage assistance. In addition, the Housing Authority will continue the Family Self Sufficiency program to assist residents with improving wealth and provide budgeting and other services to promote self-sufficiency.

The City of Erie will also continue to support the efforts of the Greater Erie Community Action Commission (GECAC) in its poverty reducing programming, which includes adult education programming, adult literacy programming, employment services, housing services, re-entry programming, and aging services.

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan

The City of Erie provides funds for services related to poverty reduction and self-sufficiency, including job training opportunities, assisting small businesses to revitalize the Central Business Districts; providing support for neighborhood and community centers; and offering homebuyer assistance and education.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

The Department of Economic and Community Development will conduct periodic monitorings of subrecipients throughout the five-year period to ensure programs and projects are implemented in accordance with federal regulations. The City of Erie will do this via on-site visits, remote desk monitoring, and monitoring through the payment of invoices, to ensure costs are eligible and reasonable.

The HOME program will be monitored in accordance with program regulations, including confirmation that income certifications are conducted every sixth year during the affordability period. In addition, the applicable on-site monitorings of rental developments for compliance with the Uniform Physical Conditions Standards as follows:

- Every three years for projects of one-to-four units
- Every two years for projects with five-to-25 units
- Annually for projects with 26 or more units

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Erie receives Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on an annual basis. The table below shows the City's grant allocations for the 2025 program year, along with anticipated grant funding for the remaining four years covered by this Consolidated Plan. This estimate assumes that funding over those four years will average to be about the same as the 2025 allocations. All grant funds will be used to support the City's goals to provide decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic development.

Citizen Participation was conducted on the Plan under the assumption that once allocations were announced if the City receives more than its estimated CDBG amount, it will increase the Administration activity up to the maximum allowed 20% of the City's allocation. The remaining increase will be allocated to the Street Improvements project. If the City receives less than its projected amounts, it will reduce Administration to the maximum allowed 20%, and any additional reduction necessary will come from the Street Improvements project. For the HOME program, if the City receives more than its estimated amount, it will increase the Administration activity up to the maximum allowed 10% of the City's allocation. The remaining increase will be allocated to the HANDS Rehabilitation project (also the CHDO project). If the City receives less than its projected amounts, it will reduce Administration to the maximum allowed 10%, and any additional reduction necessary will come from the HANDS rehabilitation project. If the City receives less than project amounts for ESG, the ESG Administration activity will be reduced to the maximum 7.5%, and any other reduction will be attributed to the emergency shelter activity. Any increase over estimated amounts in ESG will increase admin to the maximum 7.5%. The maximum 60% will be attributed to shelter and street outreach; the remaining funds will be added to the Rapid Rehousing activity.

Allocations were released May 14, 2025, and the City received less CDBG, more HOME, and less ESG funding. The above was followed for the 2025 Annual Action Plan.

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: $		
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Table 49 - 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 will continue to partner with other public agencies and non-profit organizations, when feasible, to leverage resources and maximize outcomes in housing and community development. Leveraged resources include, but are not limited to, Continuum of Care dollars, Erie County Homeless Assistance Program dollars, Erie County Department of Human Services dollars, Housing Authority resources, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol services, and LIHTC. The City of Erie received a 100% HOME match reduction due to fiscal distress. ESG match will be provided by the subrecipients of ESG funds, totaling 100% of the City of Erie's ESG grant.

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

Not applicable.

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	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing Provide Special Needs Housing and Services	CDBG: $173,523.94 HOME: $24,634.06	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 19 housing units
2	Provide Rental Rehabilitation Assistance	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing Provide Special Needs Housing and Services	HOME: $700,000	Rental Housing Rehabilitated: 4 housing units
3	Provide Homeless Housing and Services	2025	2029	Affordable Housing Homeless	City-Wide	Provide Homeless Housing and Services	ESG: $261,142	Tenant-based rental assistance/Rapid Rehousing: 13 households Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 1,635 persons

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure	CDBG: $1,201,964.82	Public Facility or Infrastructure other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 12,000 persons
5	Provide Public Services	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide CD Impact Area	Provide Public Services	CDBG: $734,789.24	Public Service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3,373 persons
6	Economic Development	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	CD Impact Area	Economic Development	CDBG: $114,918	Jobs created/retained: 21 jobs
7	Planning and Administration	2025	2029	Admin	City-Wide	Planning and Administration	CDBG: $555,049 HOME: $80,514	Other: 1 Other

Table 50 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	**Goal Name**	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide financial assistance and emergency repair assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate their existing owner-occupied housing. This includes accessibility improvements for the physically disabled.
2	**Goal Name**	Provide Rental Rehabilitation Assistance
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide financial assistance to rental property owners to rehabilitate housing units to be available for lease to low- and moderate-income households.

3	**Goal Name**	Provide Homeless Housing and Services
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will use ESG funds to address a number of homeless issues, including emergency shelter operations, shelter and assistance for victims of domestic violence, and rental and financial assistance for households that are literally homeless.
4	**Goal Name**	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Public facility improvements in the City of Erie are important to supporting the quality of life by providing adequate space for the provision of services, holding of events that bring the community together, and addressing public safety concerns. In addition, ensuring the City of Erie's public facilities are free of architectural barriers continues to be a priority for ensuring access to the City's services and facilities by all residents. The City of Erie will continue to support its various community development needs through public facilities improvements. In addition, the City of Erie will continue to support its various community development needs through upgrades to existing recreation amenities and creation of new opportunities.
5	**Goal Name**	Provide Public Services
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will provide resources to support public safety and community policing activities in order to promote neighborhood and community development.
6	**Goal Name**	Economic Development
	Goal Description	The City of Erie will use CDBG dollars for activities that promote employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.
7	**Goal Name**	Planning and Administration
	Goal Description	Provide effective and efficient implementation of CDBG, HOME and ESG funding in accordance with federal regulations.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Erie is proposing the following projects for its FY2025 Annual Action Plan:

Projects

#	Project Name
1	General Administration
2	Summer Recreation
3	BTW Center - Summer
4	MLK Center - Summer
5	Trinity Center - Summer
6	UECDC - Summer
7	Dafmark Dance Theatre - Summer
8	Boys and Girls Club - Human Resources
9	BTW Center - Human Resources
10	MLK Center - Human Resources
11	JFK Center - Human Resources
12	Trinity Center - Human Resources
13	UECDC - Human Resources
14	GECAC In-Home Services
15	St. Martin Center - Human Resources
16	Dafmark Dance Theatre – Human Resources
17	Nurturing Hearts – Human Resources
18	Erie Police Athletic League
19	YMCA - Erie County Re-entry and Support Services (ECRSSA)
20	YMCA Downtown Teen Center - Human Resources
21	Youth Leadership Institute - Human Resources
22	SSJNN - Summer Recreation
23	Handicap Curb Cuts
24	Tree Removal/Planting
25	Street Reconstruction
26	Park/Playground Improvements
27	City Housing Rehabilitation (CDBG)
28	Gannon University SBDC
29	Community Cornerstone Project
30	Meals on Wheels
31	Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie
32	HANDS Boston Store Rental Rehab (HOME)
33	City of Erie – Homeowner Rehabilitation
34	East Side Renaissance Rental Rehabilitation (HOME)
35	HOME Administration (HOME)
36	ESG25 City of Erie

Table 51 – Project Information

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

CDBG funds are intended to provide low- and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilitates and improvements, housing rehabilitation and preservation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and

administration.

The system for establishing priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program
- Meeting the needs of very-low, low, and moderate-income residents
- Focus on low- and moderate-income areas or neighborhoods
- Coordination and leveraging of resources
- Response to expressed needs
- Sustainability and/or long-term impact
- The ability to measure or demonstrate progress and success

The City of Erie also has a locally designated CD Impact Area which contains concentrations of low-income households and high rates of poverty where it will target its investments and presume beneficiaries for its programming.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	**Project Name**	General Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Planning/Administration
	Needs Addressed	Planning/Admin
	Funding	CDBG: $555,049
	Description	Funds will be used for CDBG program administration, planning, and management costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	626 State Street, Erie PA 16501
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 21A General Program Administration 570.206
2	**Project Name**	Summer Recreation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $10,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for recreational activities and operating costs at the Roger Young City Pool.
	Target Date	12/31/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	Buffalo Road and Downing Street, Erie, PA
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05Z Public Services Not Listed in 03T and 05A-05Y 570.482 (c) (2) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
3	**Project Name**	BTW Center - Summer
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $24,850.00
	Description	Funds will be used for the BTW Center's summer youth recreation program.
	Target Date	12/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	60 youth
	Location Description	1720 Holland Street, Erie, PA 16503
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
4	**Project Name**	MLK Center - Summer
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services

	Funding	CDBG: $10,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for the MLK Center summer youth recreation program.
	Target Date	12/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	80 youth
	Location Description	312 Chestnut Street, Erie, PA 16507
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).
5	**Project Name**	Trinity Center - Summer
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $20,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for Bethesda Trinity Center's summer youth recreational program.
	Target Date	12/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 youth
	Location Description	462 West 18th Street, Erie, PA 16502
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
	Project Name	UECDC - Summer

6	**Target Area**	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $49,355.24
	Description	Funds will be used for a summer work and training program for youth aged 14-18.
	Target Date	12/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	28 youth
	Location Description	2046 East 19th Street, Erie, PA 16510
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
7	**Project Name**	Dafmark Dance Theatre - Summer
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	$10,000
	Description	Funds will be used for summer youth programming at Dafmark Dance Theatre. Programming will provide free childcare during the summer to low- to moderate-income families.
	Target Date	06/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 youth

	Location Description	2110D E 10th St, Erie, PA 16511
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
8	**Project Name**	Boys and Girls Club - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $55,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for Boys and Girls Club youth programs and includes the Police Athletic League.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 youth
	Location Description	1515 East Lake Road, Erie, PA 16511
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
9	**Project Name**	BTW Center - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $72,345.00

	Description	Funds will be used for Booker T. Washington Center social services, education, recreation, and Youth Athletic programs.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	500 LMI Individuals
	Location Description	1720 Holland Street, Erie, PA 16503
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e); 05 Public Services 570.201(e); National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).
10	**Project Name**	MLK Center - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $55,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for the MLK Center to provide case management services to youth participating in after-school and recreation Programs and social services for families.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	400 LMI Individuals
	Location Description	312 Chestnut Street, Erie, PA 16507
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e); 05A Senior Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).
	Project Name	JFK Center - Human Resources

11	**Target Area**	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $55,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for the JFK Center to provide structured youth development activities and services.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 Youth
	Location Description	2021 East 20th Street, Erie, PA 16510
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).
12	**Project Name**	Trinity Center - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $35,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for the Bethesda Trinity Center to provide social services, education, recreation, and Youth Athletic programs.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 Youth

	Location Description	462 W. 18th Street, Erie, PA 16502
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).
13	**Project Name**	UECDC - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $55,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for year-round academic and leadership development (Impact Youth program) for students in grades K-12.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	60 youth
	Location Description	2046 East 19th Street, Erie, PA 16510
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
14	**Project Name**	GECAC In-Home Services
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $38,250.00

	Description	Funds will be used for basic support services and meal delivery for disabled and elderly persons in the City.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	85 LMI persons
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05A Senior Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit; activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
15	**Project Name**	St. Martin Center - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $50,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used to fund partial salaries of 3 Caseworkers to provide low-income clients with who are currently homeless or at risk of homelessness with rent, mortgage and utility assistance.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	250 LMI Households
	Location Description	1701 Parade Street, Erie, PA 16503
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05 Public Services 570.201(e); 05Q Subsistence Payments 570.201(e) National objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit; activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

16	**Project Name**	Dafmark Dance Theatre – Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $20,000
	Description	Funds will be used for operations of the Dafmark Dance Theatre youth programming, particularly afterschool programs.
	Target Date	06/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 youth
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
17	**Project Name**	Nurturing Hearts – Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $5,000
	Description	Funds will be used for self-esteem and self-development activities for at-risk girls ages 10-18.
	Target Date	06/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	60 at-risk youth girls will benefit from Nurturing Hearts services.
	Location Description	32 W 8th St #505, Erie, PA 16501
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
18	**Project Name**	Erie Police Athletic League
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $21,109.00
	Description	Funds will be used to support the Erie Police Athletic League programming for at-risk youth.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	800 youth
	Location Description	Citywide (10 schools, 3 community centers, B&G Club, Gannon-summer)
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
19	**Project Name**	YMCA - Erie County Re-entry and Support Services (ECRSSA)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services

	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $43,880.00
	Description	Funds will be used to support YMCA's Erie Co. Reentry Services and Support Alliance (ECRSSA) to provide salary for a Youth Case Manager, consumable supplies and equipment to support individuals transitioning from incarceration or from criminal network involvement.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	285 LMI Individuals
	Location Description	31 West 10th Street, Erie, PA 16501
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05Z Other Public Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
20	**Project Name**	YMCA Downtown Teen Center - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $55,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for staffing to support the YMCA Downtown Teen Center programs.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	185 youth
	Location Description	31 West 10th Street, Erie, PA 16501

	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
21	**Project Name**	Youth Leadership Institute - Human Resources
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $10,000.00
	Description	Youth empowerment program providing individualized student-centered strategy while helping with education and to achieve future success. Program supports academic, career, social, emotional, and physical growth and development.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 youth
	Location Description	1306 E Lake Rd, Erie, PA 16507
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)
22	**Project Name**	SSJNN - Summer Recreation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $10,000.00

	Description	Funds will be used for the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network's summer youth work program.
	Target Date	12/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	15 youth
	Location Description	425 W. 18th Street, Erie, PA 16502
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).
23	**Project Name**	Handicap Curb Cuts
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $350,000
	Description	Funds will be used for wheelchair accessibility (curb cuts) at street intersections.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8,541 ambulatory disabled persons
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03L Sidewalks 570.201(c) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, presumed benefit. 570.208(a)(1)
	Project Name	Tree Removal/Planting

24	**Target Area**	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $20,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for an estimated 20 trees to be planted and 10 trees to be removed.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	LMI CTs and BGs
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03N Tree Planting 570.201(c) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)
25	**Project Name**	Street Reconstruction
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $690,621.82
	Description	Funds will be used for street reconstruction and curb cuts.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	LMI CTs and BGs – 2,000 persons
	Location Description	LMI CTs and BGs

	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03K Street Improvements 570.201(c) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)
26	**Project Name**	Downtown Streetscapes
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $91,343
	Description	Funds will be used for streetscape improvements in downtown Erie
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	LMI CTs and BGs – 2,000 persons
	Location Description	LMI CTs and BGs
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03K Street Improvements 570.201(c) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)
27	**Project Name**	Park/Playground Improvements
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $50,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used for park/playground improvements in LMI service areas of the City
	Target Date	6/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide LMI CTs and BGs – 2,000 persons
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03F Parks, Recreation Facilities 570.201 (c) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)
28	**Project Name**	City Housing Rehabilitation (CDBG)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: $77,523.94
	Description	Funds will be used for housing rehabilitation assistance and delivery costs. Eligible single units may receive up to $24,999 for housing rehabilitation costs. The $24,999 may include funds to facilitate the adaptability of single units for occupancy by disabled persons and lead based paint remediation costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated ten (10) households
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 14A Rehab; Single-Unit Residential. 14B Rehab: Multi-Unit Residential 570.202 National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208(a)(3)

29	**Project Name**	Gannon University SBDC
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: $54,918.00
	Description	Funds will be provided to support Gannon University SBDC to provide technical and consulting services to prospective, new and existing small businesses to enable the creation of new jobs principally benefitting low and moderate income individuals.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6 LMI Jobs
	Location Description	109 University Square, Erie, PA 16541
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 18B Economic Development: Technical Assistance 570.203 (c) National Objective: LMJ Low/mod job creation or retention: activities designed to create or retain permanent jobs where at least 51% of the jobs involve the employment of low- to moderate-income persons. 570.208(a)(4)
30	**Project Name**	Community Cornerstone Project
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: $60,000.00
	Description	This project is run by Achievers Entrepreneurial Hub (AEH) which brings necessary resources together to assist in the development of strategic business skills that lead to long-term successful employment and business.

	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	15
	Location Description	Matrix Code: 18B Economic Development: Technical Assistance 570.203 (c) National Objective: LMJ Low/mod job creation or retention: activities designed to create or retain permanent jobs where at least 51% of the jobs involve the employment of low- to moderate-income persons. 570.208(a)(4)
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 18B Economic Development: Technical Assistance 570.203 (c) National Objective: LMJ Low/mod job creation or retention: activities designed to create or retain permanent jobs where at least 51% of the jobs involve the employment of low- to moderate-income persons. 570.208(a)(4)
31	**Project Name**	Meals on Wheels
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $30,000.00
	Description	Daily meal delivery services for low-income, elderly, disabled, and veterans.
	Target Date	06/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	50 elderly/disabled/veterans
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	05A Senior Services National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, presumed benefit. 570.208(a)(1)

32	**Project Name**	Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: $96,000.00
	Description	Housing rehabilitation assistance to income-qualified households for exterior repairs to protect and preserve lead hazard control activities instituted by the RDA's LHRD grant.
	Target Date	06/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	7 households assisted
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Housing Rehabilitation Administration Matrix Code 14H National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208(a)(3)
33	**Project Name**	Rental Rehabilitation (HOME)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Rental Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: $700,000
	Description	Rehabilitation of units into affordable rental housing
	Target Date	6/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 households
	Location Description	716–728 State Street
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 14B Rehab
34	**Project Name**	City of Erie – Homeowner Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: $24,634.06
	Project Name	Rehabilitation of homeowner units
	Target Area	6/30/2026
	Goals Supported	2 households
	Needs Addressed	To be determined
	Funding	Matrix Code: 14B Rehab
35	**Project Name**	HOME Administration (HOME)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Planning/Administration
	Needs Addressed	Planning/Admin
	Funding	HOME: $80,514.80
	Description	Funds will be used for HOME program administration, planning, and management costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	626 State Street, Erie PA 16501
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 19A HOME Admin/Planning Costs of PJ (not part of 5% Admin Cap)
36	**Project Name**	ESG25 City of Erie
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeless Housing and Services Planning/Administration
	Needs Addressed	Provide Homeless Housing and Services
	Funding	ESG: $261,142.00
	Description	Emergency Shelter Community Shelter Services $38,075. Emergency Shelter St. Patrick Haven $15,371. Emergency Shelter SafeNet (Hospitality House) $14,650. Emergency Shelter City Mission $32,214. Emergency Shelter The Refuge $18,301. Emergency Shelter Community of Caring $16,844. Transitional Living Mercy Center for Women $18,301. Transitional Living SafeNet (Bridge House) $2,930. St. Martin Center Rapid Re-Housing $84,871 Administration $19,585.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	St. Martin Center Rapid Rehousing: 63; Emergency and Transitional Shelters: 1,635
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03C Homeless Facilities (not operating costs) 570.201(c), 03T Operating Cost for Homeless / AIDS Patients Programs, and 05Q Subsistence Payments 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income 570.208(a)(2)

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

The City of Erie will distribute CDBG, HOME, and ESG on a citywide basis to all eligible beneficiaries. An eligible beneficiary may be an LMI individual person or family, an activity that primarily benefits a LMI household, or an activity located in a LMI Census Tract (CT) or Block Group (BG). Since the City's low-moderate-income population exceeds 51%, certain activities that have a citywide benefit may be considered.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-wide	**39%**
CD Impact Area	**61%**

Table 52 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The system for establishing priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program
- Meeting the needs of very-low, low, and moderate-income residents
- Focus on low- and moderate-income areas or neighborhoods
- Coordination and leveraging of resources
- Response to expressed needs
- Sustainability and/or long-term impact
- The ability to measure or demonstrate progress and success

Discussion

Under the FY 2025 Community Development Program, the City of Erie will be receiving $2,971,318 in CDBG funds and will use $5,000.00 in program income ($2,976,318 total). The City will budget $594,263 in CDBG funds for CDBG general administration. The balance of CDBG funds totals $2,382,055, all of which will be allocated to activities which principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	18
Special-Needs	0
Total	18

Table 53 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	18
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	18

Table 54 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) exists to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing for lower-income families, elderly and persons with disabilities; and to foster among the residents we serve economic self-sufficiency, and a sense of community and pride in the neighborhoods where they reside.

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

The HACE will also continue its family self-sufficiency and homeownership programs.

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

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) encourages resident participation in its Tenant Councils and Resident Advisory Boards. Educating residents on the purpose of the tenant councils and resident advisory boards, and how their feedback will be used to inform planning efforts, can help encourage increased participation. HACE also conducts a bi-annual resident satisfaction survey to gauge the perceptions of safety and problems in the neighborhoods and determine actions for improving living conditions. A survey was conducted in 2024 and the results show that HACE residents have a high level of satisfaction with their housing and services as was the case in previous surveys

HACE will also continue to encourage participation in its Section 8 and public housing homeownership programs. The Family Self Sufficiency program helps renters escrow dollars to put toward purchase of a home or vehicle to aid in employment. The Housing Authority indicated that over 50% of the participants are New American households.

HACE is currently developing its five-year strategic plan that will determine the authority's long-term vision. The Plan will identify priorities, goals, and objectives to meet the needs of the community for the next five years.

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

The PHA is not designated troubled.

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

Introduction

The Home Team was created to promote a comprehensive, collaborative and sustained community approach to homelessness in Erie County. The Home Team meets bimonthly to work toward eradicating homelessness. In addition, the Home Team collects data related to the homeless services system in Erie County. The purpose of data collection is to ensure non-duplication of resources and to identify and address major gaps in the system. Ultimately, the Home Team's goal is to enable the person or family experiencing homelessness to become self-sufficient and to move into permanent housing.

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

The Erie City-County Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry System (CES) provides a strategy to quickly move people from homelessness to permanent housing by establishing a streamlined and uniform method of serving clients in need of housing crisis services, using a single point of entry model; reducing burden on both client and provider by having a unified approach to quickly identify, assess, and refer clients to the best intervention to meet clients' specific needs at first contact; increasing collaboration between agencies in serving client needs more effectively and efficiently; and collecting data on community trends of housing needs to better target limited resources. When households or individuals present to the Continuum, the household is assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need. The City of Erie will continue to support efforts focusing on street outreach to the unsheltered homeless, especially unsheltered youth and unsheltered chronically homeless.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

All persons presenting to the continuum are assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need. The CoC's strategy seeks to place persons in permanent housing as quickly as possible, then provide supportive services to promote stability in housing. Potential interventions include transitional housing, rapid rehousing or permanent supportive housing. The City has seen an increase in the number of unsheltered homeless individuals, as well as longer lengths of stay for households in shelter. Limited shelter capacity results in more households in unsheltered situtations. Driven largely by Infinite Erie, the City has plans to construct a new facility that would provide long-term housing for up to 50 homeless individuals and feature on-site supportive social services such as medical and mental health care. The City is also exploring ways to increase rental housing inventory through the City. The City will continue to leverage its federal resources to reduce the number of unsheltered homeless individuals and families, with an emphasis on chronically homeless households that require deep subsidy and robust services.

The City of Erie will support six emergency shelters and three transitional housing facilities with a combined 217 beds using CDBG and ESG dollars in FY2025.

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

Ending chronic homelessness is a priority for the City. The CoC prioritized serving persons experiencing chronic homelessness in all of its permanent supportive housing beds. As discussed above, all persons presenting to the Continuum of Care are assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need. The CoC implements policies and practices that place persons in permanent housing as quickly as possible, then provide supportive services to promote stability in housing.

The City of Erie will utilize ESG dollars to support rapid rehousing assistance efforts for literally homeless individuals and households. These programs are administered by St. Martin Center.

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

While the City of Erie follows the Pennsylvania state mandated procedures for discharge from mental health institutions, stakeholders reported a need for medical respite care to ensure individuals discharging from substance treatment centers, hospitals, and mental health institutions receive interim care prior to placement in supportive housing. Stakeholders also identified a need for increased supportive services for individuals exiting institutions that extend into housing placement, as well as services that do not end upon placement in permanent housing. GECAC and St. Martin Center receive County Homeless Assistance Program dollars for homeless prevention activities; assistance includes rental and utility assistance. In addition, GECAC also administers weatherization and energy education programs to help households reduce utility bills and avoid evictions and shutoffs.

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

Introduction:

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

[Will insert from AI update in progress once finalized]

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Erie has developed the following actions to address the following city needs: obstacles to meeting underserved needs; fostering affordable housing; reducing lead-based hazards; reducing the number of families living in poverty; developing institutional structures; and enhancing coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Erie will continue to address the obstacles to meeting underserved needs through ongoing programs, including updating infrastructure and community facilities, community development, and housing needs throughout the city.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Erie will fund activities that increase affordable rental units in the City, including providing incentives to developers to create new units and preserve existing units. The City will continue the owner and rental rehabilitation programs to make sure that the City's existing housing stock is up to code.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The Erie Redevelopment Authority will continue implementation of its lead hazard grant, and the City of Erie through the implementation of its rehabilitation programs will ensure interim controls are implemented to reduce the lead-based paint hazards in the City's housing stock.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City, through its various departments, will continue to provide incentives for businesses to locate in low income areas, to support organizations that provide job training and placement services through the Training Assistance Program Fund, to support rapid rehousing activities, and to preserve and improve affordable housing options, as part of its strategy to prevent and alleviate poverty.

In addition, the Housing Authority of the City of Erie will continue to offer the Section 8 and public housing homeownership programs, which offer assistance for current residents to convert their rental assistance to mortgage assistance. In addition, the Housing Authority will continue the Family Self Sufficiency program to assist residents with improving wealth and provide budgeting and other services to promote self-sufficiency.

GECAC will continue providing adult education and employment services designed to lift households out

of poverty.

Finally, the City has several flourishing programs to boost its economic development and workforce. As these programs and initiatives continue to take root and grow, the opportunities for extremely low-, low-, and moderate-income individuals will increase and will greatly help reduce the number of households living in poverty.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The main gaps in the current institutional structure and service delivery system are related to limited funding and staffing for the various agencies and other stakeholders that the City relies on to implement its five-year strategy and to address the specific needs identified in the plan.

The City will continue to support the work of these agencies and stakeholders, including their efforts to identify, increase and obtain the amount of funding that is available to address the needs of their clients.

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

The City of Erie is a member of the Continuum of Care and participates in all planning processes associated with the Continuum. The County lead continues to reach out to church groups and other providers that do not currently participate in the Coordinated Entry System. These efforts will continue over the five-year period to ensure that all persons experiencing homelessness or are at-risk will be property evaluated and directed to the appropriate services.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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	$5,000
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	
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	
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.	
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	
Total Program Income	$5,000

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities

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:

   There are no other forms of investment.

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:

   The City’s Recapture Policy is included in the Unique Appendix.

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:

   The City’s Recapture Policy is included in the Unique Appendix.

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:

   The City has no plans to use HOME funds to refinance existing multifamily debt.

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.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Reference 91.220(l)(4)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

   Standards are included in the Unique Appendix.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

   The Erie City-County Continuum of Care adopted Coordinated Entry System (CES) in January 2018. The CES provides a strategy to quickly move people from homelessness to permanent housing by establishing a streamlined and uniform method of serving clients in need of housing crisis services, using a single point of entry model; reducing burden on both client and provider by having a unified approach to quickly identify, assess, and refer clients to the best intervention to meet clients' specific needs at first contact; increasing collaboration between agencies in serving client needs more effectively and efficiently; and collecting data on community trends of housing needs to better target limited resources. When households or individuals present to the Continuum, the household is assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need.

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

   Organizations wishing to receive an allocation of ESG dollars must submit an application to the City of Erie for assistance. To the extent feasible applications are evaluated based on CoC Systems Performance Measures.

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

   The CoC by-laws contains provisions for including homeless participation on its Board and during planning efforts.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

   Standards are included in the Unique Appendix.

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

Sort order	Type	Data Source Name	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.	Provide a brief summary of the data set.	What was the purpose for developing this data set?	Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.	Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.	Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.	Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.	How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?	What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?	What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?
<TYPE=[pivot_table] VERSION=[2] REPORT_GUID=[884DC1E44796F035A521FE96F1A3ABF2]>												

RESOLUTION

By: Titus Seconded By: Flores

#6

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Erie, PA June 4, 2025

Resolved, by the Council of the City of Erie,

WHEREAS, under the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as Amended, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to communities in the elimination of prevention of slums or urban blight, or activities which will benefit low and moderate income persons, or other urgent community development needs; and,

WHEREAS, under the HOME Investment Partnerships Program created by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 (NAHA) and amended by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1991, the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to participating jurisdictions to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, under the Emergency Solutions Grants Program contained in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transaction Act of 2009, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to grantees and nonprofit agencies which provide essential services, operations, homeless prevention, rapid re-housing and shelter rehabilitation for homeless persons; and

WHEREAS, The U. S. Department of HUD has advised the City of the FY2025 Entitlements, we have been advised as follows: CDBG, $2,775,245.00, HOME, $805,148.06, and ESG $261,142, and

WHEREAS, in addition to the entitlement funds, the City expects to receive $5,000 in program income for CDBG; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Economic and Community Development of the City of Erie has prepared the Five-Year Consolidated Plan 2025-2029 and First Annual Plan for the FY2025 funding year which assesses the housing needs of low and moderate income households, homeless families and individuals, and others with special needs; and

WHEREAS, the draft Five Year Consolidated Plan 2025-2029 and First Annual Plan for the FY2025 was on public display since April 3, 2025, and the City held four Public Hearings on said Five Year Consolidated Plan First Annual Plan, and the comments of various agencies, groups, and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final document; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Erie, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1: That the Five-Year Consolidated Plan 2025-2029 and First Annual Plan for the FY2025 CDBG, HOME, and ESG Program is hereby in all respects approved and the City Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of said Five Year Consolidated Plan 2025-2029 and First Annual Plan with the minutes of this meeting.

SECTION 2: That it is cognizant of the conditions that are imposed in undertaking and carrying out of community development, affordable housing and emergency homeless activities with federal financial assistance, including those relating to (1) the relocation of site occupants, (b) the prohibition of discrimination because of race, color, age, religion, sex, disability, family status, or national origin and other assurances as set forth under the certifications.

SECTION 3: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Erie, is authorized to file an application for financial assistance with the U. S. Department of HUD which has indicated its willingness to make available a grant to carry out the CDBG Program in the amount of $2,775,245.00, HOME in the amount of $805,148.06, and ESG in the amount of $261,142 and is further authorized to act as an authorized representative of the City of Erie to sign any and all documents in regard to these programs.

SECTION 4: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Erie, Pennsylvania, is authorized to provide assurances and/or certifications as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as Amended, the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, and also any supplemental or revised data which the U. S. Department of HUD may request in connection with the review of this application.

CITY COUNCIL - CITY OF ERIE, PA.

NO. 6

2025	Ayes	Nays
Brzezinski	1	
Flores	1	
Nelson	1	
Schaaf	1	
Titus	1	
Troop	1	
Witherspoon	1	
TOTAL	7	0

JUN 0 4 2025

SF 424'S

&

CERTIFICATES

OMB Number: 4040-0004
Expiration Date: 11/30/2025

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:
- [ ] Preapplication
- [x] Application
- [ ] Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:
- [x] New
- [ ] Continuation
- [ ] Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: City of Erie

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 25-6000857

* c. UEI: P5VLQWGTLT94

d. Address:

* Street1: 626 State Street
Street2: Room 404
* City: Erie
County/Parish:
* State: PA: Pennsylvania
Province:
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES
* Zip / Postal Code: 16501-1128

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name: Economic & Community Develop.

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix: Ms.
* First Name: Debra
Middle Name:
* Last Name: Smith
Suffix:

Title: Director

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1274
Fax Number:

* Email: dsmith@erie.pa.us

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

FY 2025 HOME Program

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments | Delete Attachments | View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: PA-016 * b. Program/Project: PA-016

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 07/01/2025 * b. End Date: 06/30/2026

18. Estimated Funding ($):

* a. Federal	805,148.06
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	805,148.06

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .

☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.

☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name: Joseph

Middle Name: V

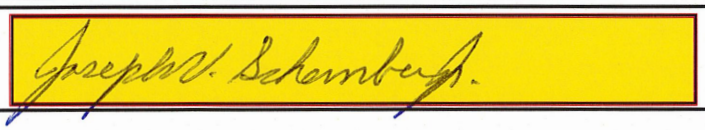
* Last Name: Schember

Suffix:

* Title: Mayor

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1274 Fax Number:

* Email: dsmith@erie.pa.us

* Signature of Authorized Representative:  * Date Signed: 06/05/2025

OMB Number: 4040-0004
Expiration Date: 11/30/2025

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:
- [ ] Preapplication
- [x] Application
- [ ] Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:
- [x] New
- [ ] Continuation
- [ ] Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

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Province:
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES
* Zip / Postal Code: 16501-1128

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name: Economic & Community Develop.

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix: Ms.
* First Name: Debra
Middle Name:
* Last Name: Smith
Suffix:

Title: Director

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1274
Fax Number:

* Email: dsmith@erie.pa.us

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.231

CFDA Title:

Emergency Solutions Grant

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

FY 2025 ESG Program

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments | Delete Attachments | View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: PA-016 * b. Program/Project: PA-016

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 07/01/2025 * b. End Date: 06/30/2026

18. Estimated Funding ($):

* a. Federal	261,142.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	261,142.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .

☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.

☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name: Joseph

Middle Name: V

* Last Name: Schember

Suffix:

* Title: Mayor

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1274 Fax Number:

* Email: dsmith@erie.pa.us

* Signature of Authorized Representative: Joseph V. Schember Jr. * Date Signed: 06/05/2025

OMB Number: 4040-0004
Expiration Date: 11/30/2025

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:
- [ ] Preapplication
- [x] Application
- [ ] Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:
- [x] New
- [ ] Continuation
- [ ] Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: City of Erie

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 25-6000857

* c. UEI: P5VLQWGTLT94

d. Address:

* Street1: 626 State Street
Street2: Room 404
* City: Erie
County/Parish:
* State: PA: Pennsylvania
Province:
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES
* Zip / Postal Code: 16501-1128

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name: Economic & Community Develop.

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix: Ms.
* First Name: Debra
Middle Name:
* Last Name: Smith
Suffix:

Title: Director

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1274
Fax Number:

* Email: dsmith@erie.pa.us

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.218

CFDA Title:

Community Development Block Grant Program

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

FY 2025 CDBG Program

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments | Delete Attachments | View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: PA-016 * b. Program/Project: PA-016

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 07/01/2025 * b. End Date: 06/30/2026

18. Estimated Funding ($):

* a. Federal	2,775,245.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	5,000.00
* g. TOTAL	2,780,245.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .

☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.

☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

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☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name: Joseph

Middle Name: V

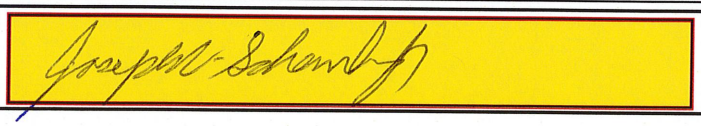
* Last Name: Schember

Suffix:

* Title: Mayor

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1274 Fax Number:

* Email: dsmith@erie.pa.us

* Signature of Authorized Representative:  * Date Signed: 06/05/2025

Applicant and Recipient Assurances and Certifications

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

OMB Number: 2501-0044
Expiration Date: 2/28/2027

Instructions for the HUD 424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual, must provide the following assurances and certifications. The Responsible Civil Rights Official has specified this form for use for purposes of general compliance with 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 146.25, as applicable. The Responsible Civil Rights Official may require specific civil rights assurances to be furnished consistent with those authorities and will specify the form on which such assurances must be made. A failure to furnish or comply with the civil rights assurances contained in this form may result in the procedures to effect compliance at 24 CFR §§ 1.8, 3.115, 8.57, or 146.39.

By submitting this form, you are stating that all assertions made in this form are true, accurate, and correct.

As the duly representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant: [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

*Authorized Representative Name:
Joseph V. Schember
*Title: Mayor
*Applicant/Recipient Organization:
City of Erie

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the application to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.

2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).

3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8, the American Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et.seq.), and implementing regulations at 28 CFR part 35 or 36, as applicable, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07) as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

4. Will comply with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin and will affirmatively further fair housing; except an applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

5. Will comply with all applicable Federal nondiscrimination requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR §§ 5.105(a) and 5.106 as applicable.

6. Will not use Federal funding to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) mandates, policies, programs, or activities that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws.

7. Will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24 and, as applicable, Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(d)) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 42, subpart A.

8. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et.seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property.

9. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all subawards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

I/We, the undersigned, certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true, accurate, and correct. WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802; 24 CFR §28.10(b)(1)(iii)).

* Signature: Joseph V. Schember

* Date: (mm/dd/yyyy): June 5, 2025

Public Reporting Burden Statement: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Chief Data Officer, R, 451 7th St SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000. **Do not send completed HUD 424-B forms to this address.** This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to collect this information under the authority cited in the Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant program. The information collected provides assurances and certifications for legal requirements related to the administration of this grant program. HUD will use this information to ensure compliance of its grantees. This information is required to obtain the benefit sought in the grant program. This information will not be held confidential and may be made available to the public in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552).

OMB Number: 4040-0007
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.

2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.

3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.

4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.

5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).

6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C.§§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U. S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee- 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.

8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.

10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is $10,000 or more.

11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).

12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).

14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.

15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.

16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.

17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."

18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
Joseph V. Schember Jr.	Mayor
APPLICANT NAME	DATE SUBMITTED
City of Erie	06/05/2025

OMB Number: 4040-0007
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

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As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.

2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.

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11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).

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13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).

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17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."

18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
Joseph M. Schember Jr.	Mayor
APPLICANT NAME	DATE SUBMITTED
City of Erie	06/05/2025

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97) Back

OMB Number: 4040-0007
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.

2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.

3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.

4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.

5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).

6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C.§§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U. S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee- 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.

8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.

10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is $10,000 or more.

11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).

12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).

14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.

15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.

16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.

17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."

18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
Joseph V. Schember Jr.	Mayor
APPLICANT NAME	DATE SUBMITTED
City of Erie	06/05/2025

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97) Back

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and

3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

Joseph C. Schemberg — Signature of Authorized Official

6/5/25 — Date

Mayor

Title

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2026,2027,2028 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and

2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

Joseph W. Schemansky — Signature of Authorized Official

6/5/25 — Date

Mayor
Title

Emergency Solutions Grants Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program recipient certifies that:

Major rehabilitation/conversion/renovation – If an emergency shelter's rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation.

If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion.

In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to street outreach or emergency shelter, the recipient will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the recipient serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

Renovation – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The recipient will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal State, local, and private assistance available for these individuals.

Matching Funds – The recipient will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The recipient has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement – To the maximum extent practicable, the recipient will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the recipient undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with its consolidated plan.

Discharge Policy – The recipient will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

Joseph V. Schembari Jr. — Signature of Authorized Official

6/5/25 — Date

Mayor — Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

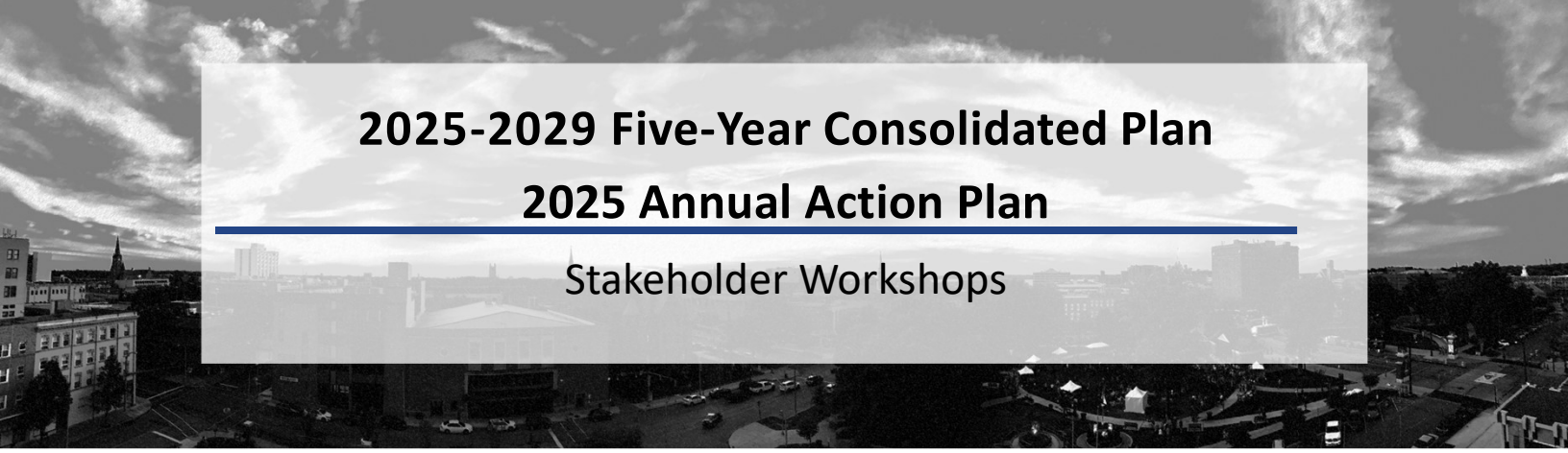
Eligible Activities and Costs -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §§92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;

Joseph W. Schembrey
Signature of Authorized Official

6/5/2025
Date

Mayor
Title



2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan
2025 Annual Action Plan

Stakeholder Workshops

Join us at any one or more of the following **Stakeholder Workshops**. The purpose of these workshops is for the City of Erie to listen to you—tell us what the needs are for the residents you serve throughout the community!

All meetings will be held at Erie City Hall; 626 State Street; Room 500; Erie

TUESDAY JANUARY 28TH

11:00-12:30 PM Health, Human and Homeless Services

2:00-3:30 PM Housing Affordability and Equity

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 29TH

11:30-12:30 PM Community/Economic Development

2:00-3:00 PM Accessible Housing

Public Meetings

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29TH

10:00-11:00 AM

6:00-7:00 PM

Erie City Hall
Council Chambers
626 State Street
Erie, PA 16501

Take our Survey!
Respond by **February 7**

THE CITY OF ERIE

JOSEPH V. SCHEMBER, MAYOR

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Questions? City of Erie Economic and Community Development dsmith@erie.pa.us (814) 870-1270

THE CITY OF ERIE

JOSEPH V. SCHEMBER, MAYOR

2025-2029 Consolidated Plan
2025 Annual Action Plan

CP & AAP PROCESS



Stakeholder Consultation

Local government, public and private agencies, housing authority, etc.



Housing Market Analysis

Utilize quantifiable data, stakeholder input, and citizen participation to develop this section



Housing and Homeless Needs Assessment

Utilize quantifiable data, stakeholder input, and citizen participation to develop this section



Strategic Plan

Priorities for 2025-2029



Annual Action Plan

Proposed activities for 2025

Basic CDBG Eligible Activities



Housing Rehabilitation



Homeownership Assistance



Public Facilities and Improvements



Blight Removal Demolition/Site Preparation



Code Enforcement



Economic Development



Acquisition / Disposition of Real Property



Public Services

HOME



Housing Rehabilitation



Homeownership Assistance



New Construction of Affordable Housing



Tenant Based Rental Assistance

Emergency Solutions Grant



Street Outreach



Emergency Shelter



Homeless Prevention



Rapid Rehousing



HMIS

DEFINITION OF LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME IN ERIE 2024

Household Size	Maximum Income (80% HAMFI for Erie, PA)
1 person	45,100
2 person	51,550
3 person	58,000
4 person	64,400
5 person	69,600
6 person	74,750
7 person	79,900
8 person	85,050

Public Comment

Public Input on Needs

- Housing Affordability and Accessibility
- Housing types needed
- Services needed
- Underserved populations
- Public Infrastructure Needs
- Economic/Workforce Development Needs

Next Steps

- Public Meetings January 29
- Public Comment Period early April
- Council Adopt Plan once HUD Allocations announced (likely June)

Take Our Survey!

English:



Spanish:



For More Information

Ms. Debra A. Smith, Director

City of Erie Economic and Community Development

(814) 870-1274

dsmith@erie.pa.us

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Community & Economic Development Workshop
January 29, 2025

Name (please print legibly)	Organization	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Amy Helmer	Bethesda Lutheran Services	ahelmer@bethesda1919.org 814 724 7510 x524
Drew Whiting	EDDC / Si Golf Erie	drew.whiting@ercddc.org 312 515 9838
CASEY CORRITORE	ERIE ARTS + CULTURE	CASEY@ERIEARTSANDCULTURE.ORG 814-452-3427 x 108
Jennifer Pontzer	Erie Together	JPontzer@careerstreeterie.org 814.572-0419
WYATT SCHROEDER	Infinite Erie	wyatt@hemlockandfinge.com 208-972-4349
Peter Burke	Erie County	pburke@eriecountypa.gov
Brandon Penn	Apartment Association	814-490-8406 brandonpenn89@gmail.com
[illegible]	SECS - City Erie	
Veronica M. Fields	DECD	VFields@erie.pa.us
Joe Schember	Mayor of Erie	jschember@Erie.PA.US 814-392-0996
[illegible]	City of Erie	cgrove@erie.pa.us

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Community & Economic Development Workshop
January 29, 2025

Name (please print legibly)	Organization	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Dave Deter	City DECD	ddeter@erie.pa.us 814/870-1277
Derek Martin	Erie Airport	dmartin@erieairport.org
Susannah Faulkner	SSJNN	sfaulkner@ssjnn.org
Floyd Hull	CCP	(814) 383-8826
Debra Smith	City DECD	(814) 870-1274

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Accessible Housing Workshop
January 29, 2025

Name (please print legibly)	Organization	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Jessica Luisi	Summit Legal Aid Fair Housing Law Ctr	jessica@summitlegal.org 724.884.2771
Maryjulie Martin	GECAC	MMartin@gecac.org 814.459.4581 x 406
DAVE DETER	CITY DECD	ddeter@erie.pa.us
Rene		
Joe Schember	City of Erie Mayor	814-392-0996 jschember@erie.PA.US
DEBRA SMITH	CITY DECD	dsmith@erie.pa.us
DEBBIE TATE	CITY DECD	dtate@erie.pa.us
Veronica Fields	DECD	vfields@erie.pa.us

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Health & Human Services Workshop
January 28, 2025

Name (please print legibly)	Organization	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Chris Tombaugh	Community of Caring	Ctombaugh@coceerie.org
Shelby Folga	St. Patrick's Have	Shelby.folga@ssjerie.org
DEBRA SMITH	CITY of ERIE - DECD	dsmith@erie.pa.us
Starla Cochenour	Our West Bayfront	Starla@ourwestbayfront.org
DAVE DETER	CITY OF ERIE DECD	ddeter@erie.pa.us
Denise TATE	CITY OF ERIE DECD	dtate@erie.pa.us
Danielle Urban	Erie County DHS	durban@eriecountypa.gov
Leatrice Schoolcraft	Erie County DHS	lschoolcraft@eriecountypa.gov
Maryann Martin	GECAC	MMartin@gecac.org 814.459.4581 X460
Vernica M. Fields	DECD	Vfields@erie.pa.us

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Health & Human Services Workshop
January 28, 2025

Name (please print legibly)	Organization	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Jennifer Hoffman	Meals on Wheels Erie	jennifer@mealsonwheelserie.org 814-452-6930
Joseph Schember	Mayor of Erie	jschember@erie.PA.US 814-392-0996
Renee Lamis	City of Erie	rlamis@erie.pa.us. 814-790-3016
Denise Manus	Manus Enterprises	Manus Enterprises 814-456-7647
Peter Burke	Erie County DHS	814-451-6813 pburke@eriecountypa.gov
Lana Rees	"	~~Lana~~ LRees@Erie county pa.gov 814.451.7716
Jason Geeting	Erie City Mission	jgeeting@erie citymission.org

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Housing Affordability/Equity
January 28, 2025

Name (please print legibly)	Department	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Blanche Helbling	Fair Housing Law Center	blanche@summitlegal.org
Danielle Urban	Erie County DHS	durban@eriecountypa.gov
Leatrice Schoolcraft	Erie county DHS	lschoolcraft@eriecountypa.gov
Ruth Swaney	volunteer USCRI	rutheswaney@icloud.com
Renie Lamis		
Joe SCHEMBER	MAYOR, CITY OF ERIE	jschember@erie.PA.US
Tyler Titus	City Council	ttitus@erie.pa.us
Dr Rochie Vermaak	Habitat for Humanity	vermaak@habitaterie.org

City of Erie Stakeholder Workshops
Summary of Stakeholder Comments
January 28, 2025 – January 31, 2025

The City of Erie conducted a series of workshops to gather stakeholder input for the implementation of the City's FY2025-2029 5-Year Consolidated Plan and the FY2025 Annual Action Plan. The four sessions were attended by a wide spectrum of professionals, including City staff, homeless service providers, public housing staff, and other public service providers. The topics that were discussed included housing and needs to underserved populations, housing assistance and barriers to safe and affordable housing, the needs of people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, non-housing community development, workforce development, and sustainable neighborhoods. Those sessions had emerging themes: affordable housing, homeless needs and services, elderly, persons with disabilities, and veterans, education/workforce development and transportation, and children and youths.

Affordable Housing

- Even with landlord incentive programs (paying security deposits), it is difficult for affordable rental housing. There is a shortage of inventory. Rents have gone up, even for older housing. Landlords are unwilling to take on what they consider to be high risk tenants.
- There is an overall lack of safe, affordable housing. New units being built are market rate and are contributing to the rise in rents.
- There is an increase in young people and elderly in need of housing and services
- Gannon has largest amount of international students and there is an issue with overcrowding in their units
- There is a Tenant Bill of Rights – needs to be a way to easily disseminate to the public – needs to be more tenant and landlord education and communication. Education is a tool to set up each party for success. There is a landlord training program: Landlord 101 which includes fair housing education.
- Rental registration and inspection program is in place, but it is largely dependent on calls to code enforcement to discover who is not registered. There is also a caveat that if a landlord is renting to family, they do not have to register rental.
- Self-determination Housing Program (SDHP) works with landlords who do rapid rehousing and temporary housing but also work with tenants. These types of programs are necessities as they meet people where they are and assist however they can. More outreach and education for this and other similar programs.
- Paying rent does not count towards financial stability, as in does not positively impact credit scores so they cannot qualify for a loan to pay a mortgage that is less than the rent they are currently paying.
- Old housing stock and homes are falling into disrepair as they are either uneducated on home maintenance and/or they lack funds for proper upkeep. Thus, homes are falling into disrepair.

- Need for education on programs and incentives to develop affordable housing.
- Barriers to accessing funds for creating/developing affordable housing. Habitat leaving money on the table because applying for and managing monitoring the grant after the fact (HOME) is too burdensome.
- There is also too much that goes into applying for and managing grant funding that it becomes off putting for organizations to seek out and apply for. This is compounded by the lack of staff capacity to apply for and manage grants.
- Lack of starter homes. People are unable or are unwilling to buy up and are staying in homes that could be an affordable home for someone who earns less.
- Fair housing – link between discrimination and housing. City of Erie has more protections have than the Federal government and most of the state of PA.
- Absentee landlords of properties that are falling into disrepair. The city is creating a position in its code enforcement department to assist with rental properties and landlord/tenant issues.
- Need for workforce housing. There is inventory that can help. City with city and county land banks [possibly Cornerstone Land Bank] looking to market first time homebuyer program and available properties and land that would be affordable to this demographic.
- Creating homeownership opportunities is the most beneficial. There is potential to redevelop buildings downtown in the coming years for rental housing.
- There are not enough certified professionals to do lead abatement, therefore this becomes a greater expense as the demand is so high and professionals can charge a higher price
- Habitability issues with existing housing are a concern. A rehabilitation program is a need.

Homeless Needs & Services

- There is a need for continued long-term supportive services for residents who have been at risk previously.
- Increase in families experiencing homelessness for the first time; insufficient shelter capacity to support families. Many unsheltered families end up in hotels.
- There has been a marked increase in the length of stay in shelters. Increased length in stays causes waitlists to grow, effectively “jamming” the system.
- Seeing an increase in need for those experiencing domestic violence. Survivors of domestic violence have a particularly difficult time finding and keeping housing because of lack of space for their children, bad credit, lack of employment history, and transitioning from a two income to one income household. They often stay in harmful home situations because of these barriers to finding other housing.
- Shelter occupancy has increased, but the City has asked shelters to expand capacity. Increase in number of people accessing shelter from outside City. There is a need for more shelter options for youths, and the homeless population in general.
- There are also more people experiencing homelessness coming from outside the city. Additionally, there is a need for more shelter accommodation for families.

- Emergency rental assistance program is ongoing, there was not a large number of evictions, even when moratorium was lifted.
- Homelessness encampments have been sighted in areas where they were not previously. Street outreach could use a boost to help educate the public on their services so they can help homeless persons forming encampments quickly.
- Increase in crime with increase of persons experiencing homelessness
- Some homeless individuals would rather sleep on the street than go to a facility. There are trust issues and individuals do not want to take any type of assistance.
- Need for funds for other necessities such as clothing and beds
- There is a need for assistance for groups that do increase their incomes so that they no longer qualify for current programs, but they do not make enough money to pay rent without them. It feels like a penalty for trying to overcome poverty.
- Services to aid the increasing amount of immigrants coming to the city.

Elderly, Persons with Disabilities, and Veterans

- There is an increase in need for elderly housing and services.
- Services, such as Meals on Wheels, are seeing an influx of seniors who want to age in place, but do not have enough money for food. HSDF wait list is long and almost triple what Meals on Wheels can help.
- Increase in population with disabilities who are in need of food and/or transportation to get food.
- There are many organizations that provide food delivery/outreach services to the homebound that are in need of additional support.
- Increase in veterans who are food insecure. Some veterans are also elderly and/or have a disability.
- These individuals are making choices about what necessities they can risk not paying for in order to pay for other necessities.
- Poverty rates among all groups are up.
- Healthy home programs are needed for elderly individuals who own homes that are on the way of becoming blighted. They have limited income and issues with home maintenance compounds and then at risk for health issues and/or becoming homeless. It is difficult to find proper and affordable accommodation. Landlords are not always the most understanding to accessibility.
- As habitability issues are a concern, there is also a need for reasonable modification of properties for the elderly, those with physical and mental disabilities. There is also a need for additional home services for these populations.

Education/Workforce Development and Transportation

- People are not able to retire and jobs that could be good entry level jobs are now occupied by retirees or those who are retirement age or older.

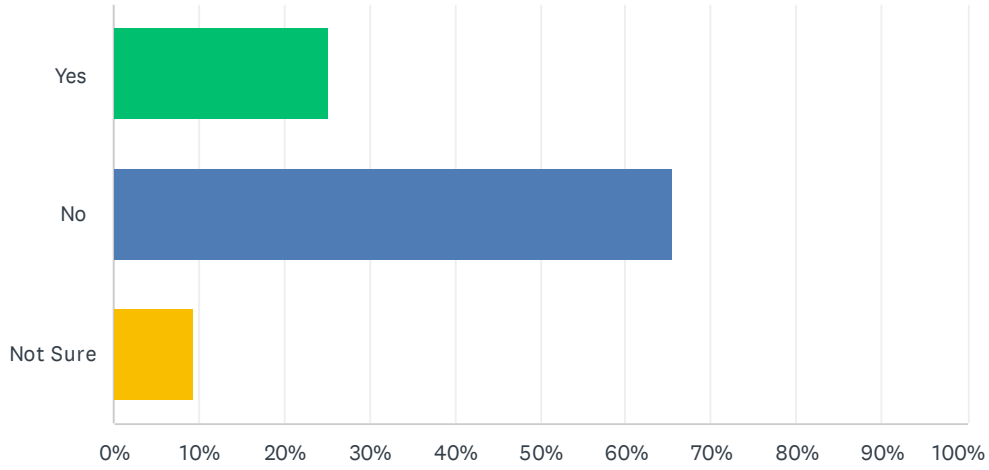
- There is a lack of transportation on weekends, particularly on Sunday. This is detrimental to those who work jobs on the weekend
- Transportation is a challenge-City is setup so that someone in the household has a vehicle. And if you don't have one, getting around navigating affordable housing, childcare, employment and school is a challenge.
- The city is not walkable and cyclability is questionable. It is difficult for low-income individuals to get access to nutritious and affordable food.
- City is pursuing grants for Safe Routes to Schools, including applications to PA DCED for LSA funds.
- Affordable housing and public transportation go hand and hand. Erie needs to be more walkable.

Children and Youths

- Youth aging out of the system and programs do not have stable housing to move into
- Need for more funding to assist children. These funds are needed to go towards anything qualifying families need (furniture, utilities, etc.)
- The rental rates have gone up and youths, particularly queer and trans youths, who do not have work experience and/or have jobs in lower paying fields have trouble affording housing. These jobs do not always have traditional work hours and public transportation is not available. Marginalized groups and other at risk populations are facing difficulties affording rentals.
- Need for programming at the high school level to educate on financial literacy, including credit scores, and how to care for a home. This is a partnership opportunity.
- There is a need for more services for children and daycare and after school programs. There is also potential for these existing services to coordinate to make sure gaps are being met when resources are available in one area but needed in another.
- Need to assist girls with leadership skills, life skills, and emotional support. The need for these services is more urgent than ever. Erie continues to struggle with high rates of poverty and unemployment, and young women, in particular, are disproportionately affected.
- According to the Pennsylvania Youth Survey reports that Erie County has one of the highest rates of adolescent substance use in the state. These challenges are further exacerbated by a lack of adequate mental health support and mentorship for young girls in our community.
- Continue to prioritize community development and youth empowerment, consider including the proposal from Nurturing Hearts "Building Resilient Futures: Empowering At-Risk Girls and Families in Erie". This will enable the organization to expand its reach and continue providing essential services that help our youth overcome challenges and thrive.
- Seeing an increase in need to assist Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations, and LEP children in schools

Q1 Have you ever felt that you were discriminated against when you were looking for housing anywhere in Erie?

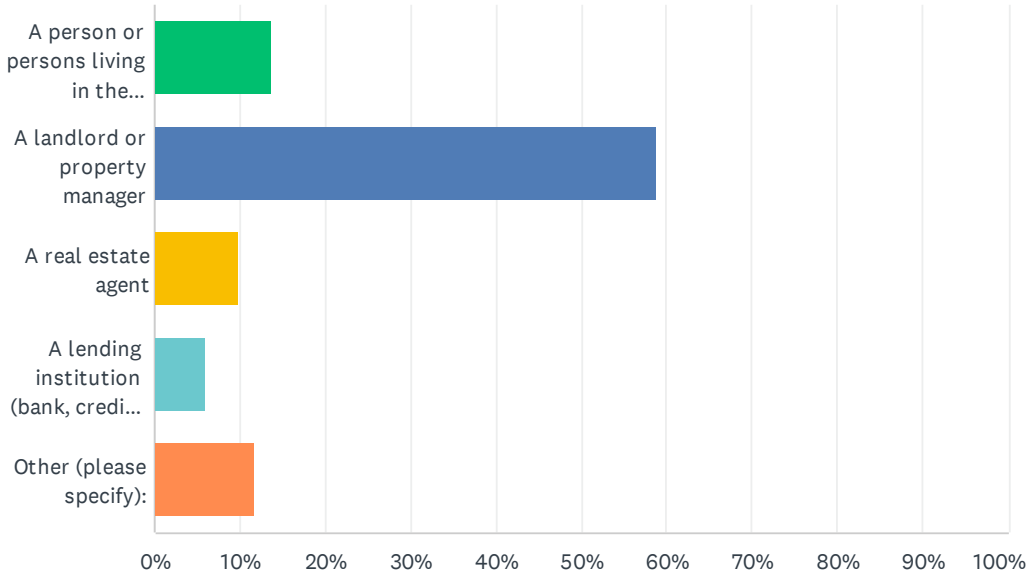
Answered: 226 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	25.22%	57
No	65.49%	148
Not Sure	9.29%	21
TOTAL		226

Q2 Which of the following best describes the person who may have discriminated against you?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 177

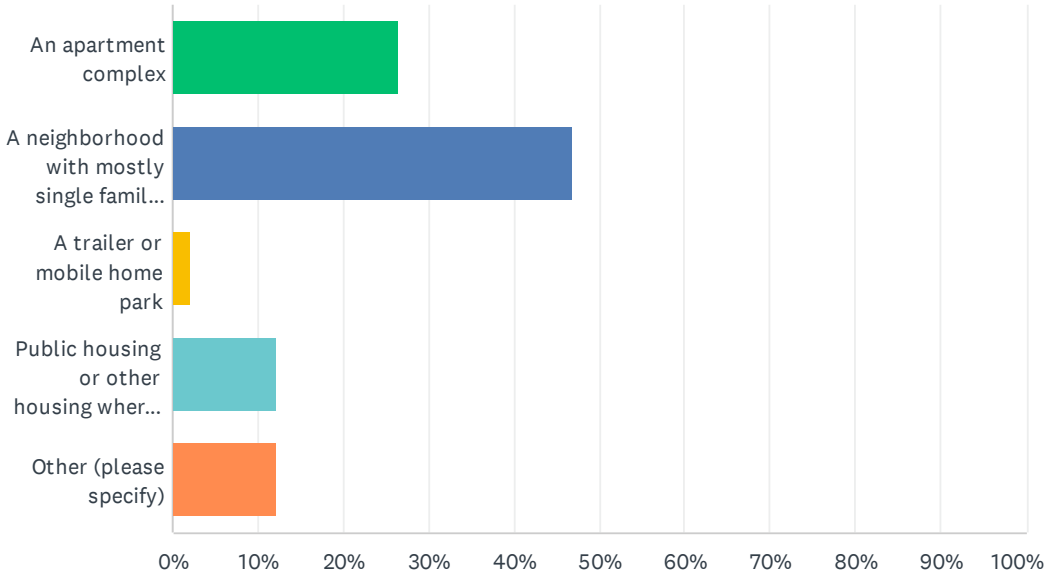


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A person or persons living in the neighborhood	13.73%	7
A landlord or property manager	58.82%	30
A real estate agent	9.80%	5
A lending institution (bank, credit union, etc.)	5.88%	3
Other (please specify):	11.76%	6
TOTAL		51

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	I have been in the same rental apartment for 11 years I just don't remember much about looking for apartments when I was younger	2/20/2025 11:34 PM
2	Shelter with boots on the ground housing the unsheltered	2/14/2025 3:51 PM
3	None	2/6/2025 10:11 AM
4	n/a	1/28/2025 10:25 AM
5	NA	1/14/2025 2:50 PM
6	None	1/13/2025 4:17 PM

Q3 Which of the following best describes the location where the act of the discrimination may have occurred?

Answered: 49 Skipped: 179



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
An apartment complex	26.53%	13
A neighborhood with mostly single family homes	46.94%	23
A trailer or mobile home park	2.04%	1
Public housing or other housing where your rent was only a portion of your income	12.24%	6
Other (please specify)	12.24%	6
TOTAL		49

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	uch about looking for apartments when I was younger	2/20/2025 11:34 PM
2	Transitional living and permanent supportive housing	2/14/2025 3:51 PM
3	section 8, others	2/6/2025 12:03 PM
4	None	2/6/2025 10:11 AM
5	Townhouse	1/30/2025 8:26 AM
6	n/a	1/28/2025 10:25 AM

Q4 Please explain how you were discriminated against:

Answered: 45 Skipped: 183

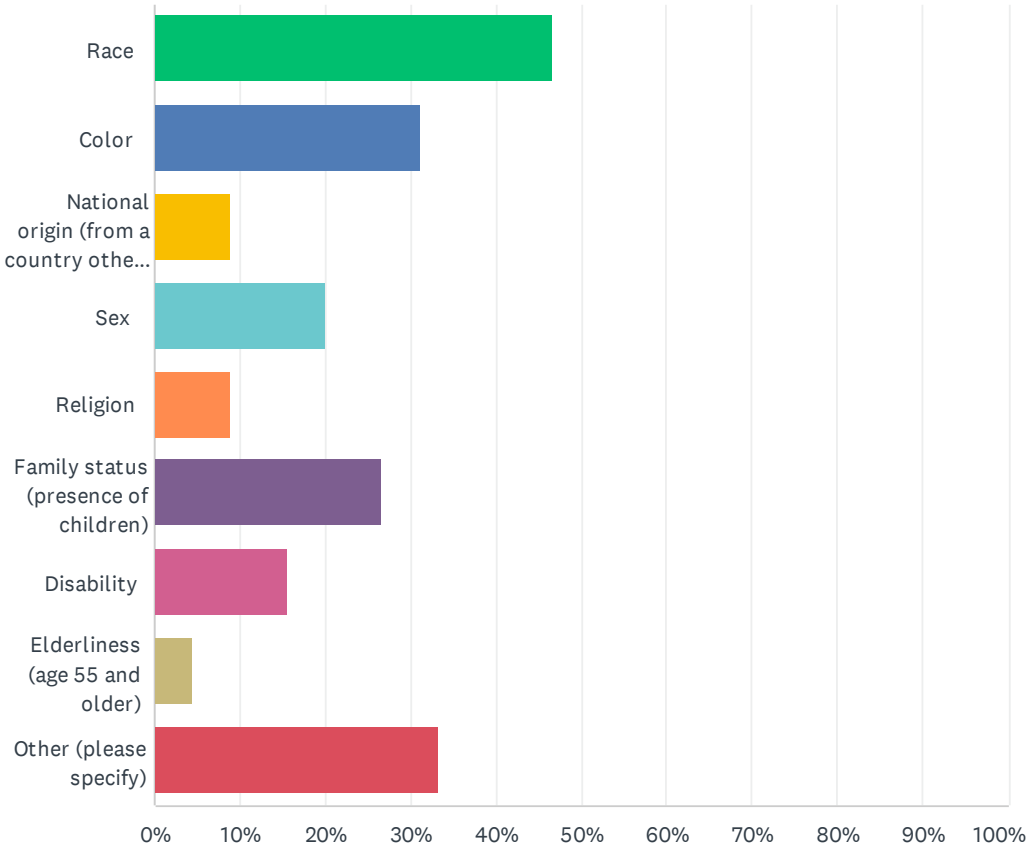
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not sure that I was, can't remember. I have been in the same apartment for 11 years and don't recall much about the experiences of looking at the many apartments prior to finding the one I live in now.	2/20/2025 11:34 PM
2	Many landlords are absent and let properties turn to blight. We have a stop of home owners who clean , shovel, paint, and fix the neighborhood properties that look like garbage . And the tenant's are stuck .	2/15/2025 12:26 PM
3	Our families walk a journey where their past is always the present and future. It is disheartening to listen how people including elected officials do not hear them and shelters advocating for funding and second chances.	2/14/2025 3:51 PM
4	ADA needs not accomodated	2/14/2025 11:29 AM
5	The landlord was harassing my family when we are late to pay rent with 5 days.	2/14/2025 10:42 AM
6	I was treated rudely and did not receive a clear/full explanation as to why I was rejected.	2/13/2025 9:24 PM
7	n/a	2/13/2025 2:42 PM
8	Because I had a past	2/13/2025 9:47 AM
9	I don't really know how to explain it	2/11/2025 4:40 PM
10	When my family moved into a single family neighborhood, a neighbor tried to get the other neighbors to sign a petition to get us out of the neighborhood.	2/11/2025 3:29 PM
11	The property manager wasn't even ready to hear my part of the story as to why I had an issue with a previous landlord. As a result she denied me the apartment.	2/11/2025 3:27 PM
12	Explained condition (Handicap) was told that is was not a good fit for me.	2/11/2025 10:44 AM
13	Trying to find someone who accepted Section 8.	2/9/2025 9:55 AM
14	Just not wanting to rent to me because of my appearance.	2/9/2025 9:07 AM
15	I was constantly stalked when I was inside or outside of my property by a known neighborhood woman. She called the police on me multiple occasions and one day announced I was squatting in my own home which caused authorities to stare into my home causing my children to be afraid to sleep comfortably. I've had a landlord let himself in my home without any prior notice because he "needed to use an outlet and didn't think I'd mind" him just "popping open the window and using a little electricity" for his tools to fix the unit above me. I was forced to buy my own refrigerator in order to move in bc there wasn't one available in the home when I signed my lease. I was quoting the apartment using funds awarded to me by a wonderful program in the Saint Martin center and that was the only option that would rent to me due to where my funds were generated. I made the best of my home and was very elated to move into the harbor homes. They accepted my application quickly Abe I excitedly moved in only to be merry with an entire home full of pests and critters from roaches and bees nests to multiple mice droppings and evidence they were comfortably living in kitchen drawers, behind and inside the stove and even harbored areas in the refrigerator to the point the head managers, in efforts to correct the issue, replace the stove with another one from a different unit similar to the one I was currently renting as well as another refrigerator. Although I was happy with the transition, the process in sufficient bug removal in a timely manor wasn't feasible without my input for optimum results. I understood that at the rate of my rent and the amount of tenants who were also in need, my options were slim and I was granted a free inspection dates and a couple boxes to help capture the rodents. I believe my lack of current income standards in both circumstances socially confined me to a demographic of options that were all unfortunate if not given the option to see the beauty in fixing discrepancies and turning them into a	2/9/2025 7:36 AM

	memory of how you created a home. I still appreciated the ability to have a home in the least and I happily live comfortably despite the insignificant misfortune that muster up.	
16	Was very pleasant on the phone and email but when he saw me was very rude and condescending	2/9/2025 1:52 AM
17	Ad states perfect for singles when even couples can't afford a studio	2/8/2025 1:54 PM
18	Being told I can't afford the apartment because I'm a single mother	2/8/2025 9:41 AM
19	Price increased	2/8/2025 8:50 AM
20	We were told no children in an upstairs 3 bedroom apartment because the noise would bother the downstairs tenant.	2/8/2025 2:28 AM
21	Automatically assumed I didn't make the income necessary to rent the property and I believe it was due to the color of my skin.	2/7/2025 11:46 PM
22	That we wouldn't be able to afford the property.	2/7/2025 10:16 PM
23	When my husband and I were first looking for houses there were some neighborhoods that seemed like they didn't want a young family to move into.	2/7/2025 9:25 PM
24	Told we wouldn't feel comfortable in the neighborhood due to being of different race, and pushing us outside the city.	2/7/2025 7:10 PM
25	People are concerned with lesbian and gays being in certain neighborhoods.	2/7/2025 6:53 PM
26	Was told the unit was not safe in neighborhood	2/7/2025 6:38 PM
27	Treated rudely and evicted actually	2/7/2025 6:13 PM
28	The bathroom only had a shower and she said since we had a young child she felt we would need a bathtub so that apartment wouldn't be a good fit.	2/7/2025 5:56 PM
29	Discrimination bc I had young children	2/7/2025 5:43 PM
30	would rather not provide the terrible details	2/7/2025 4:37 PM
31	Told that I might not like it here. due to bi-racial marriage and children	2/7/2025 2:14 PM
32	They only wanted people without children and pets, and preferably older, not 20s.	2/7/2025 10:11 AM
33	I have been repeatedly discriminated against because of my criminal record - a criminal record I wouldn't have if I wasn't forced out into the streets by previous out-of-control retaliatory lying slumlords to try to survive with nothing and no one. A criminal record I wouldn't have if your crooked corrupt system was even a fraction as fair as all of YOU people falsely claim it to be. I was literally FORCED to plead guilty to MANY crimes I didn't commit by crooked corrupt piece of garbage Public Defenders - while crooked corrupt cops and crooked corrupt Judges sat there and laughed at me getting screwed over while their arrest rates and conviction rates are artificially inflated....solely to help their careers - at the expense of my God-damn life. I've also been repeatedly discriminated against because I deliberately chose not to be taken of and/or forced into usury by banks, credit cards companies, etc. My responsibility in not having credit cards and not messing with banks is always used against me because I don't have a "credit rating" - as if that is now somehow the measure of a good/trustworthy man. And to add insult to injury, it is the slimy, lying, retaliatory, deceitful, sociopathic uncaring dishonest money-grubbing slumlords who have the audacity to be passing judgement on me....This is beyond hypocritical. I am also being repeatedly screwed out of housing by the HIGHLY falsified GARBAGE that has been deliberately put into my permanent housing file by lying sociopathic vindictive retaliatory slumlords to get revenge on me for God-forbid finally getting tired of being victimized by them and filing complaints against them AS THE LAW SAYS I'M SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO DO WITHOUT BEING RETALIATED AGAINST....which is another total typical LIE.... It's YOUR crooked corrupt system and the out-of-control criminal slumlords that are the problem. NO AMOUNT OF NEW BUILDINGS OR USELESS STUPID PLEDGES TO HELP LOW-INCOME/HOMELESS/DISABLED PEOPLE ARE EVER GOING TO SOLVE ANYTHING UNTIL YOU SOLVE YOUR CROOKED CORRUPT SYSTEM AND THE DEVIL WORSHIPING EVIL OUT-OF-CONTROL GOD-COMPLEX SLUMLORDS.	2/6/2025 1:21 PM
34	my disability is non visable banks wont loan enough to buy a house in Erie or Erie county for single person on ssdi Habitat wont work unless you access to enough money for them and	2/6/2025 12:03 PM

	many documents section 8 houses that were available were trashed landlords do not have safety in mind - ex: updated utilities, keeping outside ice and snow cleared and more - (renters pay rent - landlords need to show care and respect to renters and the property they own) not charge rent that keeps renters prisoners unable to move or buy a home realtors telling home owners sell at high prices and screw others (" oh the owner set the price" then tell the owner to get real and make it a price for the general population) or some realtors (rare to me) are still directing buyers to neighborhoods - (I, as a personal thought, do not know if that is okay if we are all to get along with anyone in our community)	
35	Haven't been	2/6/2025 10:11 AM
36	I was asking to only see homes in certain areas but was told that they thought we'd be more comfortable in a different area. Then proceeded to show me only homes in a dilapidated area of the east side.	2/6/2025 9:44 AM
37	The real estate agent did not accept an additional form of income that was provided, even after being given paystub‘s proving that the income existed. This resulting in my husband and I not being approved for the home due to income.	1/30/2025 8:26 AM
38	N/A	1/29/2025 8:54 PM
39	My family and I were looking to purchase in a very well established neighborhood. We bid on the home and it appeared that as soon we bid on it, someone magically $200k deposit with there offer. Not the closing costs and down payment. Like where and how? It happened multiple times in this neighborhood…	1/29/2025 2:14 PM
40	I feel like if you have children and when you are actually at the property and not in the phone. They change how they feel about you. If you offer money up front you get the property	1/29/2025 1:31 PM
41	The fact that I have a criminal record and have filed complaints and been forced to take court action against previous slumlords and been retaliated against by those slumlords with retaliatory evictions has been repeatedly brought up by new slumlords. No group, organization, or agency will lift a finger to do their PAID JOBS to protect me or my rights as a tenant, but yet when I do the LAWFUL/LEGAL thing and take the slumlords to court or file complaints against them it is used against me as if I somehow did something wrong.... Then when they harass, intimidate, discriminate, retaliate, stalk, lie, etc. etc., etc., against me for YEARS and I finally have a total mental, physical, and emotional breakdown and break the law, then THAT is used against me....	1/28/2025 6:45 PM
42	disregard. i could not go back to the initial question to change.	1/28/2025 10:25 AM
43	assumptions because I was unmarried	1/16/2025 2:36 PM
44	"oh you didn't sound black on the phone"	1/15/2025 3:14 PM
45	Won’t rent to refugees.	1/14/2025 4:01 PM

Q5 On what basis do you believe you were discriminated against? Check all that apply:

Answered: 45 Skipped: 183



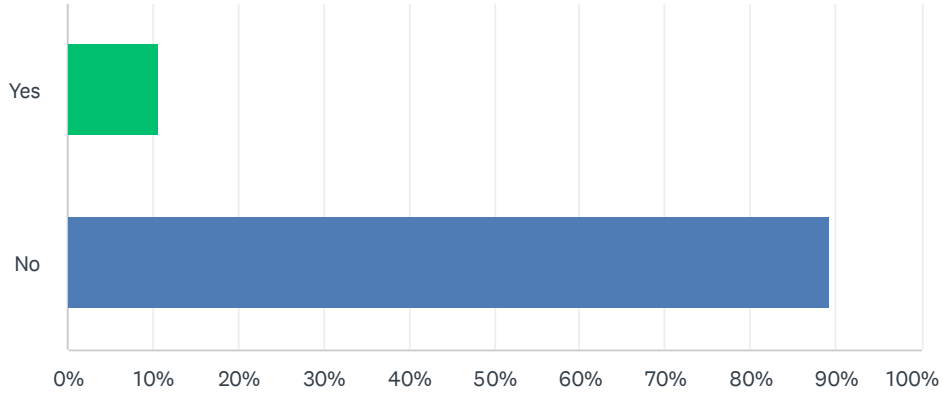
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Race	46.67%	21
Color	31.11%	14
National origin (from a country other than the United States)	8.89%	4
Sex	20.00%	9
Religion	8.89%	4
Family status (presence of children)	26.67%	12
Disability	15.56%	7
Elderliness (age 55 and older)	4.44%	2
Other (please specify)	33.33%	15
Total Respondents: 45		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE

1	Age, being a young adult	2/20/2025 11:34 PM
2	Status : landlord vs resident	2/15/2025 12:26 PM
3	Homeless, former addicts, and criminals	2/14/2025 3:51 PM
4	Section 8	2/9/2025 9:55 AM
5	Visible Income deficiency	2/9/2025 7:36 AM
6	Not being erie natives	2/7/2025 7:10 PM
7	being a person of color from a major city with perceived high crime	2/7/2025 4:37 PM
8	Pet	2/7/2025 10:11 AM
9	Not being RICH and being able to afford super high-priced super intelligent lawyers/attorneys to fight false-charges/being over-charged and the deliberate and malicious falsification of my housing record....	2/6/2025 1:21 PM
10	undisclosed to me	2/6/2025 12:03 PM
11	Wasn't	2/6/2025 10:11 AM
12	I’m not sure However, she was very skeptical of all the information my husband and I provided.	1/30/2025 8:26 AM
13	Age	1/29/2025 2:14 PM
14	Having children	1/29/2025 1:31 PM
15	Criminal record, PROVABLY retaliatory evictions no one ever helped me with BEFORE the situation turned into an eviction....	1/28/2025 6:45 PM

Q6 Did you report the incident of possible discrimination?

Answered: 47 Skipped: 181



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	10.64%	5
No	89.36%	42
TOTAL		47

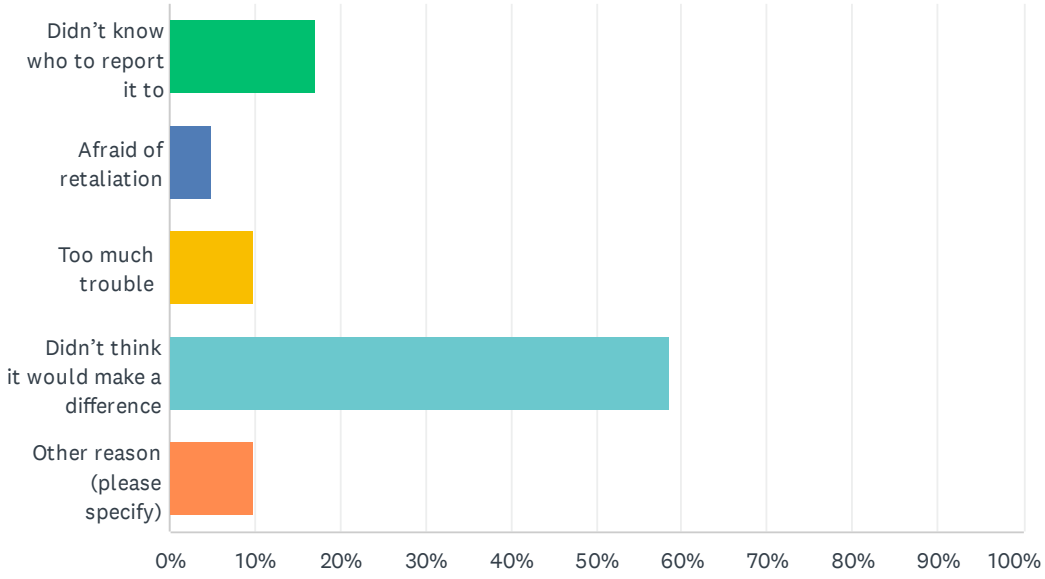
Q7 Who did you contact to report the incident of possible discrimination?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 223

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Counselor at C.S.S.	2/11/2025 10:44 AM
2	Northwestern Legal Services; HUD; PA Multifamily Asset Managers, Erie County Human Relations Commission; Pittsburgh Human Relations Commission, Voices For Independence; Community Resources for Independence; Erie City Code Enforcement, Fair Housing Law Center, Summit Legal Aid; Erie City Council; Erie County Council; Andre Horton/Joe Sinnott; Mayor's Office - Citizen's Response Center; PA Attorney General's Office - Civil Rights Division; Erie County Housing Authority; Robert Williams - ECHA Board of Directors; Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity; Congressman Mike Kelly/John Fetterman; Representatives Ryan Bizzaro/Pat Harkins; PA Department of Health ....among others I can't now remember.	2/6/2025 1:34 PM
3	a state office to file it offically	2/6/2025 12:06 PM
4	EVERYONE. Pittsburgh HUD, Northwestern Legal Services, Pittsburgh Human Relations Commission, Erie County Human Relations Commission, Fair Housing Law Center/Summit Legal Aid, Community Resources for Independence, Voices For Independence, Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity, Community Justice Project, my local & state senators & congressmen, Dept of Welfare, PA Multifamily Asset Managers	1/28/2025 6:51 PM
5	case manager	1/15/2025 3:14 PM

Q8 Why didn't you report the incident of possible discrimination?

Answered: 41 Skipped: 187

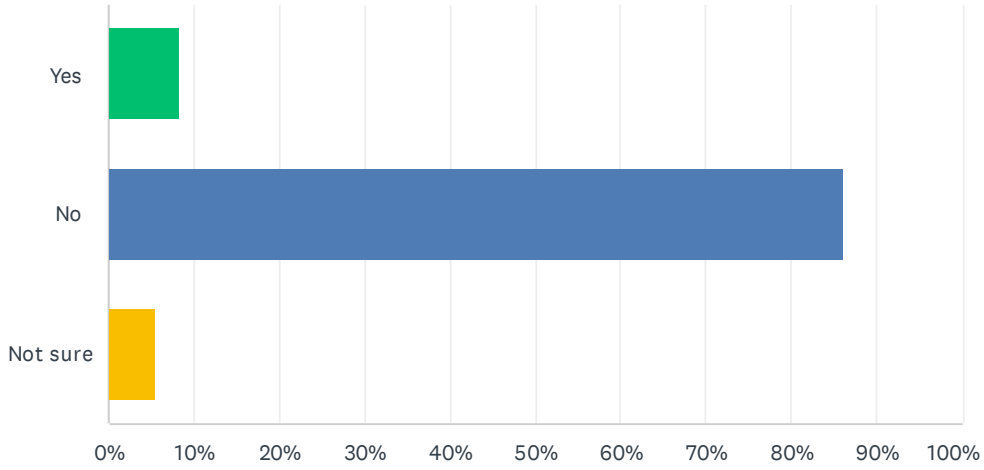


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Didn't know who to report it to	17.07%	7
Afraid of retaliation	4.88%	2
Too much trouble	9.76%	4
Didn't think it would make a difference	58.54%	24
Other reason (please specify)	9.76%	4
TOTAL		41

#	OTHER REASON (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We fight as a shelter to support families.	2/14/2025 3:51 PM
2	Because the neighbors in our neighborhood did not follow through with the decision of one neighbor.	2/11/2025 3:31 PM
3	Although it was obvious, I had no other options for living at a variation of the same mental comfort I once had when acquiring the keys and giving my children a place to call home with space for them to have off their own after living in a one bedroom rental space for over two years. The fact that the only other option was potentially being homeless again, I remained strong in my faith and made the best out of every situation in order to regain peace in my families lives.	2/9/2025 7:42 AM
4	Didn't	2/6/2025 10:11 AM

Q9 Have you ever been denied “reasonable accommodation” (flexibility) by a landlord related to housing?

Answered: 181 Skipped: 47



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	8.29%	15
No	86.19%	156
Not sure	5.52%	10
TOTAL		181

Q10 If you answered yes, what was your request?

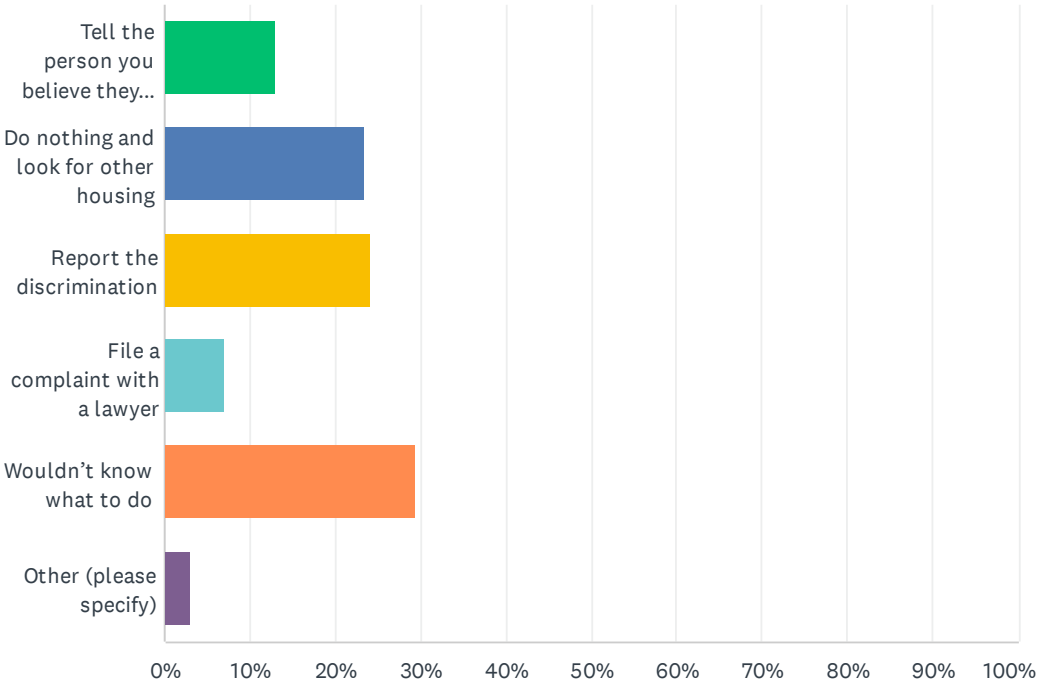
Answered: 23 Skipped: 205

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Leaking roof into my bed ..	2/15/2025 12:27 PM
2	Emotional support animal and ADA needs from doctor	2/14/2025 11:30 AM
3	Nothing	2/13/2025 6:34 PM
4	Not myself but my elderly neighbor with a walker did not have reasonable accommodation for getting up and down the stairs. There was no floor without stairs in our building and no ramp option for her to go up. Due to this, I ended up assisting her with laundry and helping her up and down the stairs to avoid injury. This also caused issues when I had a spinal injury.	2/12/2025 1:55 PM
5	An issue with my bank caused a late payment, and they still charged me a fee despite getting payed by the end of the week.	2/11/2025 10:45 PM
6	Late payments due to paycheck arrival via direct deposit	2/11/2025 12:36 PM
7	Had to on funds for rental payments due to S.S.I.and was still evicted	2/11/2025 10:47 AM
8	Rent due date	2/9/2025 9:09 AM
9	Pets and flexibility on payment	2/8/2025 1:55 PM
10	I think you are ridiculous with your "leading" examples	2/7/2025 11:53 PM
11	Front steps are broken, took LL 4 years to fix, but he didn't hire a licensed contractor and in less than a year front steps broke again, he's had 2 city inspections and won't fix what was needed, he just "band aids" the problems. We've asked for windows that open/open easier with screens, an we told him about a mouse issue that he won't call pest control for.	2/7/2025 11:17 PM
12	My emotional support animal live with me	2/7/2025 11:03 PM
13	I have not had to rent in Erie City, therefore, I have not experienced this	2/7/2025 10:28 PM
14	N/a	2/7/2025 10:27 PM
15	To finish a project that was unfinished in the apartment left our apartment very cold.	2/7/2025 10:18 PM
16	N/a	2/7/2025 5:57 PM
17	None	2/7/2025 5:49 PM
18	Shades/blinds I could reach & get up and down myself; An elevator that actually works and doesn't breakdown for WEEKS at a time - trapping me in my apartment with no way to get out to get food, go shopping, get to doctor appts., social service appts., etc., etc., etc... Garbage containers/cans I can actually reach/get to in the snow and/or use in my wheelchair; Enough hot water to at least be able to take a lukewarm shower once a day like a real human being - apparently too much to ask for from HANDS and Methodist Towers slumlords.... Having the snow and ice cleared from the building/grounds/sidewalk owned by and under the control of the slumlords - after they deliberately filled their building(s) with disabled and elderly people to cash in on all the free money/grants/corporate welfare for doing so from the government, then refuse to keep the snow and ice clear so we don't fall and kill ourselves or are trapped in or out of their building from all the snow/ice.... An actual WORKING after-hours emergency maintenance phone number with an actual after-hours maintenance man who actually responds to emergency maintenance needs.... A handicap accessible bathroom I can actually get into in my wheelchair and a handicap accessible tub and toilet I can actually use without injuring myself every single time I need to use the bathroom.... Being allowed to put written/printed signs on my door advising/warning people/slumlords that I am disabled/in a wheelchair and it takes me TIME to get to the front door and NOT to unlock my door and come barging into my residence - violating my right to privacy & safe secure place to live. The RIGHT to be able to file legitimate complaints WITHOUT being targeted and singled out for flagrant retaliation,	2/6/2025 1:54 PM

	harassment, and fake/made-up "lease violations" as part of a obvious campaign to get rid of me because God-forbid I thought I was a real human being with real rights and not some cotton-picking subhuman animal slave put on this earth to serve and exist at the pleasure of local Erie corporate slumlords.	
19	Very few landlords allow animals. Animals need to be cleaned up after. Landlords say it is an allergy issue. If landlords clean between renters it should not be an issue. Landlords need vents with fans in kitchens and bathrooms for safety from cleaning product fumes and other stuff such as to reduce or prevent mold Stairs with hand rails Stairways that are heated to go in and out of the building without the fear of ice on the stairway (inside or outside) Stairway wide enough for moving furnature or appliances in or out Being allowed to paint or touch up the paint The city sewer backs up into the buildings The landlords have outdated plumbing and poor connections to the city or county sewer	2/6/2025 12:20 PM
20	Enough hot water to shower, shades/blinds I could get up and down/reach, an elevator that actually worked so I wasn't trapped in my apartment for weeks at a time or to move me to the first floor, a handicap accessible apt., a fire extinguisher (like all the other tenants had), garbage containers I can get to/reach in my wheelchair, clear and salt the ice and snow surrounding the building and sidewalks, enforce the property rules/lease violations against the other tenants who physically assault me, stop stalking me and singling me out for "special treatment"/retaliation because I filed complaints, shelves I can reach, a handicap parking space, fix the leaking air conditioner & replace my property it ruined, etc., etc., etc....	1/28/2025 7:02 PM
21	We still don't have out front door key because they don't want to change the locks.	1/27/2025 5:44 PM
22	unsure	1/15/2025 3:14 PM
23	Paying rent late due to having Covid still being charged late fee	1/15/2025 9:43 AM

Q11 What would you do if you felt you were discriminated against while seeking housing?

Answered: 170 Skipped: 58



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Tell the person you believe they were discriminating against you	12.94%	22
Do nothing and look for other housing	23.53%	40
Report the discrimination	24.12%	41
File a complaint with a lawyer	7.06%	12
Wouldn't know what to do	29.41%	50
Other (please specify)	2.94%	5
TOTAL		170

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We are their voicemail. And there is no housing or section 8 vouchers.	2/14/2025 3:53 PM
2	i have no experience	2/10/2025 7:46 PM
3	Look elsewhere	2/7/2025 5:17 PM
4	There is NOTHING I can do because I'VE ALREADY DONE EVERYTHING ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH I CAN DO AND IT'S ALL A GIANT WASTE OF TIME. NO ONE GIVES A SHIT.	2/6/2025 2:01 PM
5	contact all the previous groups, agencies, and organizations I already listed and then suffer as they all ignore me and make silly excuses as to why they won't help me	1/28/2025 7:06 PM

Q12 If you wanted to report the discrimination, who would you report it to?

Answered: 115 Skipped: 113

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I don’t know who you report something like this to	2/20/2025 11:38 PM
2	A lawyer	2/18/2025 10:43 AM
3	SALA?	2/15/2025 12:27 PM
4	City of Erie	2/14/2025 2:46 PM
5	HUD	2/14/2025 1:27 PM
6	I wouldn’t know	2/14/2025 12:35 PM
7	Not sure, need more clarity on this	2/14/2025 11:30 AM
8	My attorney	2/14/2025 11:22 AM
9	My boss at work	2/14/2025 10:43 AM
10	Do not know.	2/13/2025 9:25 PM
11	Housing Office	2/13/2025 8:11 PM
12	Police officer	2/13/2025 6:36 PM
13	HUD	2/12/2025 11:43 PM
14	I’m not sure…the city government?	2/12/2025 5:45 PM
15	I am unsure who to go to.	2/12/2025 1:56 PM
16	I don’t know	2/12/2025 5:45 AM
17	I'm not sure	2/11/2025 10:47 PM
18	I’m not sure - I would look it up	2/11/2025 10:13 PM
19	Police?	2/11/2025 10:01 PM
20	Not sure.	2/11/2025 7:15 PM
21	The cops or somebody who might help me	2/11/2025 4:41 PM
22	involve a lawyer to handle the situation	2/11/2025 3:32 PM
23	To the court	2/11/2025 3:06 PM
24	Not sure?	2/11/2025 11:55 AM
25	Don't know who to contact	2/11/2025 10:47 AM
26	i should not be filling this out as i have not rented in years	2/10/2025 7:46 PM
27	City	2/10/2025 9:45 AM
28	My Attorney	2/9/2025 5:35 PM
29	I don't know.	2/9/2025 9:09 AM
30	Don’t know	2/9/2025 1:53 AM
31	Unsure	2/8/2025 10:02 PM
32	Good question. I would have to do some research. I might consult a lawyer.	2/8/2025 8:21 PM
33	I tried to find an agency to report unreasonable increase in rent- $105 more per month from a	2/8/2025 7:47 PM

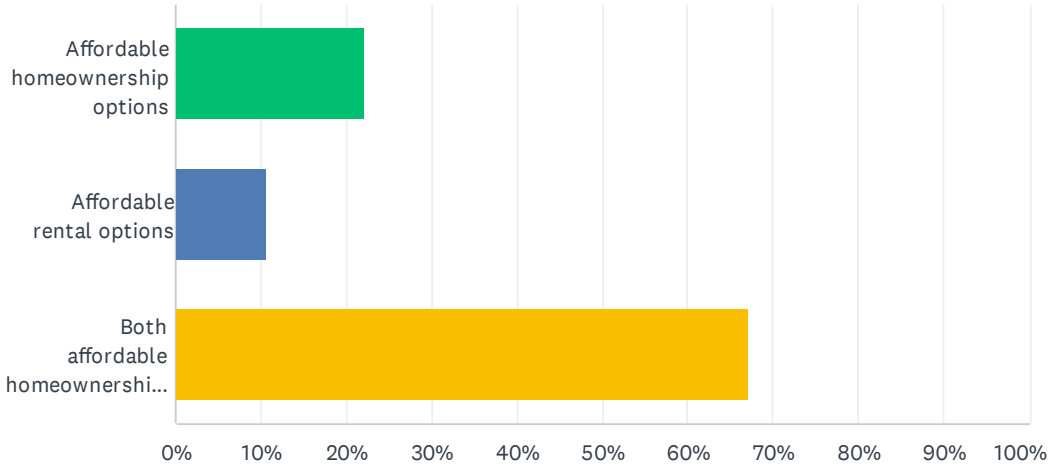
	place I lived for 22 years. A new company took over and made it too hard for some of us to stay. Luckily, I got a beautiful place that has things needed at a reasonable rent price.	
34	I would ask my lawyer	2/8/2025 7:16 PM
35	This is not a problem in my experience	2/8/2025 1:12 PM
36	I don't know who to report to	2/8/2025 9:56 AM
37	I Wouldn’t know	2/8/2025 9:42 AM
38	Ag	2/8/2025 8:51 AM
39	Better business bureau?	2/8/2025 7:58 AM
40	No idea	2/8/2025 7:49 AM
41	I don’t know	2/8/2025 7:18 AM
42	I don't know.	2/8/2025 7:13 AM
43	HUD, local elected officials, the police, and the press.	2/8/2025 1:23 AM
44	Go with my attorney	2/7/2025 11:54 PM
45	Housing authority	2/7/2025 11:52 PM
46	Not sure	2/7/2025 11:47 PM
47	PA Fair Housing Line, or PA Real Estate Commission, or Greater Erie Board of Realtors	2/7/2025 11:31 PM
48	Maybe district Justice?	2/7/2025 11:18 PM
49	Erie City	2/7/2025 10:45 PM
50	I don’t know	2/7/2025 10:28 PM
51	I do not have any idea	2/7/2025 10:28 PM
52	No clue	2/7/2025 10:19 PM
53	city zoning board	2/7/2025 9:49 PM
54	None emergency	2/7/2025 9:26 PM
55	not sure	2/7/2025 9:08 PM
56	I don’t know who it is reportable to.	2/7/2025 8:42 PM
57	I don’t know where to report it, so I would likely google where to file a complaint	2/7/2025 7:35 PM
58	Human relations commission	2/7/2025 7:12 PM
59	The City's action line	2/7/2025 7:11 PM
60	District justice, attorney general, other legal and/or regulatory authorities.	2/7/2025 7:10 PM
61	I'm not sure	2/7/2025 6:57 PM
62	No clue	2/7/2025 6:54 PM
63	Maybe Erie City Council or the police. I don't think I would contact a lawyer because I don't think anything would actually happen about the incident.	2/7/2025 6:36 PM
64	Unsure	2/7/2025 6:34 PM
65	Local news outlet to boost awareness? Look for an agency that enforces fair housing laws	2/7/2025 6:21 PM
66	Don’t know	2/7/2025 6:14 PM
67	City housing authority	2/7/2025 6:02 PM
68	I would search the Erie government website to find an answer on who to report it to.	2/7/2025 6:00 PM
69	No idea	2/7/2025 5:57 PM

70	Not sure	2/7/2025 5:49 PM
71	ACLU	2/7/2025 5:38 PM
72	Unsure	2/7/2025 5:25 PM
73	my attorney	2/7/2025 5:17 PM
74	Don't know	2/7/2025 5:17 PM
75	To a supervisor and so on unless I couldnt be helped then I would seek legal assistance	2/7/2025 5:14 PM
76	I would start googling online who I should report it to.	2/7/2025 5:13 PM
77	I would contact an attorney and the Apartment Association in Erie.	2/7/2025 5:10 PM
78	I'm not sure who to report a discrimination to.	2/7/2025 1:57 PM
79	No clue	2/7/2025 10:11 AM
80	Someone who gives a shit. A non-existent mythical being who only exists in the movies and doesn't exist in real life either in crooked corrupt Erie or the state or federal government because your crooked corrupt system is set up to not do anything to help any of us little people/poor people unless it's an election year or MORE money can be made off of one of us by using us as a poster child/money raising scheme to generate favorable publicity for another crooked corrupt politician or normally worthless NGO/organization/agency....	2/6/2025 2:01 PM
81	The city of Erie	2/6/2025 1:33 PM
82	It was to a state gov. office - as anonymous	2/6/2025 12:23 PM
83	Commonwealth agency dealing with housing issues	2/6/2025 11:40 AM
84	NAACP and Housing Code Enforcement	2/6/2025 10:46 AM
85	The City	2/6/2025 10:12 AM
86	The HRC	2/6/2025 9:50 AM
87	not known	2/6/2025 9:36 AM
88	The apartment for association	2/4/2025 6:51 PM
89	Don’t know	2/4/2025 6:29 PM
90	HUD or the fair housing agency	1/30/2025 8:29 AM
91	Police	1/29/2025 8:55 PM
92	Not sure	1/29/2025 4:31 PM
93	Attorney General	1/29/2025 2:15 PM
94	I’m going say Fair Housing Unit	1/29/2025 1:49 PM
95	All the previous worthless lazy groups, agencies, and organizations I already listed before.	1/28/2025 7:06 PM
96	I don't know exactly but I would contact the city	1/28/2025 1:08 PM
97	Erie County Housing Authority. State senators etc	1/27/2025 5:45 PM
98	I don't know where to report it	1/27/2025 1:44 PM
99	no idea	1/24/2025 1:30 PM
100	An attorney	1/24/2025 10:05 AM
101	I know there is a landlord association. That would be my first step.	1/24/2025 9:01 AM
102	Housing Authority of the City of Erie	1/22/2025 12:54 PM
103	City, county and possible federal agencies.	1/19/2025 12:43 AM
104	not really	1/15/2025 3:14 PM

105	unknown	1/15/2025 1:40 PM
106	An Attorney	1/15/2025 1:17 PM
107	I don’t know where I would report it. I’ve been renting For 26 years and I have no clue	1/15/2025 9:44 AM
108	HRC	1/15/2025 4:44 AM
109	I'd start by asking my attorney who needs to get the report in City Hall.	1/14/2025 4:21 PM
110	Mayors office	1/14/2025 4:02 PM
111	I would refer to the tenant bill of rights!	1/14/2025 2:51 PM
112	Local AG	1/14/2025 2:08 PM
113	Citizens Response Center	1/14/2025 1:53 PM
114	Erie County Fair Housing	1/14/2025 1:50 PM
115	I'd ask around and Google who the best resource would be. I would likely start with local government.	1/14/2025 12:19 PM

Q13 In your community, what type of housing (homeownership vs rental) is most needed?

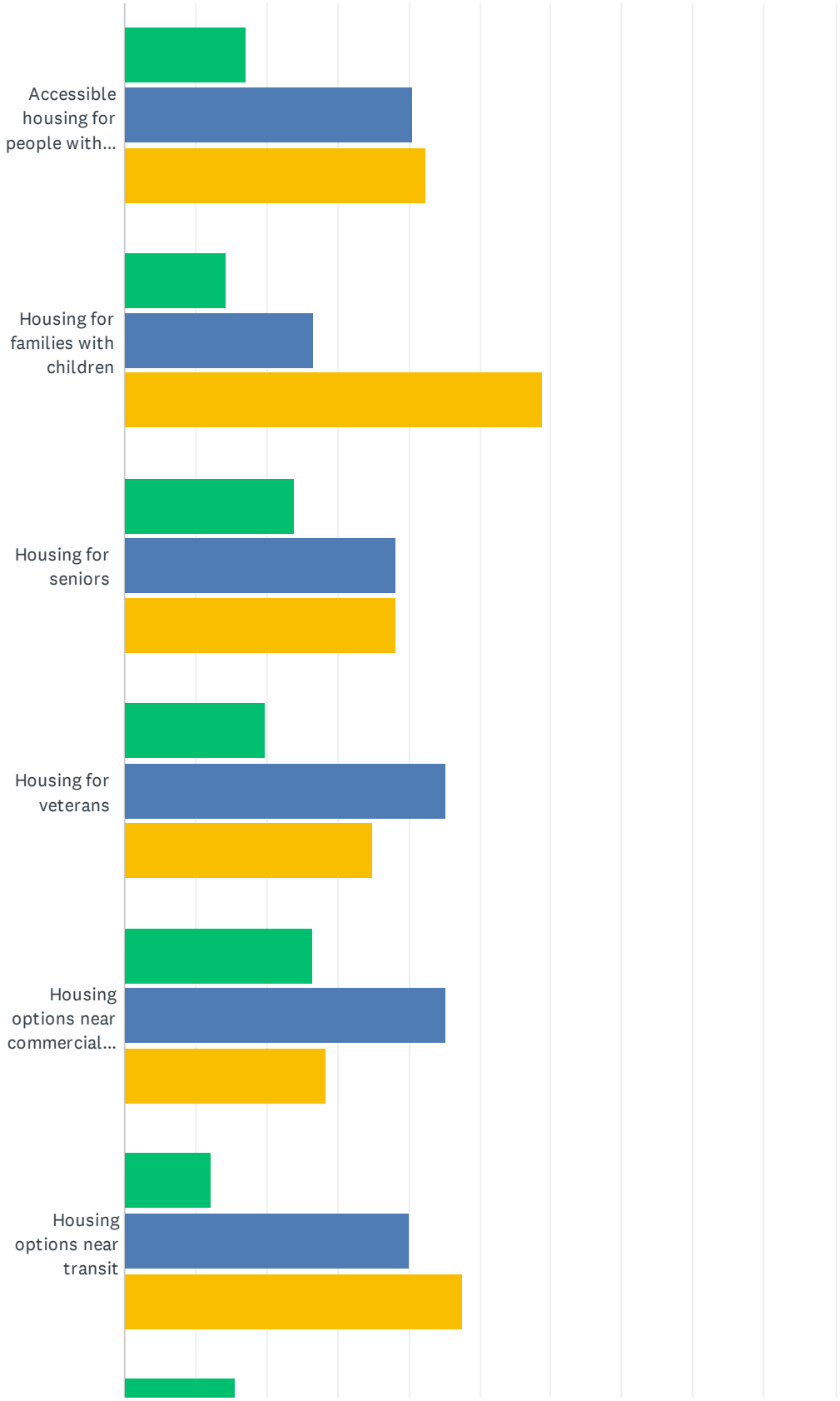
Answered: 149 Skipped: 79

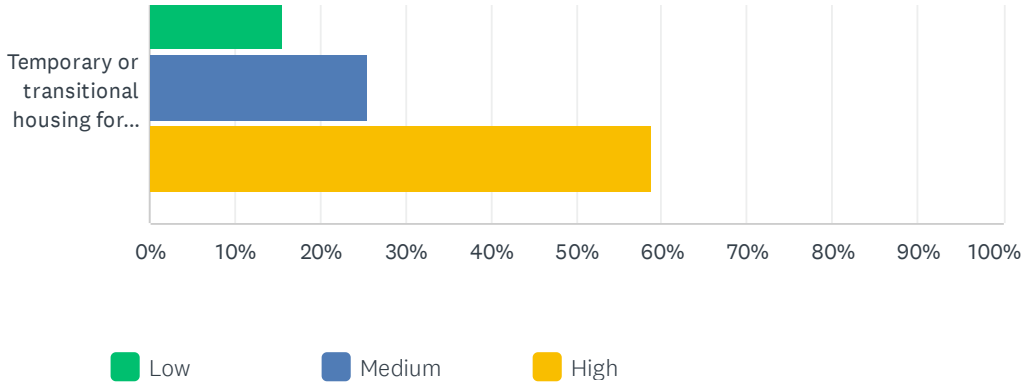


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Affordable homeownership options	22.15%	33
Affordable rental options	10.74%	16
Both affordable homeownership and affordable rental options	67.11%	100
TOTAL		149

Q14 In your community, what types of housing are most needed?

Answered: 149 Skipped: 79





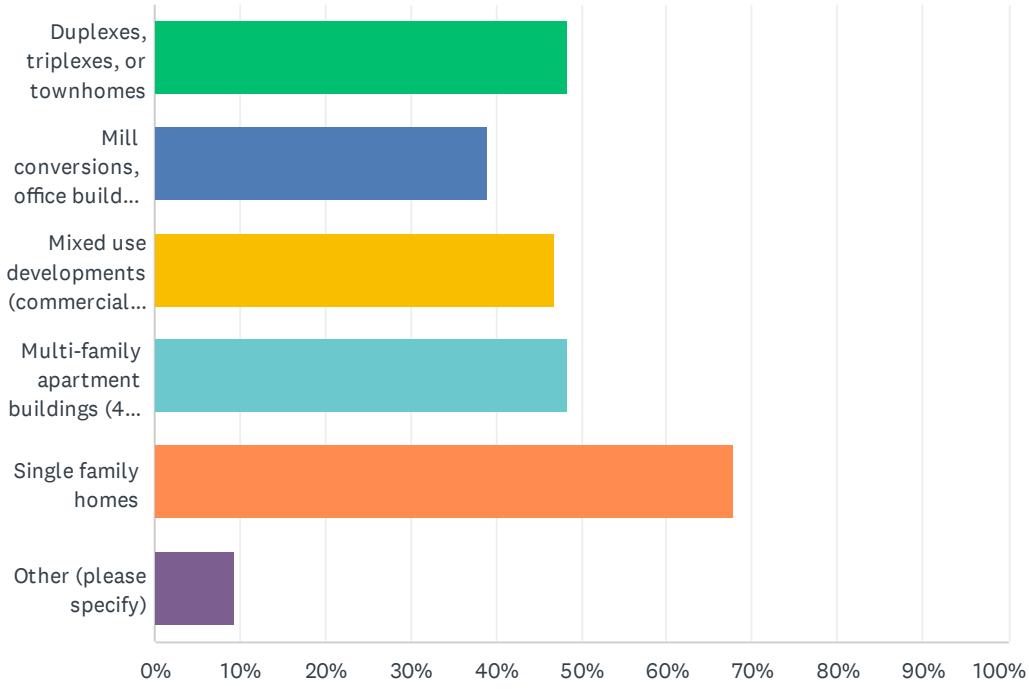
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Accessible housing for people with disabilities	17.12% 25	40.41% 59	42.47% 62	146	2.25
Housing for families with children	14.38% 21	26.71% 39	58.90% 86	146	2.45
Housing for seniors	23.81% 35	38.10% 56	38.10% 56	147	2.14
Housing for veterans	19.86% 29	45.21% 66	34.93% 51	146	2.15
Housing options near commercial centers	26.35% 39	45.27% 67	28.38% 42	148	2.02
Housing options near transit	12.24% 18	40.14% 59	47.62% 70	147	2.35
Temporary or transitional housing for people experiencing homelessness	15.54% 23	25.68% 38	58.78% 87	148	2.43

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	No!	2/15/2025 12:47 PM
2	Permanent Housing for people experiencing homelessness	2/14/2025 3:04 PM
3	N/A	2/14/2025 12:00 PM
4	Affordable rental housing for new legal immigrants and refugees.	2/13/2025 11:41 PM
5	Low income people with a lot of number of children and also new refugee to the country. They give them a Headstart focusing on them language and culture learning to get a job to earn money to move forward personal life.	2/13/2025 8:58 PM
6	Home security for children who are deaf that need louder decides to live as comfortable as their housemates without the penalty of disrupting next door neighbors who don't understand hearing difficulties of their shared wall parties.	2/9/2025 8:19 AM
7	The rates for rents have skyrocketed in the last few years. Gentrification is a problem in Erie and Millcreek.	2/8/2025 8:01 PM
8	My daughter has fallen on hard times and will be homeless soon and has no idea what to do or where to go	2/8/2025 8:46 AM
9	We need more.small homes because the average family size is smaller now.	2/7/2025 11:52 PM
10	places with working elevators	2/7/2025 9:15 PM
11	Housing first always	2/7/2025 7:24 PM

12	High need for first time renters housing	2/7/2025 5:49 PM
13	Most needed is general housing for good hard working Americans at an affordable cost	2/7/2025 5:23 PM
14	We/Erie already have TONS of worthless housing "programs" which AREN'T helping anyone actually get any housing/are otherwise WORTHLESS placebos, and Erie already has a multitude of low income hosing complexes FILLED with "homeless" people, drug addicts, alcoholics, and insane people - buildings which ALL have HUGE turnover rates. Why ? Because the slumlords LOVE the easily controlled/easily taken advantage of homeless people/drug addicts/alcoholics - none of whom know their rights and all of which will live under the most draconian tyrannical conditions - just like prison, so long as they are left alone to watch TV, get high, drink, and not be on the streets. The slumlords are free to evict and harass all the normal/intelligent people who have the audacity to "make waves" or "cause trouble" complaining about subhuman living conditions, out-of-control non-responsive slumlords, NOTHING ever being fixed, broken appliances, etc., etc., etc.... You can build all the buildings you want, but if the same slumlords are allowed to run roughshod over all of us little people/victims and treat us worse than animals how's anything ever going to change. Being forced to let corporate monsters treat me worse than an animal while I'm forced to live in substandard living conditions in a tiny little shoebox sized apt in not a solution to the housing crisis. For $1200.00 that I and HUD pay I can live in a REAL house and be free from victimization, harassment, retaliation, constant fear, anxiety, mice, bedbugs, assault, etc., etc., etc....	2/6/2025 5:58 PM
15	Affordable and decent housing for new americans	2/4/2025 6:44 PM
16	Housing that's not run by soulless corporate devil-worshipping greedy slumlords.	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
17	Housing near or co-located with specific supports such as behavioral or mental health	1/26/2025 8:50 AM
18	One-bedroom apartments for working singles.	1/16/2025 1:51 PM

Q15 What kind of housing would you like to see built in Erie? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 149 Skipped: 79



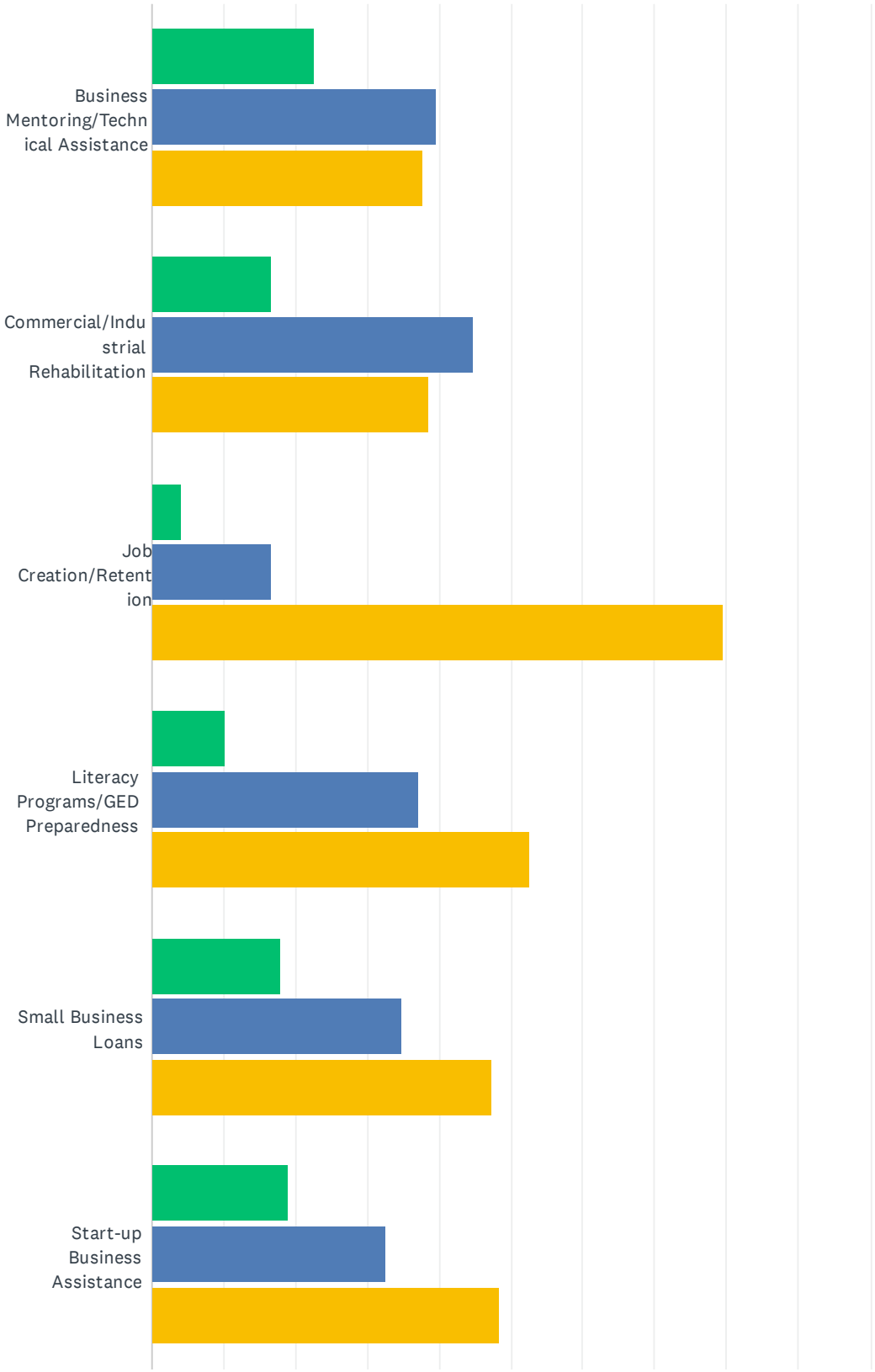
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Duplexes, triplexes, or townhomes	48.32%	72
Mill conversions, office building conversions, or other types of conversions	38.93%	58
Mixed use developments (commercial space with apartments/condos)	46.98%	70
Multi-family apartment buildings (4+ apartments)	48.32%	72
Single family homes	67.79%	101
Other (please specify)	9.40%	14
Total Respondents: 149		

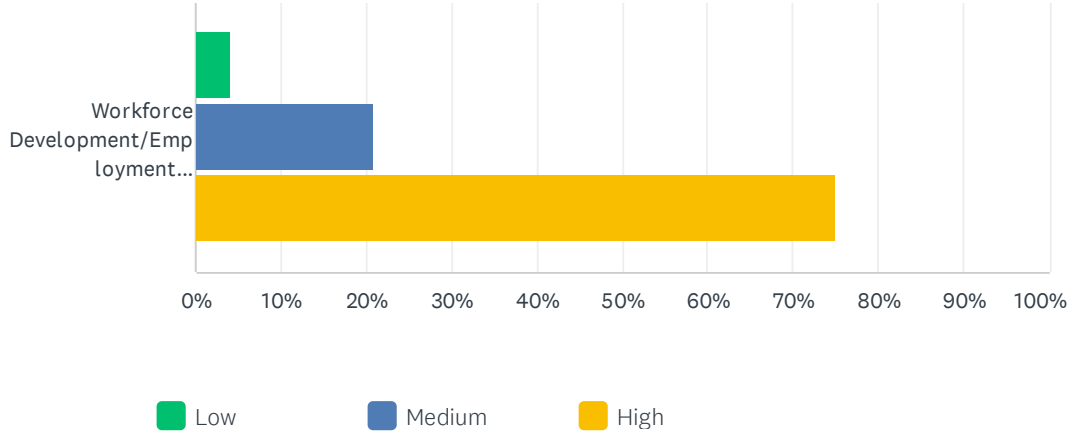
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Mixed-income housing	2/21/2025 12:06 AM
2	Follow the Mercy Anchor Community Center model. Successful with wrap around services. Ask the right people to be involved.	2/14/2025 3:57 PM
3	Preservation of Existing Affordable Housing	2/14/2025 3:04 PM
4	Anything that would help the clients we serve (homeless, recovering addicts)	2/11/2025 11:59 AM
5	We need to make use of existing spaces more effectively rather than becoming a region of blight and overpriced options is what I see happening.	2/8/2025 7:55 AM

6	Ownership opportunities in the East side. Landlords are not maintaining these properties.	2/7/2025 11:52 PM
7	Income based housing that's based off take home pay and not gross pay. Something similar to military housing where each home has a fenced backyard and driveway.	2/7/2025 11:44 PM
8	I believe functional combination of townhouses/condos/apartments where rent for a certain percentage of the residents is “capped” or subsidized and then the other is offered as unsubsidizrd, allowing for amalgamation of all peoples that call Erie home	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
9	A Tiny House Community and zoning for Tiny House Dwellings.	2/7/2025 7:30 PM
10	Housing that lets people have control over their OWN lives and future, gives them what they are actually paying for - a decent place to live with room to breath and live and God forbid have some privacy and room for some stuff - not a tiny prison cell in a surveillance dominated hostile housing complex with constant slumlord harassment, retaliation, refusal to fix broken things or provide the necessities of life - like enough hot water or working elevators, etc., and with fear and anxiety a daily part of life for YEARS at the hands of tyrannical slumlords. Every other county in the entire Commonwealth of PA lets people atleast try to move forward in life and use their Housing Choice Voucher to purchase a real house. Only Erie County and City refuse to participate in this extremely necessary forward thinking progressive needed program.... (and it's bad enough HCV are almost impossible to get ahold of)	2/6/2025 5:58 PM
11	plus single story housing is safe for all	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
12	Low-income people who need housing ARE REAL PEOPLE TOO. We are tired of being warehoused like ANIMALS in giant substandard apartment complexes run by greedy evil slumlords charging $1200.00 for a tiny shoebox sized apt. THIS IS SICKENING AND INEXCUSABLE. We are not farm animals. For $1200.00 (a monthly mortgage payment for everyone else) each one of us can live in a full sized house paying 30% of our income	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
13	Affordable housing	1/27/2025 5:57 PM
14	I would like to see the support of incremental development when it comes to housing. This means supporting in-law suites in yards and accommodating larger, underutilized homes to take on additional occupants for rent or rent/🔒nd services like grocery shopping for their elderly landlord, mowing and snow removal, errands.	1/14/2025 12:34 PM

Q16 In your opinion, what priority should be assigned to each of the following economic development activities?

Answered: 151 Skipped: 77





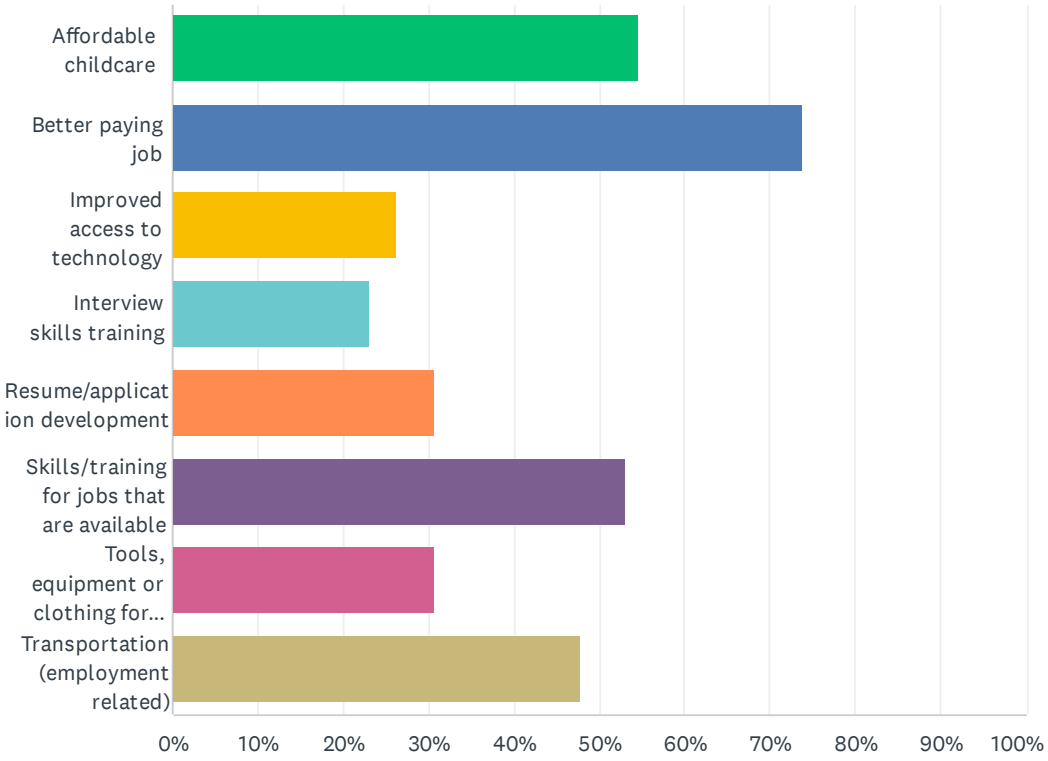
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Business Mentoring/Technical Assistance	22.60% 33	39.73% 58	37.67% 55	146	2.15
Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation	16.55% 24	44.83% 65	38.62% 56	145	2.22
Job Creation/Retention	3.97% 6	16.56% 25	79.47% 120	151	2.75
Literacy Programs/GED Preparedness	10.14% 15	37.16% 55	52.70% 78	148	2.43
Small Business Loans	18.00% 27	34.67% 52	47.33% 71	150	2.29
Start-up Business Assistance	19.05% 28	32.65% 48	48.30% 71	147	2.29
Workforce Development/Employment Programs	4.05% 6	20.95% 31	75.00% 111	148	2.71

#	INDICATE OTHER ACTIVITIES OR PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.	DATE
1	High quality free after-school programs for youth. Preferably those that focus on academic tutoring and arts enrichment.	2/21/2025 12:06 AM
2	Raising tide lifts all ships. We need to support everyone and give them opportunities to be successful. Some people don’t thrive is because of poverty . Make a support system that rewards based on merit and accountability	2/15/2025 12:47 PM
3	English classes for immigrants	2/12/2025 5:53 PM
4	Tax readiness and preparation help, afterlife information and arrangement planning.	2/9/2025 8:19 AM
5	Resources for immigrants and global students attending universities- companies won’t hire them. This is a huge problem- extremely smart people who want to make Erie a better place and no one will give them the time of day	2/8/2025 8:27 AM
6	There are many nonprofits in the region available to Start ups and businesses. More focus needs to be had on rejuvinating blight and making it more affordable and easier for businesses to operate in Erie.	2/8/2025 7:55 AM
7	Programs for unhoused individuals.	2/8/2025 2:40 AM
8	Our downtown and Bay Area has a lot of potential, rehabbing and rejuvenating that area for the citizens and to bring in small business is a worthy idea, not allowing the Scott’s & hotel conglomerates or UPMC to take advantage	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
9	When focusing on job creation & retention, there needs to be much more focus on skilled jobs,	2/7/2025 7:30 PM

	and better paying jobs. I was personally shocked when I moved back to Erie in 2010 that many wages were very low. There needs to be much more focus on a reasonable living wage, and also more focus on careers (rather than mundane hourly jobs that pay $8-12/hour). It's not the 90s anymore. It's laughable that any small business owner or large company thinks that it's OK to offer employees poverty wages. I continually hear too many people phone in excuses such as "Erie's cost of living is so low". I think you might actually see population growth and retain more employees if there were more decent jobs/careers, especially if the focus is looking into industries other than manufacturing.	
10	Financial assistance easily and quickly for people seeking assistance for 3/4 sober recovery housing	2/7/2025 7:24 PM
11	Deliberately excluding white straight males from the workforce and grants/programs/low-interest loans/housing programs/various assistance of every shape and size, etc., using racist affirmative action quotas and DEI garbage created the situation we're in now. All the useless/worthless programs above you people want to implement so you can beg, borrow, and steal more corporate welfare/grants from the state and federal government aren't going to change anything - it's only going to make things WORSE. Racist affirmative action and DEI garbage has created a climate of incompetence, uncaring, sloth, false sincerity, a culture of lies and deceit being part of daily life, etc., when trying to deal with and interact with local, state, and federal governments and most big business. This is outrageous and makes daily life MISERABLE. Things USED to work in this country, now NOTHING works. Creating more service/fast food/and desk jobs isn't going to help anything. And deliberately excluding white straight males from everything - while deliberately letting HOARDS of foreign invaders FLOOD into this country - while giving them every opportunity and handout in the world is making things WORSE. How can anyone be so stupid as to not see the obvious ??????	2/6/2025 5:58 PM
12	People teaching and showing respect - going to work should be pleasant (you go to work do your job go home without worry about your job) this town needs more celebration	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
13	Small businesses need grants not loans. Theres a group called Erie Black Wall Street that does business mentoring and technical assistance really good.	2/6/2025 9:54 AM
14	NOTHING is going to help the economy or Erie until flagrantly racist DEI quotas are abolished and white straight males are not deliberately excluded from both training and the workforce.	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
15	"Pre"- GED for low literacy residents; partner with Community College; Citizenship classes for immigrants/refugees needed	1/15/2025 5:16 AM
16	Small business grants/subsidized space - high priority	1/14/2025 3:06 PM
17	Reimbursement grants or accelerators for local, small businesses.	1/14/2025 12:34 PM

Q17 If employment is an issue for your family, please select what would be helpful in obtaining employment. [Select all that apply]

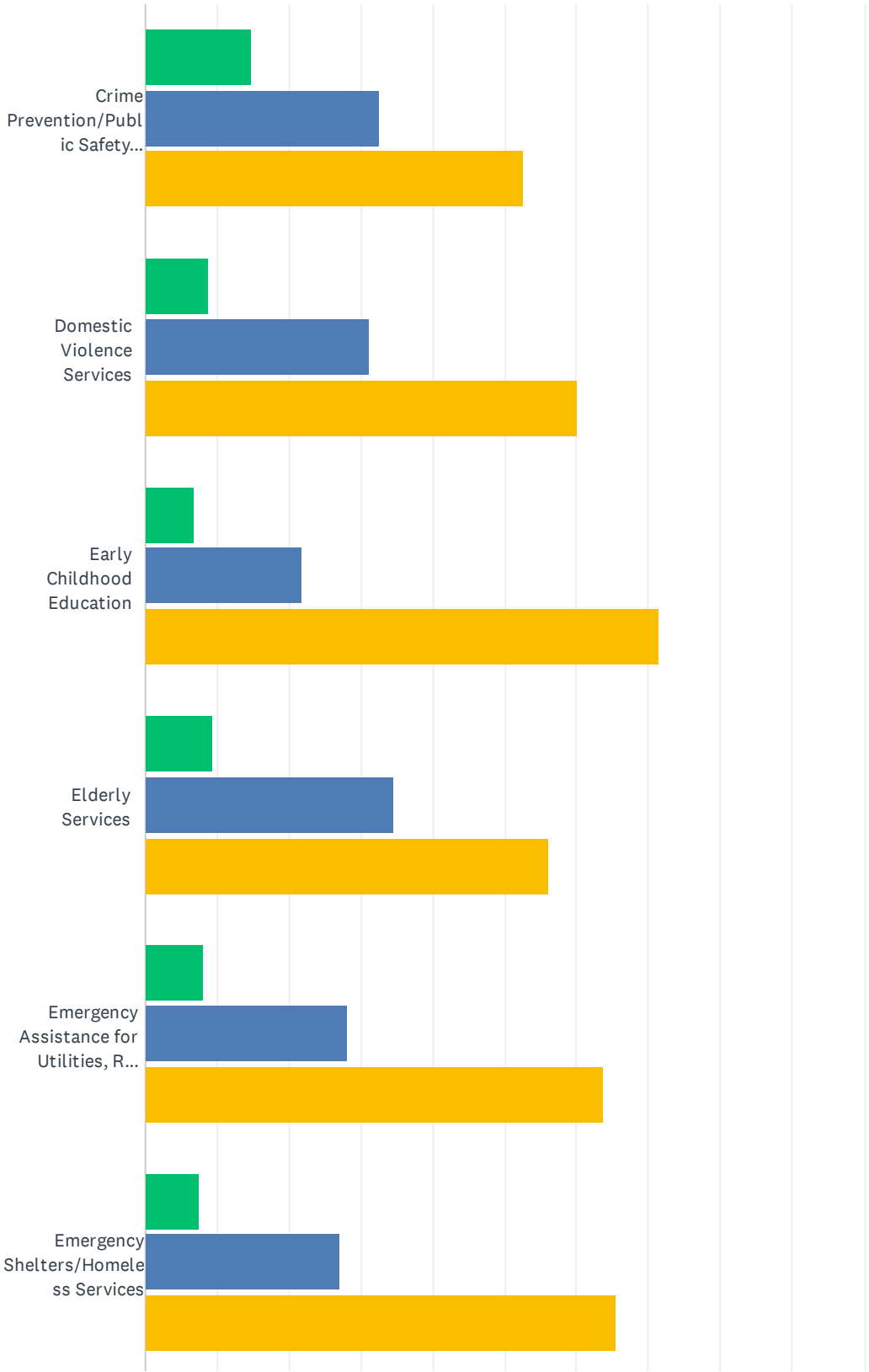
Answered: 130 Skipped: 98

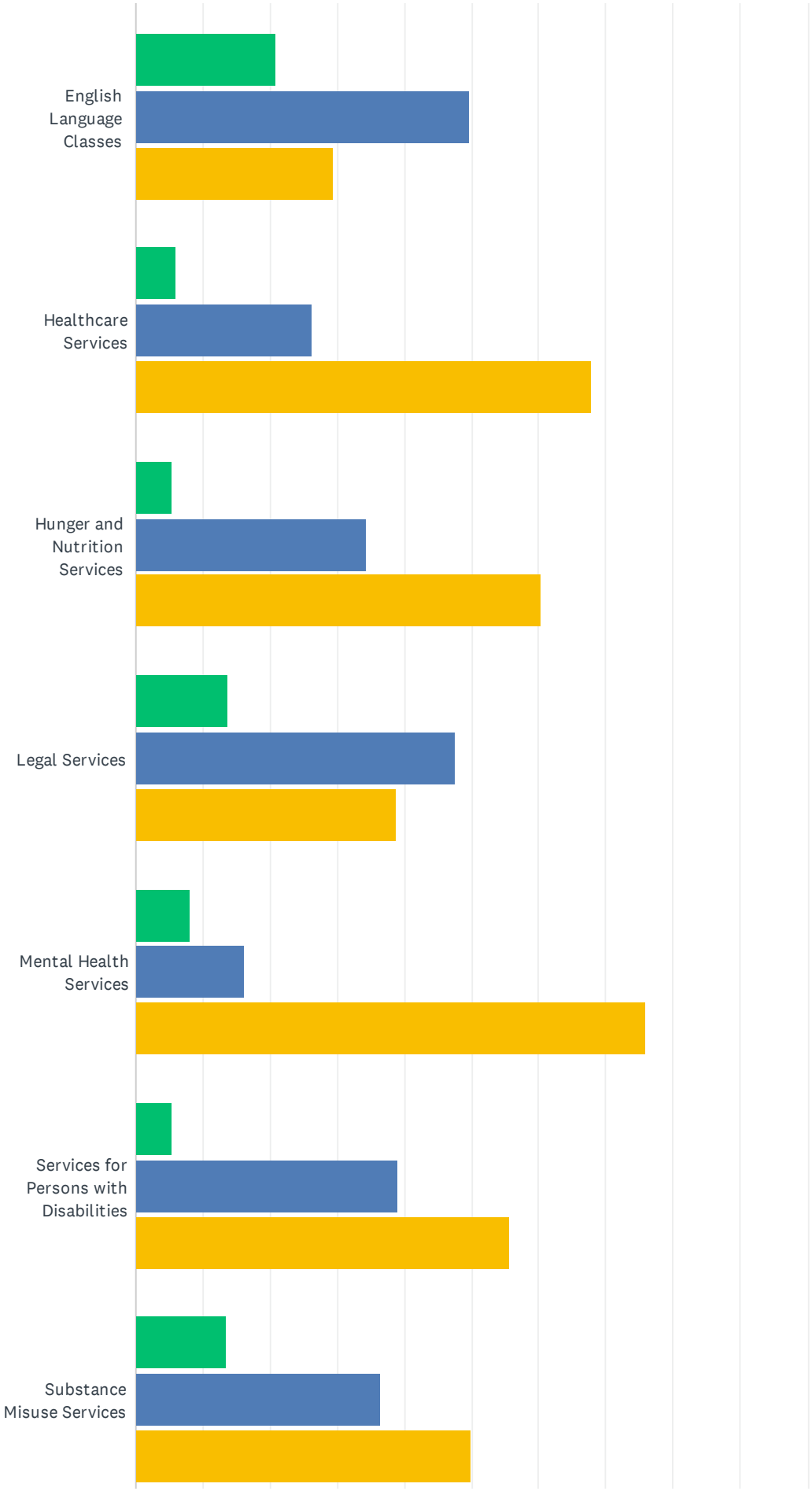


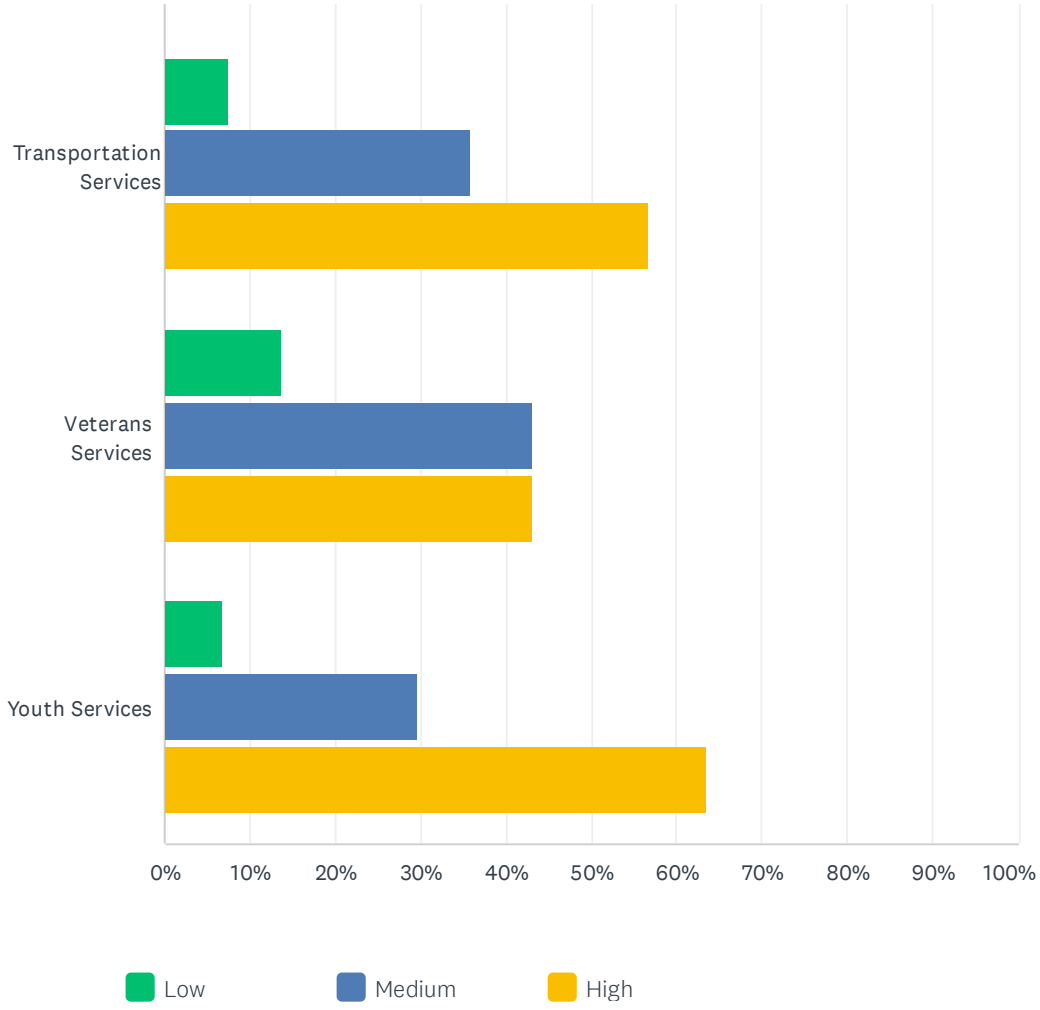
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Affordable childcare	54.62%	71
Better paying job	73.85%	96
Improved access to technology	26.15%	34
Interview skills training	23.08%	30
Resume/application development	30.77%	40
Skills/training for jobs that are available	53.08%	69
Tools, equipment or clothing for employment	30.77%	40
Transportation (employment related)	47.69%	62
Total Respondents: 130		

Q18 In your opinion, what priority should be assigned to each of the following special needs and services activities?

Answered: 150 Skipped: 78




English Language Classes
Healthcare Services
Hunger and Nutrition Services
Legal Services
Mental Health Services
Services for Persons with Disabilities
Substance Misuse Services


Transportation Services
Veterans Services
Youth Services
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Low
Medium
High

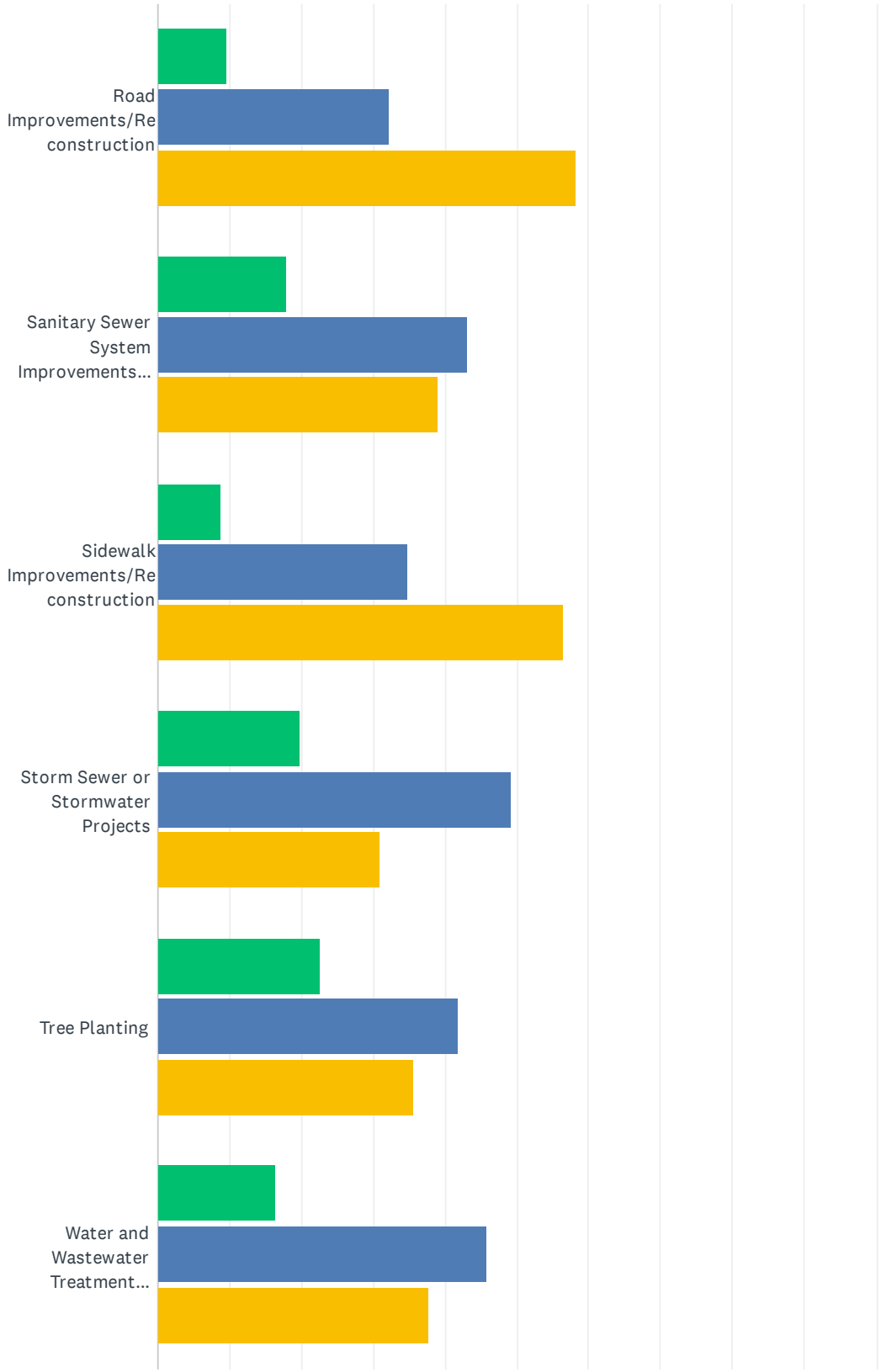
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Crime Prevention/Public Safety Services	14.67% 22	32.67% 49	52.67% 79	150	2.38
Domestic Violence Services	8.78% 13	31.08% 46	60.14% 89	148	2.51
Early Childhood Education	6.80% 10	21.77% 32	71.43% 105	147	2.65
Elderly Services	9.46% 14	34.46% 51	56.08% 83	148	2.47
Emergency Assistance for Utilities, Rent or Food	8.05% 12	28.19% 42	63.76% 95	149	2.56
Emergency Shelters/Homeless Services	7.43% 11	27.03% 40	65.54% 97	148	2.58
English Language Classes	20.81% 31	49.66% 74	29.53% 44	149	2.09
Healthcare Services	6.04% 9	26.17% 39	67.79% 101	149	2.62
Hunger and Nutrition Services	5.37% 8	34.23% 51	60.40% 90	149	2.55
Legal Services	13.61% 20	47.62% 70	38.78% 57	147	2.25
Mental Health Services	8.05% 12	16.11% 24	75.84% 113	149	2.68
Services for Persons with Disabilities	5.37% 8	38.93% 58	55.70% 83	149	2.50
Substance Misuse Services	13.51% 20	36.49% 54	50.00% 74	148	2.36
Transportation Services	7.43% 11	35.81% 53	56.76% 84	148	2.49
Veterans Services	13.70% 20	43.15% 63	43.15% 63	146	2.29
Youth Services	6.76% 10	29.73% 44	63.51% 94	148	2.57

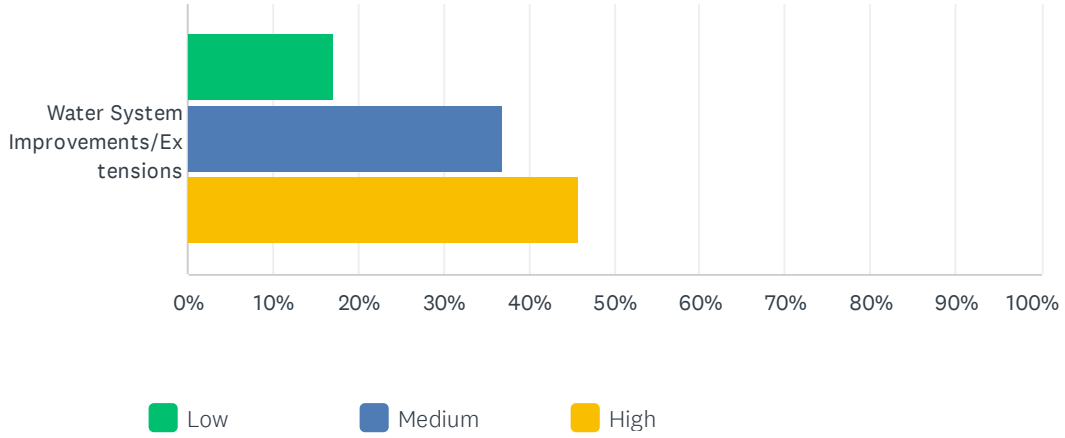
#	INDICATE OTHER ACTIVITIES OR PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.	DATE
1	Job certification that will allow anyone to step in and make a living wage.	2/15/2025 12:47 PM
2	I have added "low" needs for the above as there are a ton of resources out there for those items, not that they aren't important.	2/14/2025 10:53 AM
3	The development of more third spaces that can be easily and reliably accessed without a vehicle/with assistance getting their safely	2/12/2025 2:11 PM
4	All of these are important. Many of these services are not affordable, are not available to join (no space, no transportation, etc.), are not advertised, or do not exist at all.	2/11/2025 7:42 PM
5	All these programs are necessary. Not all the occupants are aware of how to utilize these activities and are completely unaware of where to find the resources above. I learned how to write my first money order and check from my housing authority manager, Cynthia G and her secretary at the time, Melissa.	2/9/2025 8:19 AM
6	Combining something like Housing First along with Mental Health and Substance abuse Programs would be huge.	2/8/2025 8:31 PM

7	Getting more help for those who are disabled, with children who can barley afford to live.	2/7/2025 11:22 PM
8	I’m aware not everything can be high priority. My vote goes to making sure our community has the resources it needs to assist people in living their day-to-day safely. I am a firm believer that veteran care should come from the Federal level as that is who our veterans served, the people. While veterans live as civilians; they should have access to civilian resources. The veteran population is disproportionately a vulnerable population because of the the members it targets- vulnerable people, whether mentally, emotionally, physically, psychologically, ethnically or otherwise. There is no hate in that statement, I support all people. We are all worthy though to allocate resources for a certain population when our city needs resources for all, would be silly	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
9	Make sure youth services are actually helping the kids..	2/7/2025 6:20 PM
10	I think there needs to be more short term emergency assistance. Temporary housing, emergency rent/utility.	2/7/2025 6:04 PM
11	All of these programs should be made available to all citizens of erie with strict requirements for life improvement	2/7/2025 5:23 PM
12	This country has already turned into a giant police state - filled with a bunch of poorly trained, poorly supervised, crooked corrupt lying cops. The last thing we need is more out-of-control, poorly trained crooked corrupt lying cops. We/Erie already has TONS of alcohol/drug services, mental health services, healthcare services, etc. All of them are run by crooked corrupt snakes who are completely above the law and any accountability and staffed with incompetent lazy uncaring staff. Stairways Behavioral Health is one of the WORST nests of vipers in the area. They are beyond crooked, corrupt, and uncaring/incompetent. Everyday they get away with destroying people's lives, falsifying paperwork, retaliating against anyone who files a complaint against them, forcing people to stay in their useless/worthless programs when they don't need them so it looks like Stairways is needed and they can ask for more money for more programs that don't work so they can make more "jobs/busywork" for people not fit/competent enough to run a dog kennel. Stairways staff regularly threaten to send people back to prison if they don't succumb to their crooked corrupt demands. THERE IS NO OVERSIGHT. Stairways is and has been totally out-of-control & nest of vipers for decades. The last thing Erie needs is more "Stairways"... Community Health Net and the Eastside Medical Center are the same. The medical care given out in those 2 places is BEYOND SUBPAR. The care is horrible, the staff are lazy, uncaring, incompetent, and arrogant. Doctors will flagrantly falsify a patients medical file and lie through their teeth to cover up flagrant incompetence, misdiagnosis, screwing up a patient's tests and prescriptions, etc.... The last thing Erie needs is more CHN and EMC type places. CLEAN UP THE ONES YOU ALREADY HAVE AND MAKE THE STAFF/SUPERIORS ACCOUNTABLE WILL GO MILES TOWARD IMPOROVING ERIE. If the places Erie already has work, why is everything in Erie getting worse ? The only lives being helped in Erie are people's lives like yours. All you 'haves' are making a good life out of pretending to care about us 'have-nots', while the lives of us 'have-nots' just keep getting worse and worse and worse.	2/6/2025 5:58 PM
13	People are trying to keep and or put these in place - we need people that want to work and have a healthy work place	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
14	We have a pandemic with homelessness, gun violence with teens and drug use	1/29/2025 2:25 PM
15	Services that actually HELP people fight violations of tenants rights and against slumlords are desperately needed - instead of services that LIE and claim they will help - only to grab up grants, charity, donations, etc., and then do NOTHING but look for more free money/corporate welfare are needed.	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
16	I am responding as a project director for a non-profit	1/15/2025 5:16 AM
17	Everything here is a high priority item and needs significant investment for Erie's quality of life to improve.	1/14/2025 3:06 PM

Q19 In your opinion, what priority should be assigned to the following public infrastructure projects?

Answered: 148 Skipped: 80





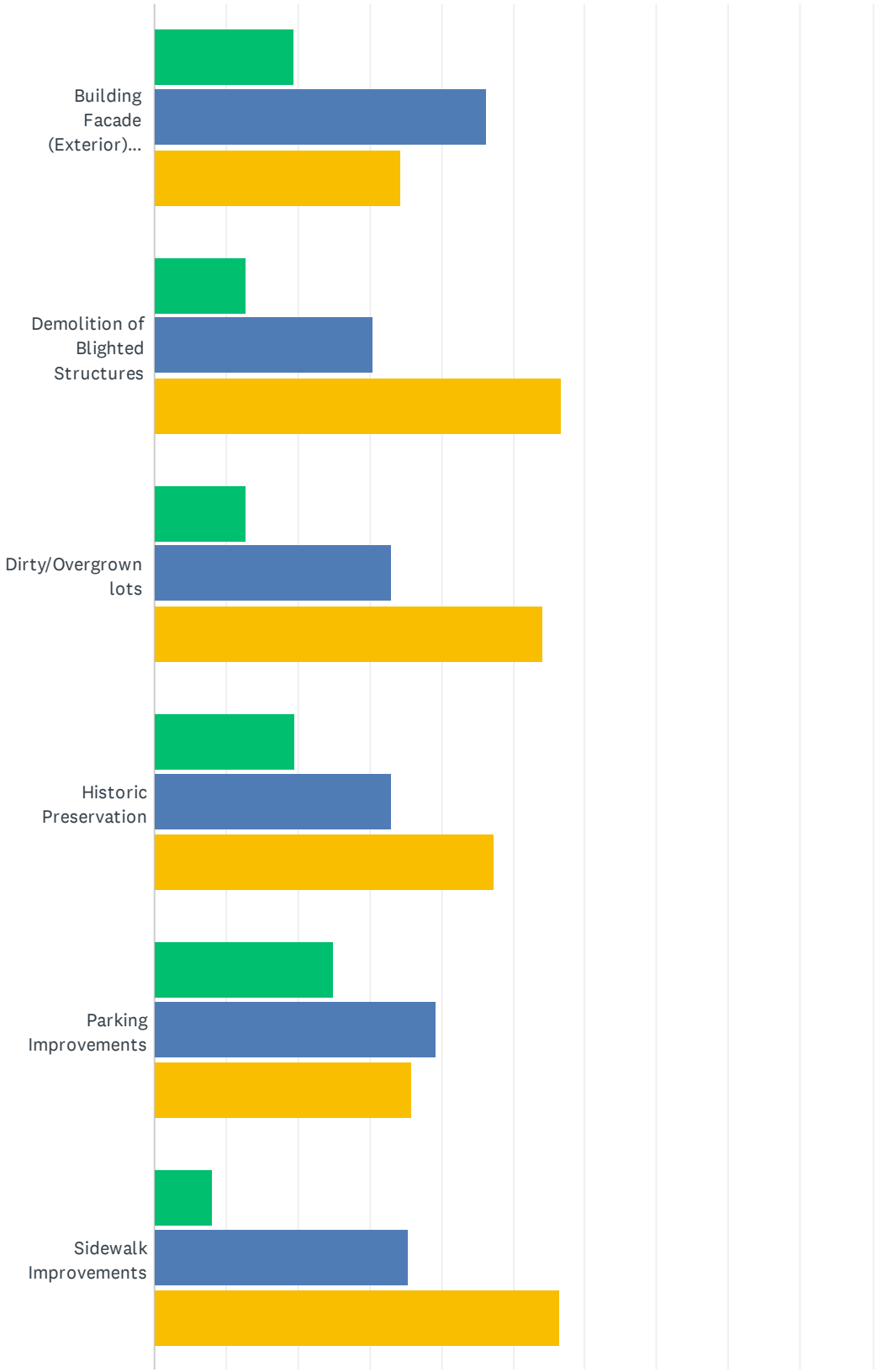
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Road Improvements/Reconstruction	9.59% 14	32.19% 47	58.22% 85	146	2.49
Sanitary Sewer System Improvements/Extensions	17.81% 26	43.15% 63	39.04% 57	146	2.21
Sidewalk Improvements/Reconstruction	8.84% 13	34.69% 51	56.46% 83	147	2.48
Storm Sewer or Stormwater Projects	19.86% 29	49.32% 72	30.82% 45	146	2.11
Tree Planting	22.60% 33	41.78% 61	35.62% 52	146	2.13
Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities	16.44% 24	45.89% 67	37.67% 55	146	2.21
Water System Improvements/Extensions	17.12% 25	36.99% 54	45.89% 67	146	2.29

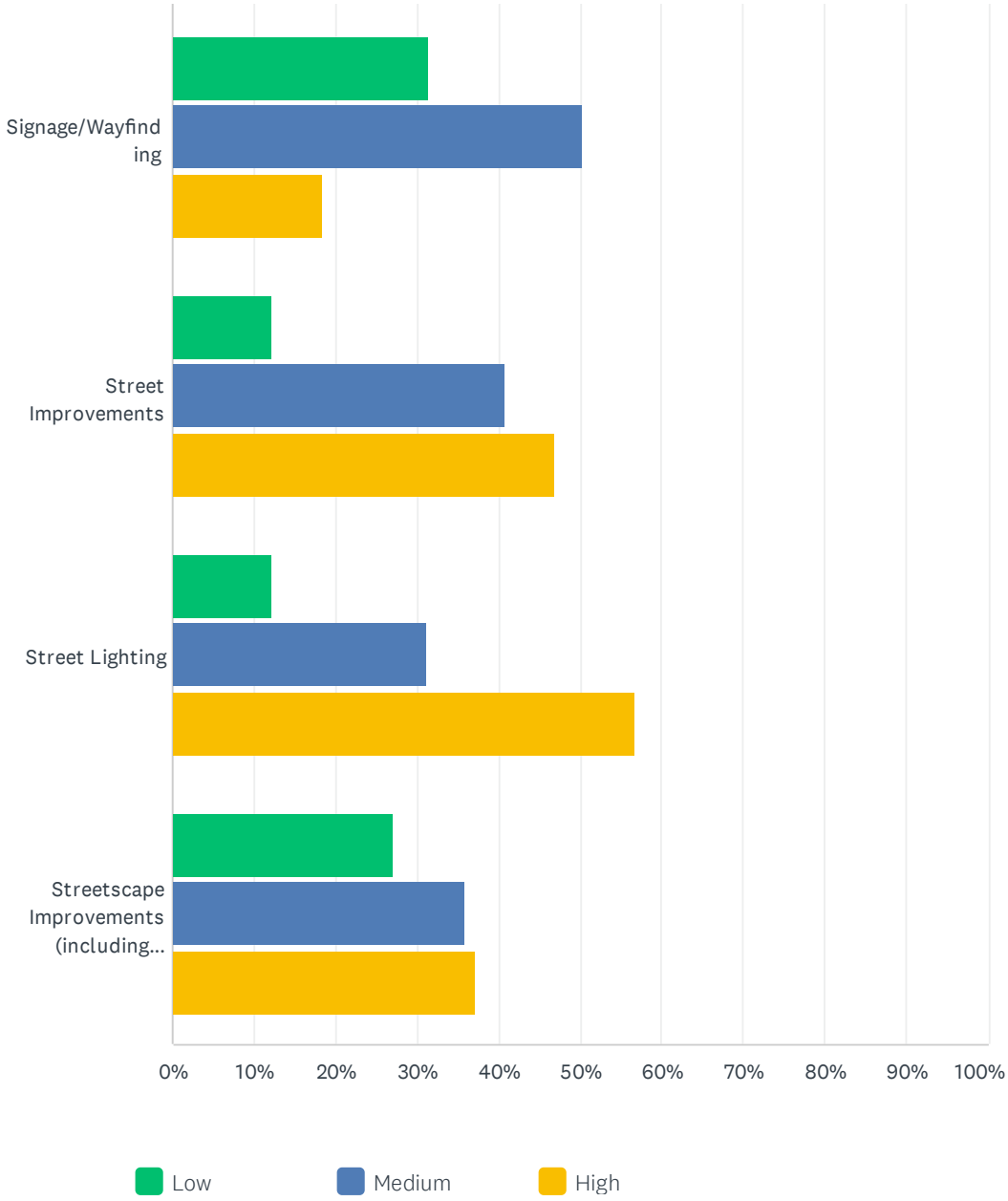
#	INDICATE OTHER ACTIVITIES OR PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.	DATE
1	Walkable neighborhoods!!!!!!!!!! Less emphasis on roads for cars and lots of emphasis on pedestrians and bikes	2/12/2025 5:53 PM
2	All of these are important.	2/11/2025 7:42 PM
3	The trees and bushes were needed. Not only for environmental purposes but also for its ability to transform the neighborhoods appearance. Maybe they can be planted not so close to the home to prevent the elevation in the volumes of pest control required for the areas where cleanliness isn't being done when needed.	2/9/2025 8:19 AM
4	So many trees have been cut down due to street projects- especially downtown. Please replant them!	2/8/2025 8:27 AM
5	Water quality can change lives, safe drinking water for all, even public safe drinking water, should be the priority	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
6	Public transit	2/7/2025 10:31 PM
7	working elevators in the parking garages	2/7/2025 9:15 PM
8	Home improvement programs, curb appeal and house painting services	2/7/2025 7:24 PM
9	Streetlights	2/7/2025 6:37 PM
10	THE ROADS ARE SO BAD I QUESTION WHY IM PAYING TAXES	2/7/2025 5:23 PM
11	Erie has some of the WORST roads and sidewalks in the entire tri-state area. What is the	2/6/2025 5:58 PM

	problem ? You people have money to paint ridiculous silly rainbows on the streets, but not fix the streets so millions of people's vehicles aren't damaged every day driving on them and people in walkers, motorized scooters, canes, and wheelchairs are repeatedly injured, forced to go out into the streets & traffic to get around, or prevented from getting down the sidewalks in the majority of Erie because the sidewalks are so atrocious. RIDICULOUS. And, it has been LONG recognized that fluoride is a deadly poison and does NOTHING to prevent cavities and should under NO circumstances be swallowed - yet you people keep ignorantly putting it into our water supply and poisoning us and our children. SICKENING. What's the sense of new Water Facilities/improvements if the water is poison ???? If you can read, you can find the latest scientific studies on the dangers of fluoride in plain English. What's the problem ? It is proven to literally destroy parts of the brain....especially in developing children. Mercury - another deadly poison, used to thought of by idiots as ok to put in fillings. Now you can't even ship anything with mercury in it through the mail without hazardous shipping containers and government mandated precautions. But it was alright to put in everyone's mouths ???? Get with the latest science. California is getting sued for putting fluoride in their water, maybe Erie needs to be sued.... Also, you people running things have gone on a massive building spree in the last 30-40 years, destroying HUGE amounts of local woods and building stupid useless shopping malls, car lots, fast food places, etc., etc., etc... no of which are doing anything to make anyone in this town a better person. Trees make oxygen. Humans need oxygen to survive. You do the math.	
12	Tree planting days and get starter trees from our older existing trees (they are good stock)	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
13	Get the God-damn fluoride out of the water and stop poisoning us and our kids !	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
14	I'm unfamiliar with the status of the other systems	1/24/2025 1:46 PM
15	i don't really know	1/15/2025 3:21 PM
16	Translation services	1/14/2025 12:34 PM

Q20 In your opinion, what priority should be assigned to each of the following neighborhood / commercial district revitalization activities?

Answered: 149 Skipped: 79




Signage/Wayfinding
Street Improvements
Street Lighting
Streetscape Improvements (including...
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Low
Medium
High

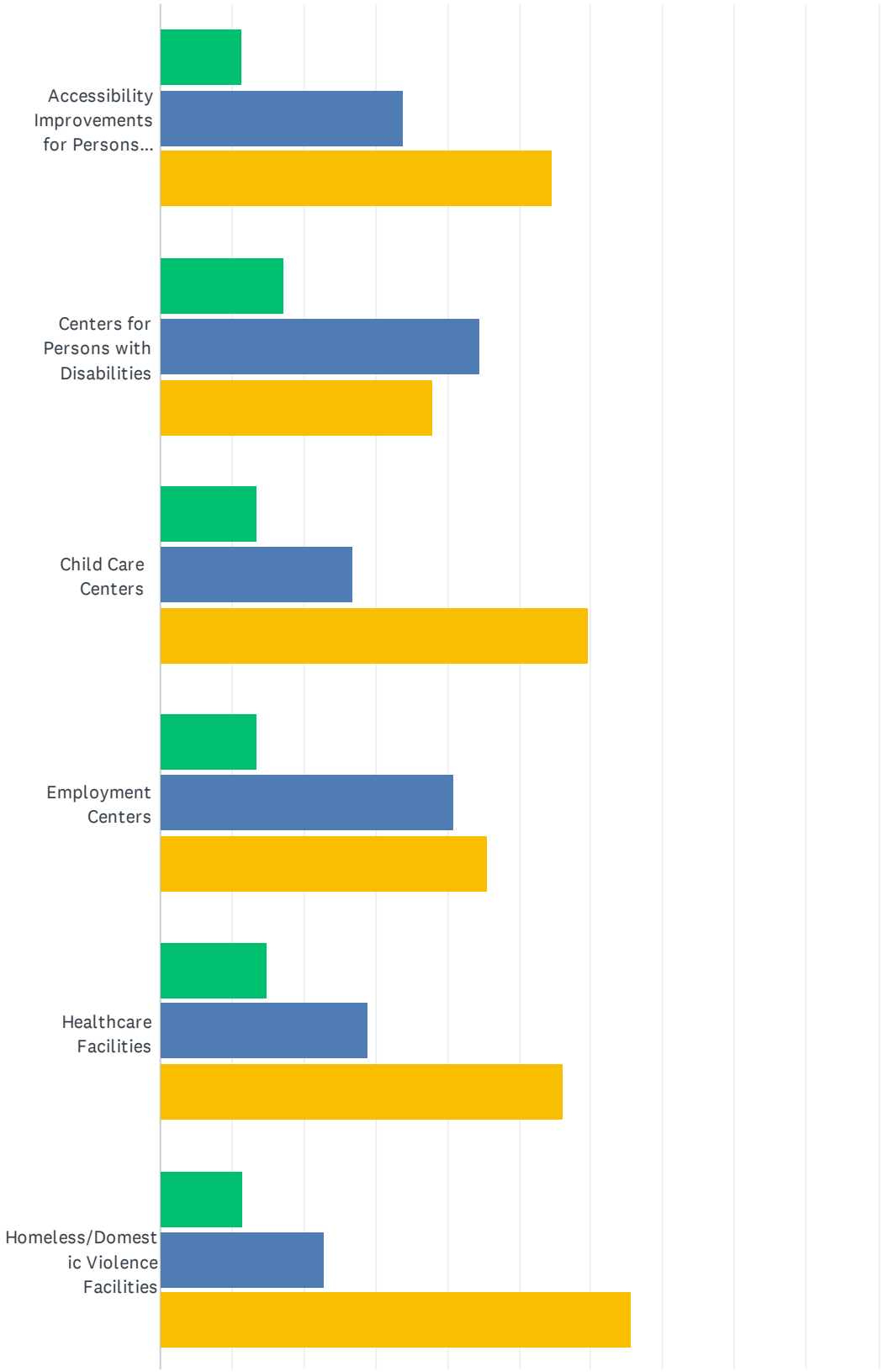
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Building Facade (Exterior) Improvements	19.46% 29	46.31% 69	34.23% 51	149	2.15
Demolition of Blighted Structures	12.84% 19	30.41% 45	56.76% 84	148	2.44
Dirty/Overgrown lots	12.84% 19	33.11% 49	54.05% 80	148	2.41
Historic Preservation	19.59% 29	33.11% 49	47.30% 70	148	2.28
Parking Improvements	25.00% 37	39.19% 58	35.81% 53	148	2.11
Sidewalk Improvements	8.16% 12	35.37% 52	56.46% 83	147	2.48
Signage/Wayfinding	31.29% 46	50.34% 74	18.37% 27	147	1.87
Street Improvements	12.24% 18	40.82% 60	46.94% 69	147	2.35
Street Lighting	12.16% 18	31.08% 46	56.76% 84	148	2.45
Streetscape Improvements (including landscaping)	27.03% 40	35.81% 53	37.16% 55	148	2.10

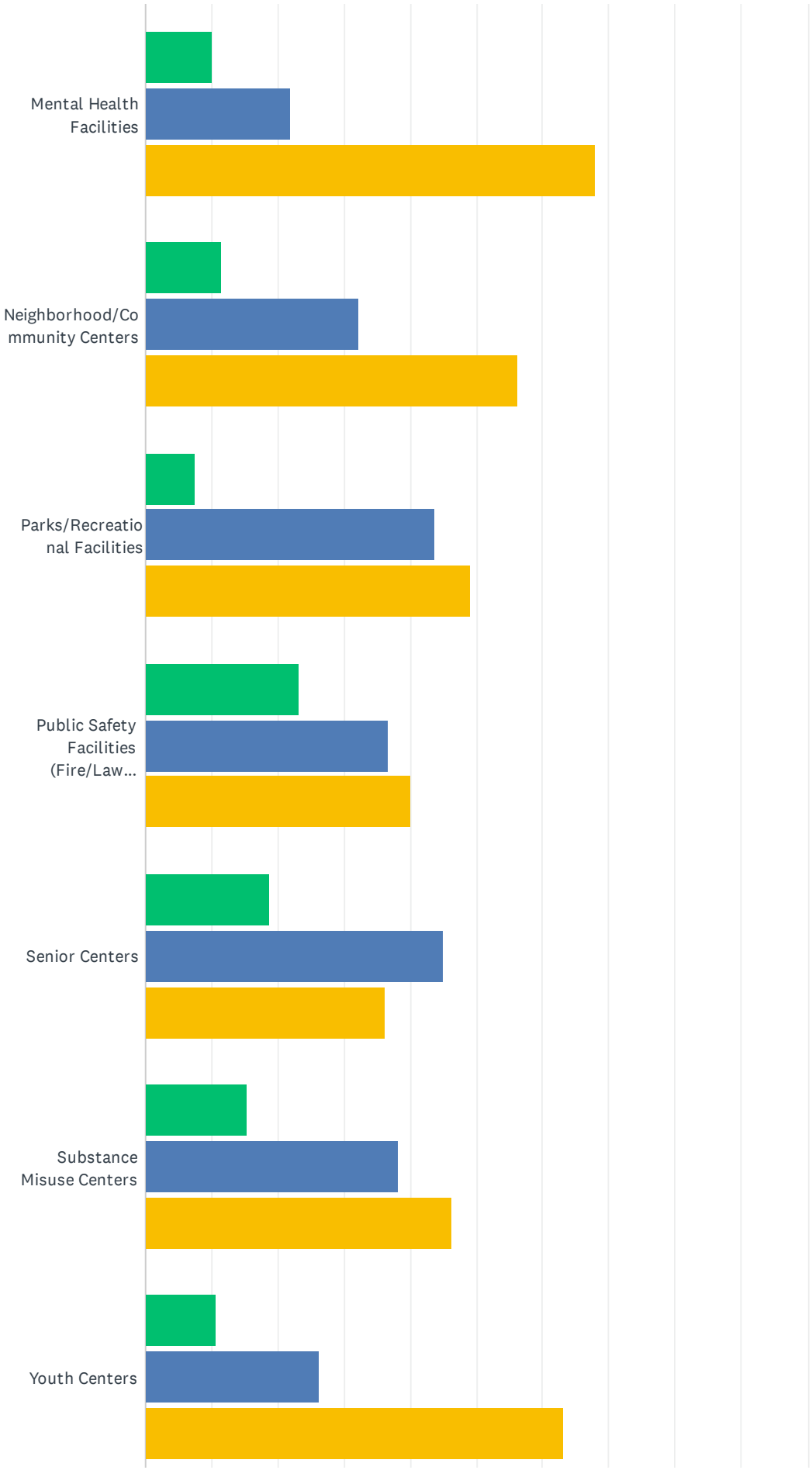
#	INDICATE OTHER ACTIVITIES OR PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.	DATE
1	You need to create an artist committee so someone looks at these projects for aesthetics.not some guy who has steeler logos all over his house. I'll be glad to jump in .	2/15/2025 12:47 PM
2	Historic landmarks	2/14/2025 3:04 PM
3	conversion of vacant lots and buildings into usable public and private spaces at low cost	2/14/2025 11:35 AM
4	Stop putting in roundabouts. They are useless and cause more problems.	2/9/2025 10:09 AM
5	Lighting in my neighborhood has cut the petty crimes (ie. Theft) down a ton. It makes a huge difference.	2/8/2025 8:31 PM
6	Due to sidewalks not being in good shape- or lack of them- there are so many homeless people and people walking to work and school walking in the streets	2/8/2025 8:27 AM
7	If a home truly can't be fixed up due to fire for example, then demolish, otherwise sell them as cheap as possible to people who have the ability to fix the homes, 2ndly the only things needed for streets is many need repaved or widened for parking no more roundabouts. Street lights are extremely dim, we need ones like lower parade that are bright white	2/7/2025 11:44 PM
8	Cut the cost of parking in downtown and at the hospitals	2/7/2025 11:22 PM
9	Blighted buildings being demolished would be a decent idea of then someone could realistically occupy that space and place something there	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
10	working elevators in the parking garages	2/7/2025 9:15 PM
11	Trash cans for public use, public bathrooms	2/7/2025 7:24 PM
12	Your survey questions are purposefully biased and highly restrictive to get people to only be able to give answers to highly manipulative structed questions meant to steer them where you want them to go. The problems in Erie are WAY beyond anything that can be solved by creating more minimum wage service jobs, more useless no-work desk jockey jobs, more substandard worthless programs that never result in the problems they were created to supposedly solve ever actually being solved, more excuses for you people in power to sponge more free money from the state and federal government, more fake veneers of pretending to	2/6/2025 5:58 PM

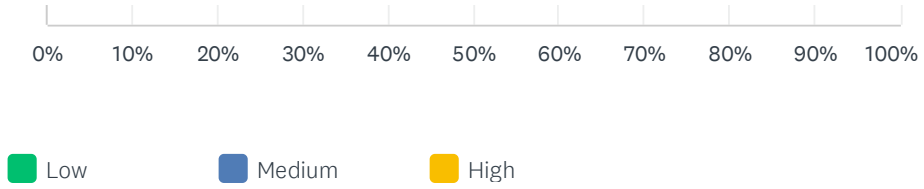
	care about the homeless/poor people/disabled people, etc., when if you people really cared about us you'd immediately STOP bringing into Erie TONS in foreign invaders/immigrants who are sucking up all the housing, welfare, medical care, mental health services, and other resources that were ALREADY STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT BEFORE YOU PEOPLE STARTED BRINGING IN ALL THE FORIEGN INVADERS.... Stop filling up the available houding in this town with foreign invaders and we wouldn't have a housing crisis nor so many homeless people ! How dare you pretend you care about Erie people when you are specifically refusing to help or care about multi-generational Erie natives when you leave them to suffer on the streets in favor of total strangers/foreigners who just got off a plane yesterday and don't even belong here and get free money, free cars, free phones, free clothes, free housing, free job training, low/no interest loans/grants to start business, etc., etc., etc., when they've never even contributed ONE DIME in taxes..... I've been paying taxes to and in Erie MY WHOLE LIFE - so people like you can have cushy desk jobs, and I have NO safe place to live and am homeless RIGHT NOW. What are you doing to help me ?????	
13	re: blighted structures depends on the situation and location , example - if the structure was a house it can been safely taken down and the lot restored and possibly split in two half to the house on the left half to the house on the right (this idea comes from seeing old neighborhoods where the houses are to close and fire is a risk)	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
14	Get rid of the assinine round-abouts you idiots put everywhere that are stupid and dangerous and impede traffic.	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
15	Bike lanes	1/27/2025 8:00 PM
16	i don't know	1/15/2025 3:21 PM
17	The most sustainable build is building on a structure that already exists. We have to do a better job of improving policies and enforcing better built environments. Pedestrians statistically spend more downtown. Stop prioritizing vehicles. We do not need more parking. Aerial views of downtown are covered in surface lots.	1/14/2025 12:34 PM

Q21 In your opinion, what priority should be assigned to each of the following community facilities?

Answered: 150 Skipped: 78




Mental Health Facilities
Neighborhood/Community Centers
Parks/Recreational Facilities
Public Safety Facilities (Fire/Law...
Senior Centers
Substance Misuse Centers
Youth Centers



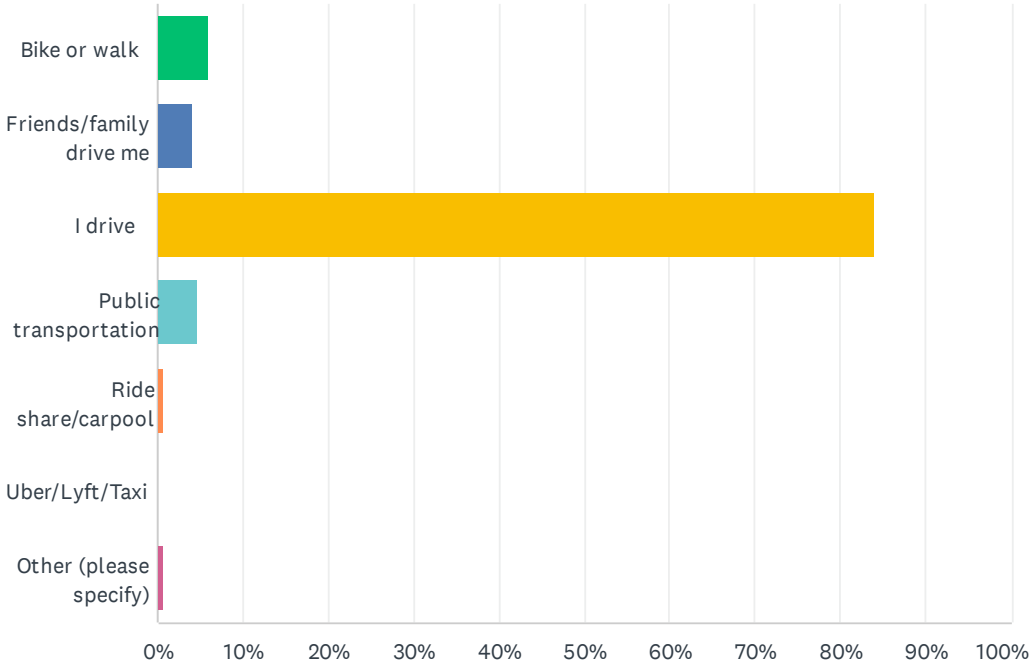
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Accessibility Improvements for Persons with Disabilities	11.33% 17	34.00% 51	54.67% 82	150	2.43
Centers for Persons with Disabilities	17.33% 26	44.67% 67	38.00% 57	150	2.21
Child Care Centers	13.42% 20	26.85% 40	59.73% 89	149	2.46
Employment Centers	13.42% 20	40.94% 61	45.64% 68	149	2.32
Healthcare Facilities	14.86% 22	29.05% 43	56.08% 83	148	2.41
Homeless/Domestic Violence Facilities	11.41% 17	22.82% 34	65.77% 98	149	2.54
Mental Health Facilities	10.00% 15	22.00% 33	68.00% 102	150	2.58
Neighborhood/Community Centers	11.41% 17	32.21% 48	56.38% 84	149	2.45
Parks/Recreational Facilities	7.38% 11	43.62% 65	48.99% 73	149	2.42
Public Safety Facilities (Fire/Law Enforcement)	23.33% 35	36.67% 55	40.00% 60	150	2.17
Senior Centers	18.79% 28	44.97% 67	36.24% 54	149	2.17
Substance Misuse Centers	15.44% 23	38.26% 57	46.31% 69	149	2.31
Youth Centers	10.74% 16	26.17% 39	63.09% 94	149	2.52

#	INDICATE OTHER ACTIVITIES OR PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.	DATE
1	Art and technology centers	2/15/2025 12:47 PM
2	Sidewalks in Erie neighborhoods are terrible, please these needs to be improved so people and especially children who walk to school and back.	2/14/2025 3:43 PM
3	YOUTH ARE OUR FUTURE	2/14/2025 11:35 AM
4	All of these are important.	2/11/2025 7:42 PM
5	East side needs urgent cares and urgent cares that are open late. If we have youth centers, drug use will go down	2/7/2025 11:44 PM
6	I have ranked senior care lower as I believe our future lies in our youth and while the aging population needs support, that should come from the federal level, to limit city funds to a certain population would not be the most helpful	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
7	working elevators in the parking garages	2/7/2025 9:15 PM
8	Once again, you have structured your questions to make people give you the answers you	2/6/2025 5:58 PM

	want. We already have a TON of all the above facilities/centers and they are ALMOST ALL being misrun, misused, underutilized, allowed to be taken over & run by crooked corrupt snakes, staffed by the most outrageously incompetent lazy uncaring idiots, etc., etc., etc.... CLEAN UP THE CENTERS/FACILITIES ERIE ALREADY HAS BEFORE YOU BUILD MORE. The man in charge of Community Resources for Independence - Timothy Finnegan, PERSONALLY screwed me out of furniture he PERSONALLY told me I was going to get because I was in a new apartment and was disabled. He then withdrew ALL services from me from CRI on behalf of his good friends/criminal partners at HANDS in their ongoing retaliation war against me, he let one of his employees callously destroy my only mattress I had at the time, and he PERSONALLY stole a brand new physical therapy machine I was forced to pay for out of my own pocket and that he had in his garage the last I knew. He did all these things to me because I refused to roll over and die when HANDS slumlords came after me in an outrageous campaign of retaliation and harassment for turning them in to Code Enforcement and HUD for housing me on the 3rd floor of the Maria Revitalization Project (Liberty & Plum St.) building KNOWING their elevator never worked, they refused to fix it, and I was trapped in my apartment for WEEKS at a time with no way out.... This criminal scumbag runs both CRI AND many housing complexes for disabled/elderly people in Erie. HE SHOULD BE IN PRISON FOR WHAT HE DID TO ME. Yet he's one of the most powerful and richest scumbags in this town. You probably know him personally. This snake conspired with the snakes at HANDS - since all of you people at the top are friends, to destroy my life - solely because HANDS was so vindictive and dead-set against being forced to God-forbid have a working elevator in their building.... But since I'm not a real person or anything - not a real human being like all you rich powerful people running Erie, when I started complaining/making waves, my usefulness to HANDS & apparently their good buddy Tim at CRI, ran out. Fuck me, right ? As long as HANDS and Tim Finnagen, and CRI are playing ball and generating money for all you movers and shakers running this crooked corrupt town, who cares about some worthless little nobody in a wheelchair who had his whole life destroyed, his personal property stolen from him and/or destroyed, and was thrown out into the streets to try to survive in a fucking wheelchair. Why don't you create another worthless program to address all the homeless people who are homeless in Erie because of all your crooked corrupt slumlords and disability scammers. KInd of funny how HANDS and CRI - who are supposed to be helping someone like me, instead went out of their way to HURT me - creating another homeless disabled man with NO supports.... How fucking ironic.	
9	drag an industrial magnet through the bay and clean the junk out of it - show you care about where we live and promote	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
10	Erie already has a bunch of "centers" that are basically useless and used as warehouses for the unwanted and/or disenfranchised and provide jobs for lazy people who don't want to work while providing next to no actual practical benefit to the people who go there. People need more than bingo and a free lunch/ham sandwich to feel good about themselves and contribute to their community. Erie also has multiple Healthcare/Mental Health centers/facilites that are run and staffed by such outrageously uncaring incompetent assholes it defies belief. We don't need more facilities/centers full of uncaring inoperant idiots and assholes, we already have too many..	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
11	Too many community centers.	1/15/2025 4:48 AM

Q22 What type of transportation do you use most often?

Answered: 150 Skipped: 78

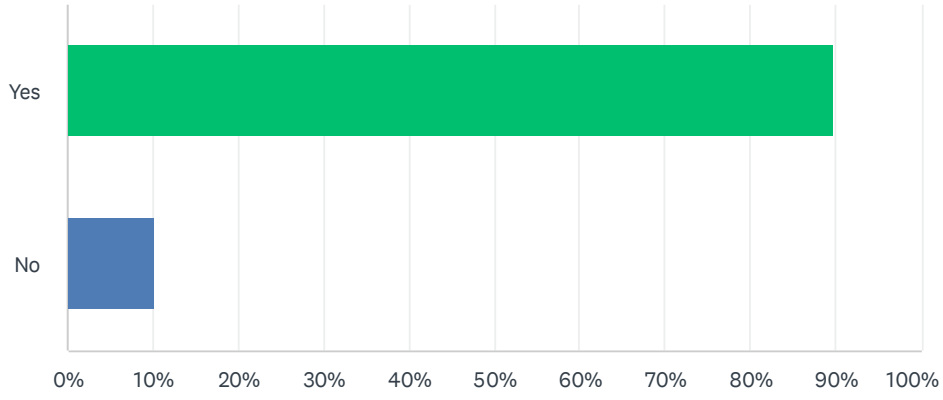


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bike or walk	6.00%	9
Friends/family drive me	4.00%	6
I drive	84.00%	126
Public transportation	4.67%	7
Ride share/carpool	0.67%	1
Uber/Lyft/Taxi	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.67%	1
TOTAL		150

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	its a mix - transport is not always as available as needed - just a fact	2/6/2025 1:45 PM

Q23 Is the mode of transportation you use most often available to you when you need it to access employment, resources, services, etc?

Answered: 148 Skipped: 80



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	89.86%	133
No	10.14%	15
TOTAL		148

Q24 In your opinion, what are the THREE highest priority needs in Erie over the next five years?

Answered: 140 Skipped: 88

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	housing, jobs, healthcare, unity, diversity	2/21/2025 9:40 AM
2	1) Making sure our youth have safe high quality programming options when they aren't in school (during after-school and summer) that foster learning and a sense of community. 2) working to make our city, its buildings, streets, and programs accessible to people with disabilities. An example would be a program that would help old historic building put in elevators. Why are able bodies individuals the only ones who are allowed to have access to seeing and experiencing what is in the beautiful older buildings we have in Erie? 3) assisting smaller non-profits to help pay their employees more livable wages.	2/21/2025 12:06 AM
3	Crime Prevention/Youth Services Single Family Housing Public Safety	2/18/2025 10:51 AM
4	Infrastructure! Infrastructure! Infrastructure! You can't fix and build new stuff on failing infrastructure.	2/15/2025 12:47 PM
5	1. Homelessness 2. Housing 3. Drug overdose	2/14/2025 3:57 PM
6	tear down all blighted houses within the city perimeters please please. Fix all sidewalks from neighborhoods for children to walk to school in safety. Police non emergency calls should be taken seriously and somebody needs to show up or it will become a crime scene and then 911	2/14/2025 3:43 PM
7	Preservation of Affordable rental housing Development of new Affordable rental housing Road repairs	2/14/2025 3:04 PM
8	Job pay Transportation Access to resources	2/14/2025 2:58 PM
9	1. More extensive public transportation system. Currently a personal vehicle is pretty much required. 2. Affordable childcare. 3. Services and resources for senior citizens. 4. Affordable housing for all income levels.	2/14/2025 12:00 PM
10	Affordable housing, family sustaining jobs, youth services and programs	2/14/2025 11:35 AM
11	More youth programs Cracking down on the violence Better education system	2/14/2025 11:34 AM
12	Change tax exempt status for several of the so called "nonprofits" who need to pay their fair share in Erie City taxes. Work on eliminating much more blight in run down neighborhoods. More affordable housing for families in need.	2/14/2025 11:34 AM
13	Housing	2/14/2025 10:53 AM
14	Employment, Affordable housing, availability of funds for resettlement agencies.	2/13/2025 11:41 PM
15	1. More jobs available for people 2. More resources to combat homelessness 3. Increased affordable housing for people	2/13/2025 9:30 PM
16	More program for education and training and behavioral improvement also more help in our community education for safety and improvement in service for our community	2/13/2025 8:58 PM
17	Good school and good work for money to go to college	2/13/2025 6:47 PM
18	1. Job employment 2. Available resources to the community 3. Reconstruction of town for more activities for the youth	2/13/2025 6:16 PM
19	Not sure	2/13/2025 5:30 PM
20	Affordable housing, affordable childcare, job training programs	2/13/2025 2:46 PM
21	More affordable childcare or raise childcare assistance threshold.	2/13/2025 11:59 AM

22	Affordable housing, homeless intervention, women's shelter	2/13/2025 9:52 AM
23	Tougher sentences for violent crimes. Welfare reform and limits for able body citizens. Bring back manufacturing and attract new businesses for more jobs.	2/13/2025 12:13 AM
24	Walk ability, child care, public transport	2/12/2025 5:53 PM
25	Improving public transit Affordable housing Jobs paying livable wages (wages that one can reliably pay rent/mortgage, childcare costs, groceries, necessities like electricity, water, gas)	2/12/2025 2:11 PM
26	Collaboration between erie high and erie city - engage the students for job readiness, engage the parents for family social emotional support, and continue the incredible downtown growth.	2/12/2025 5:55 AM
27	Housing Healthcare/disability awareness Accessible food	2/11/2025 11:00 PM
28	Safe housing, healthy food options walkable in the city, small business support	2/11/2025 10:07 PM
29	Accessible and affordable public transportation; Accessible and affordable education opportunities (GED courses, literacy programs, community college courses, trades programs); Accessible food (address food deserts, expand available programs or create new programs)	2/11/2025 7:42 PM
30	Housing better pay and demolition of blighted buildings	2/11/2025 7:34 PM
31	I don't know	2/11/2025 6:06 PM
32	Improve public transportation Improve or add recreation facilities accessible to the public by the waterfront. Teardown blighted houses please, please, please.	2/11/2025 3:50 PM
33	Housing, healthcare, law enforcement	2/11/2025 12:40 PM
34	Housing, jobs, youth development	2/11/2025 11:59 AM
35	Affordable rent for the homeless. Better transportation to appointments. More mental health centers	2/11/2025 11:04 AM
36	Develop Bayfront Repair streets Support local businesses	2/10/2025 10:50 PM
37	Jobs, Education and housing	2/10/2025 9:57 AM
38	Housing, Removing Blight, Safety	2/9/2025 5:44 PM
39	More non manufacturing jobs. Free skills training courses, More activities for the youth.	2/9/2025 10:09 AM
40	Jobs, help with Child care, affordable housing, better school system.	2/9/2025 9:19 AM
41	1.) Affordable housing for everyone according to the income standards with the guarantee for fair neighborhood occupants. 2.) Care centers for abused individuals where the abusers aren't notified that the victim has reported acts done against them which puts them in higher rates of risk for further turmoil and mental anguish knowing help won't help bc of its guidelines that prevent proper protection for minors and abused caretakers. 3.) financial literacy in terms and environments easy to be identified by possible participants in need of assistance.	2/9/2025 8:19 AM
42	Affordable housing mental healthcare equal opportunities	2/9/2025 1:58 AM
43	Homelessness, outdoor public restrooms, disability	2/9/2025 12:51 AM
44	Relief from rising rent costs, help with food insecurity, better paying jobs/job opportunities for working class	2/8/2025 10:23 PM
45	Working with the unhoused and under housed population in any way possible—providing them holistic support. Follow that by neighborhood safety. And yes, I would support low income housing in my neighborhood…I value having a diverse neighborhood and think we can do some common sense things to deter crime everywhere in the city.	2/8/2025 8:31 PM
46	Keep Blasco Library public- no Gannon in public library. Put a large grocery store on West 26th Street. Keep the speed limits low.	2/8/2025 8:01 PM
47	1. Housing for the homeless 2. Protecting and providing safety for our diverse community members - stand up to ICE, protect our LGBTQIA students 3. Keep FREE AND FAIR education, funded and protected!	2/8/2025 7:37 PM
48	Affordable housing, youth services (violence prevention)	2/8/2025 1:59 PM

49	Transitioning to renewable energy, revamping public transportation and providing housing for the homeless. If we can't take care of those among us with the least, we will never overcome the odds against us.	2/8/2025 10:20 AM
50	Housing, cease false convictions of innocent citizens, downsize police force	2/8/2025 9:00 AM
51	Homeless assistance, transportation assistance and blighted property	2/8/2025 8:46 AM
52	Mass Homeless population downtown Affordable food options downtown- all new dining is really expensive Street and sidewalk revitalization	2/8/2025 8:27 AM
53	We need to become a more friendlier walking / biking region as a whole. Economic growth with affordable housing and childcare options.	2/8/2025 7:55 AM
54	Better Schools, Lower Rents, More Help with Disability People	2/8/2025 7:28 AM
55	Affordable housing (rentals), mental health, public transportation.	2/8/2025 7:22 AM
56	Police, Help for Senior Citizens, Blight	2/8/2025 6:43 AM
57	Assistance for homeless people including more shelters, food, and laundry services. No tax moratoriums on businesses. Affordable property taxes.	2/8/2025 2:40 AM
58	Taking the no-end-in sight pandemic (and future airborne pandemics) seriously by setting indoor air quality standards, high-quality well-fitted masking requirements, and providing free masks and fit testing, air quality monitors, air purifiers, tests, treatment, and education to all in need.	2/8/2025 1:37 AM
59	Higher wages, affordable housing, affordable education for young children	2/8/2025 12:32 AM
60	Create/retain high paying career jobs, beautification of 12th street corridor, historic preservation	2/8/2025 12:01 AM
61	Jobs, safety, roads	2/7/2025 11:59 PM
62	Creating more jobs Providing more shelter for homeless Providing youth with more events / activities	2/7/2025 11:55 PM
63	1. We need to rein in the proliferation of AirBnBs throughout the city. I am a Realtor and I have seen how AirBnBs have only made housing harder to find and less affordable in the city. Other nearby municipalities have much tougher rules for short term rentals, so all the investors are coming to the city. I understand the value that STRs have to the tax base but we desperately need affordable places for Erieites to live, not more space for tourists and out of town landlords. 2. Please install and fix more sidewalks and bike lanes. They are very inexpensive compared to roads and they last a long time. One of the best things about Erie vs. Millcreek is we have sidewalks here, and I enjoy walking my dog here. But lots of areas in the city have no sidewalks. 3. More focus on helping people with drug and mental issues and less focus on traditional policing.	2/7/2025 11:52 PM
64	Paving roads, housing, free or low cost community events/centers	2/7/2025 11:44 PM
65	Help both low income families, also low income disabled families. Do a income based property tax thats not Homestead got it when moved here but then denied it. Need programs fitting these	2/7/2025 11:22 PM
66	Housing Roads Economy	2/7/2025 11:07 PM
67	1Street repairs 2 Mental Health 3 Homeless	2/7/2025 10:53 PM
68	A better public transit, increase in affordable housing, some apartments/condos down in the city would be ideal to build up the state street area with all types of demographics and age groups, & better community health resources and access. Healthcare is a human right	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
69	Invest in local people lower barriers of entry keep as much money local as possible greater partnership with the county’s resources	2/7/2025 10:31 PM
70	Childcare options, Housing accessibility, and better paying jobs	2/7/2025 10:30 PM
71	public safety drug and alcohol services city services improvements	2/7/2025 9:58 PM
72	Working elevators in the parking garages.	2/7/2025 9:15 PM
73	Affordable housing, living wage and small business opportunities.	2/7/2025 9:10 PM

74	Affordable housing Childcare	2/7/2025 8:57 PM
75	Homelessness Affordable childcare Education	2/7/2025 8:47 PM
76	Meaningful, well paying jobs/careers with good benefit packages that actually keep people from wanting to move away. Homelessness/unhoused people needing assistance. Independent services, assistance and rec centers for people with disabilities. (Other than EHCA & Barber Center)	2/7/2025 7:30 PM
77	Substance use funds for people for housing Substance use education and prevention Housing first	2/7/2025 7:24 PM
78	Lower taxes, less regulations, home rule charter	2/7/2025 7:16 PM
79	FIX THE SCHOOLS FIX THE SCHOOLS FIX THE SCHOOLS	2/7/2025 7:15 PM
80	Mental health assistance, drug and alcohol assistance, housing	2/7/2025 6:58 PM
81	Building up bayfront Refurbish or rebuild abandoned buildings Connecting Bay front to downtown	2/7/2025 6:56 PM
82	Roads, blight, and free or low cost home improvement	2/7/2025 6:48 PM
83	Transportation services for nursing homes and rehab centers to bring patients to their life sustaining appointments, sustainable road options (filling pot holes is a bandaid not a solution), and additional parking in downtown Erie, especially at medical facilities such as the Hamot area and surrounding medical office buildings	2/7/2025 6:43 PM
84	Water and sewer improvements, holistic sidewalk improvements, and assisting homeowners with delayed maintenance on older homes.	2/7/2025 6:37 PM
85	Stuff to do , eyesores , enough hotels all ready give us the stuff we want the trendy stuff like crumbl cookie wingstop idk more stuff to do it’s so boring here people just wanna leave	2/7/2025 6:20 PM
86	Improve blighted neighborhood rental properties Limit the amount of properties that can be owned by investors . Make more homes owner occupied instead of rental properties owned by slum lords.	2/7/2025 6:10 PM
87	Affordable housing, small business assistance, everything possible to help the youth.	2/7/2025 6:05 PM
88	More grocery options/end food deserts Housing assistance Mental health services for all age groups	2/7/2025 6:04 PM
89	Jobs, childcare, low taxes	2/7/2025 5:54 PM
90	More affordable housing for first time renters. Bring long term jobs to the city that are accessible to young workers. Prioritizing and creating more small businesses.	2/7/2025 5:49 PM
91	Jobs, Healthcare, mental health	2/7/2025 5:47 PM
92	Road maintenance, stop misusing funds , better education	2/7/2025 5:43 PM
93	High paying jobs, education, mental health services.	2/7/2025 5:30 PM
94	fix these streeet, gun control with these kids	2/7/2025 5:22 PM
95	Mental health services, Employment/trades training, affordable housing.	2/7/2025 5:16 PM
96	1. Crime Prevention/Public Safety Services 2. Start up Business Assistance 3. Workforce Development/Employment Programs	2/7/2025 2:08 PM
97	1. Work on better quality paying jobs. 2. Improve the availability of food sources/stores 3. More shelters for the homeless, like converting these closed schools that I'm paying higher than ever taxes for less schools, and converting them into homeless apartments so they can get on their feet. You can't get a job if you have no place to stay, shower, food, etc. How can you combat homelessness if you don't have the needs met to even interview for a job?	2/7/2025 10:17 AM
98	Increased homeownership for residents/less rental properties/reduction of slum lords Increased programming for youth (under 10 yrs maybe) to assist with education and keep them on the right path- but from proven programs that have positive results Multi-unit apartment building	2/7/2025 9:39 AM

	which is suited for families and allows pets, not intended solely for low-income or seniors. Not everyone will be able to afford a house but shouldn't be forced to live in a slum-run apartment	
99	Stop pretending like any of you people in positions of power really care about us little people/poor people/disabled people when you don't give 2 shits about us. Fire/put in prison all the scammers, snakes, white-collor criminals, etc., you have allowed to get into positions of power or you have put into positions of power to run all the local centers/facilities/agencies, etc.... CRI, VFI, Stairways, Community Health Net, Eastside Medical Center, Erie County Human Relations Commission, Gaudenzia, Mental Health Association of Northwest PA,, NWLS, Erie Community Corrections Center, HANDS, Erie City Mission, Erie County re-Entry Program, etc., etc., etc... ALL these places are run by snakes and scammers who do nothing but take advantage of, use and abuse, victimize and exploit everyone who comes to them for help. ALL you people in the Erie County Courthouse all talk about how crooked and corrupt the system is - yet you people never stop to think that YOU'RE ALL THE REASON everything in this town is so bad. Of course it's not bad for you people. You're all doing pretty damn good. It's all us little people/poor people/disabled people things suck for. Make the slumlords liable for their criminal behavior and .flagrant retaliation against their tenants - and stop pretending like your useless worthless "tenant bill of rights" is anything more than a ridiculous toothless placebo of worthless useless laws and statutes that do NOTHING to help anyone but the slumlords and their million-dollar high-priced law-firm attorneys. These vermin exploit and victimize their tenants on a daily basis and YOU people do NOTHING to protect us. Stop bringing in TONS of foreigners who can't even speak English nor have ever paid a dime in taxes and giving them ALL the resources you should be giving native born Erie people who have lived in this town for generations. Stop refusing to participate in HUD's program where a person with a Housing Choice Voucher can use it to buy a house AND BE SAFE FROM SLUMLORD SCUMBAGS DESTROYING HIS LIFE.... Stop thinking warehousing human beings in giant multi-apartment housing complexes run by sociopathic evil slumlords and run and outfitted like prison halfway houses - full of crime, surveillance cameras, junkies/drug addicts/alcoholics, forcing everyone into TINY little substandard apartments (prison cells) not fit for a dog - while letting the slumlords charge MORE money for the shitty little apt/cell than a person would pay for a 3 bed/2 bath full size 2 story HOUSE mortgage. I AM NOT A NATURAL RESOURCE FOR YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS IN POSITIONS OF POWER IN ERIE TO EXPLOIT AND MINE FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL MONETARY BENEFIT.	2/6/2025 5:58 PM
100	Improve the whole sewer system with new and wider pipes Fully rebuild each road (start east to west and from the bayfront to south erie - this will take a few years - however it can be done if you have enough contractors and good communication with cordination) Keep the sidewalks in good condition year round - every bump, debris, damaged area is unsafe (a skid steer (or more) with a brush or a plow (or snow thrower)) what ever it takes - it is a big problem having cars and everything on the road because the sidewalks are not in a condition to use teach the public to use sidewalks when the sidewalk are in a safe condition kids and adults wont use them if you dont make them pleasant to use - trees can shade a sidewalk and keep it cooler to some degree at times	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
101	Veteran housing Healthcare for veterans and other groups lacking care Funding for fire and EMS services	2/6/2025 11:45 AM
102	Workforce development. Combat Homelessness. Affordable housing.	2/6/2025 11:33 AM
103	Early Childhood Education Mental Health Services Building Facade Improvements	2/6/2025 10:44 AM
104	Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Prevention Youth Services	2/6/2025 10:30 AM
105	Youth Activities Mental Health Facilities Support homeownership Programs	2/6/2025 9:54 AM
106	incentivising landlords to invest / less regulation crime prevention job creation	2/6/2025 9:44 AM
107	Roads affordable home ownership lower taxes small businesses grants redevelopment in the area	2/4/2025 7:02 PM
108	Affordable childcare so parents can be employed Employment with good wages Safe neighborhoods	2/4/2025 6:44 PM
109	Improved K-12 education, building low income and mixed income apartment buildings, making sure all residents have access to healthy food	2/1/2025 6:59 PM
110	Job creation Higher wages Neighborhood revitalization	1/30/2025 8:36 AM

111	Housing, transportation, jobs	1/29/2025 8:59 PM
112	Low income housing Job opportunities Training	1/29/2025 4:36 PM
113	Jobs Youth programs Drug abuse prevention/mental health	1/29/2025 3:25 PM
114	Teen violence, mentoring and education Affordable housing for homeless and working class families Drug use/overdose	1/29/2025 2:25 PM
115	More schools, more transportation for employees and some type of safer way for children to get to school	1/29/2025 1:38 PM
116	1: To purge all the greedy corporate lazy snakes whose jobs are to do nothing but cash in on every shekel of corporate welfare, grant, charity, donation, etc., they can get their greedy claws on, while providing absolutely NO positive benefit to the actual working class folks who keep this town running every day. 2: Provide an ACTUAL WORKING REMIDY to fight against and hold accountable the hoards of out-of-control immoral, unethical, law breaking slumlords running rampant in this town - ALL of whom are destroying peoples lives and creating more homeless persons with their retaliatory lease terminations and fake/made-up evictions that ruin people's lives than can possibly be imagined and make it impossible for innocent tenants to get those retaliatory faked fraudulent evictions off their housing records. 3: CLEAN UP THE CROOKED CORRUPT POLICE AND COURTS. The Erie County Courthouse is a damnable nest of liars, thieves, snakes, and professional sociopaths. The many are being screwed by the few, and us many are fucking sick of it....	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
117	1) stop the exit of young people when they graduate high school or college 2) match empty homes with people who would buy them and provide funding for purchase and repairs 3) staff the code reinforcement department and ENFORCE TENANT CODES so landlords who ignore squalid tenant conditions are severely fined	1/28/2025 1:24 PM
118	affordable housing, ability to access healthy food in food deserts, help for seniors, veterans, and those with disabilities to allow them to stay in their homes or apartments.	1/28/2025 10:58 AM
119	Low income housing, increased wages for city/county employment (for retention of good employees in on of the cities largest employers), better/more reliable public transportation	1/27/2025 5:57 PM
120	Housing Conditions, Preparation for storms, high heat, etc, and affordable nutritious food	1/27/2025 1:48 PM
121	long term care for elderly, homeless care management, living wage job development	1/26/2025 8:50 AM
122	housing, jobs, mental healthcare	1/24/2025 1:46 PM
123	Homeless Youth Shelter. Walking routes that are safe for students and adults year round and affordable children care for all	1/24/2025 10:53 AM
124	1. Establishing a thriving, walkable, shoppable downtown to encourage entrepreneurship and home ownership/market rentals. 2. Our streets are a disaster. Many neighborhoods haven't been cleaned or resurfaced in years. Patching does not work; grade and repave. 3. Figure out how to attract and retain young professionals. Erie is perfectly situated to be a remote work mecca. However, how we present Erie to neighboring communities and ourselves needs to change. We should stop saying things like, "It's okay to love Erie." OF COURSE IT IS. We should play to our strengths and stop apologizing for believing our bad press.	1/24/2025 9:16 AM
125	Quality, affordable housing. Public Transportation infrastructure (sidewalks, crosswalks, EMTA). Food deserts	1/22/2025 2:31 PM
126	Improved infrastructure. Better communication and public relations by city employees with city residents. Traffic safety and improved sidewalks.	1/19/2025 12:53 AM
127	To go back to the original plan from Buki instead of this "everything goes" attitude towards redevelopment. It's like COVID made everyone jump around with their hands out and there's no clear plan for forward movement anymore.	1/16/2025 2:42 PM
128	Urban farming to feed hungry people. Sustainable jobs. Entry-level opportunities for homeownership.	1/16/2025 1:51 PM
129	public transportation, affordable housing, jobs	1/15/2025 3:21 PM
130	1) Reform house/construction policy so that it is less expensive to build dense residential housing at the high to mid quality. 2) Focus on building a pedestrian-first, mixed use urban	1/15/2025 3:13 PM

	core. 3) Improve the schools - smart, well resourced people will not live in communities where their children aren't given the best opportunities. Children are the future of every city.	
131	Low-mod income housing, job creation, technical skills training	1/15/2025 12:56 PM
132	Higher paying jobs, roads and streets being fix, something for our youth we have to much young gun violence	1/15/2025 9:50 AM
133	After school and summer programming for youth Employment/training opportunities for youth	1/15/2025 9:47 AM
134	Housing -- improve what landlords have available System Navigation--help residents better access and properly use benefits available Be a welcoming city for all--all marginalized residents	1/15/2025 5:16 AM
135	Infrastructure Blight Econ Dev	1/15/2025 4:48 AM
136	Development of high income employment, attraction/retention of businesses/employers and security	1/14/2025 7:22 PM
137	Infrastructure improvements Anchor building redevelopment downtown Rehabilitation and development of housing stock	1/14/2025 4:27 PM
138	-Mental health services -Workforce development -Job creation	1/14/2025 3:06 PM
139	homelessness services	1/14/2025 2:02 PM
140	Building out community amenities such as public restrooms; prioritizing green spaces and traffic calming tactics; creating better policy around types of businesses; signage and facade treatments (no more anti theft LED lighting) and enforcing those.	1/14/2025 12:34 PM

Q25 Please provide any additional comments or feedback related to housing, economic development, and community development needs in Erie.

Answered: 67 Skipped: 161

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The staff are doing a good job.	2/21/2025 9:40 AM
2	Ensuring that any of these areas of focus that are supported and done so throughout the city and not just concentrated to downtown. Making sure all youth in all areas of the city after access to after school and summer programs. And that small non profits across sectors throughout the city have access to increasing their staff wages, etc.	2/21/2025 12:06 AM
3	More services/investment dollars should be provided to assist in community development needs	2/18/2025 10:51 AM
4	We need homes owned by residents not absent landlords. If you want people to buy groceries, use buses, go to schools . We need people. The past 30 years the administration has done nothing but keep the the decline. It took four of the largest businesses to put money in a hat to actually start to rebuild downtown. Where it should've been the city coming up with strategies to do this. The city also does everything in its power to stop progress i.e. how we have to fill out forms for the city, how we have to get our permits. We need to inspect new construction faster . If there are empty storefronts get a committee and give it to artists . Benton C Bainbridge has activated half of a block . There are two Bipoc business added. Give the streets to the artists. You may think I'm crazy. But most of the small progressive project that the city started . Came from them meeting with my wife and me , asking questions. Then implementing them . Artist are creative let them problem solve .	2/15/2025 12:47 PM
5	Invite the right people to the table to learn. You may be pleasantly surprised.	2/14/2025 3:57 PM
6	Local commitments of funding to assist with important projects such as the Preservation of Existing (or the development of new) Affordable housing, can help leverage significant outside funding. Large scale affordable housing focused funding sources are highly competitive and resources are limited. Because of this, local support and funding commitments for specific affordable housing development concepts are viewed very positively during the application process.	2/14/2025 3:04 PM
7	Actually do something different so the investment has higher return and transformation for the City	2/14/2025 11:35 AM
8	Industrial investments to provide more employment, lowering rents so families afford housing cost, support resettlement agencies and social services.	2/13/2025 11:41 PM
9	Open more small businesses with low interest loans that will encourage more business people to open a business. Also the safety of the town, the security and more school for technical And colleges that will be. Open for our Community people to get the job in town make the town grow more and more	2/13/2025 8:58 PM
10	I want there to be plenty of work in Erie so everyone can earn an income and go to college.	2/13/2025 6:47 PM
11	None	2/13/2025 6:16 PM
12	Section 8 for seniors and veterans only. Need quality mentors with values and morals for our youth. Enforce property upkeep. Bring back Roar on the Shore to downtown!!!!	2/13/2025 12:13 AM
13	Nearly impossible to rent on a single income without multiple jobs Issues accessing third spaces safely More accessible info on community events/opportunities	2/12/2025 2:11 PM
14	I'd love to see low income housing move to just outside of downtown. To have low income apartments in square footage that could be higher quality would bring in and attract more demand for downtown living.	2/12/2025 5:55 AM

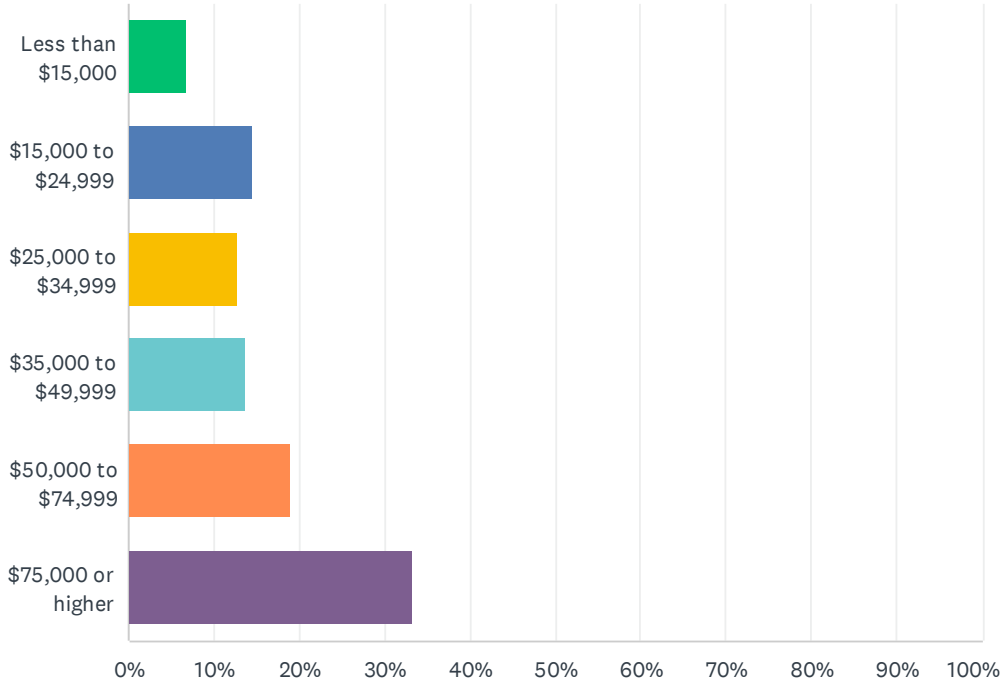
15	Accessibility for disabled people has been extremely low from my experience	2/11/2025 11:00 PM
16	Erie has some Small businesses seeking to improve the city. These small businesses will change the city by supporting community, healthy foods and healing opportunities. We need to support those who support community.	2/11/2025 10:07 PM
17	There were no questions involving the library. I believe that the library is critical to any community, and I hope that their services are continued: I would love to see them be able to hold more/larger events and provide free and/or low cost educational opportunities (programs, courses, etc.). The library and their events allow me to connect with people, and I'm grateful for that.	2/11/2025 7:42 PM
18	I really don’t know nothing about housing	2/11/2025 6:06 PM
19	Build new affordable housing in vacant lots or plots that had blighted houses. Improve public transportation.	2/11/2025 3:50 PM
20	RESTORE STRUCTURES, local landlords not slumlords or out of state, no more chains PLEASE	2/11/2025 12:40 PM
21	Money management for the homeless	2/11/2025 11:04 AM
22	We don't need anymore hotels and should not be awarding grant money that could be used for improvement to other things to build the hotels.	2/9/2025 10:09 AM
23	Landlords need to be held accountable for fixing up places. On the inside especially for tenants that have been living in places for 20 plus years.	2/9/2025 9:19 AM
24	Although there has been loop holes throughout the system that has a standard of responsibilities to employment as an entirety, improvement in a few areas; as with all businesses and entities, can tend to require adjustments to iron out deformities in the system. As a member of the community whose made connections with tenants in every area of the city, my knowledge and input can be very helpful to the growth and positive development in your department.	2/9/2025 8:19 AM
25	We have a lot of work today but I think as a city we are capable of it. I enjoy volunteering and helping out wherever I can and it teaches me a lot.	2/8/2025 8:31 PM
26	EMTA needs to stop at all the grocery stores- stop pick up drop off in front of Wegmans, Tops, and Giant Eagle. More parking benches so we can wit if we take a walk around our neighborhood. Thank you!	2/8/2025 8:01 PM
27	I love when we revitalize the old buildings. It makes the city beautiful and keeps our local history alive.	2/8/2025 7:37 PM
28	Community is everything we have left right now. As Vice President Titus and other members of City Council stated, we need to lean into our communities. We need to get out of our comfort zones and do the work that is truly needed in our city for prosperity to emerge from the apathy laced ashes of what Erie used to represent.	2/8/2025 10:20 AM
29	Expand housing, food banks, and elder/teen/child programs	2/8/2025 9:00 AM
30	We need better mental health services in town- for all income levels. And the excessive homeless population downtown takes away from enjoying downtown and also these people have no where to go and more get bussed in all the time. If we don’t have the resources- we must stop the bussing in of more and more.	2/8/2025 8:27 AM
31	Comprehensive programming to create balance between affordable dependence and education to reduce reliance on subsidy is a must. Develop what exists rather than continuing to construct new.	2/8/2025 7:55 AM
32	Better/ faster processing	2/8/2025 7:28 AM
33	I work with youth/families with mental health issues. Lack of services, transportation, housing really impacts their ability to heal.	2/8/2025 7:22 AM
34	Start fining businesses who don’t clear their sidewalks of snow. It’s too dangerous when people must walk on the street.	2/8/2025 2:40 AM
35	Please assess feasibility of building reuse before tearing it down. Something must be done to	2/8/2025 12:01 AM

	beautify 12th street. For travelers, visitors and residents, it is a huge eye sore.	
36	In the Columbus Ohio area, I have seen multiple forms of housing that seem really smart. The first is traditional homes with small front setbacks. This saves a lot of space and gives a neighborhood feel. Also in Columbus there are a lot of apartments/condo communities that have their own corner stores that are open to the public. Our housing stock is ancient and people need newer options, especially those that are elderly or have mobility issues. Grants that add washer and dryer hookups to the main floor of the house, or fix gutters before they cause foundation issues would help. Consider more uses for the 35' wide vacant lots. Advocate for ADUs (accessory dwelling units) as those would help to solve our AirBnB issue. I cannot express how hard it is to buy a house in the city now because of the lack of inventory and high prices caused by AirBnBs. This is a crisis.	2/7/2025 11:52 PM
37	Rentals need to be affordable, and price capped to no more than 25% more than owners mortgage. Too many slumlords charging unfair prices for poor condition homes and or in not great areas, we need a public taxi service back that's affordable. Uber and Lyft are inane with the prices an busses can delayed or have too many transfers. Community gardens with fresh produce and herbs. Better streets and streetlights	2/7/2025 11:44 PM
38	Drop parking prices down town and at hospitals	2/7/2025 11:22 PM
39	Put a cap on rent so people can afford both food and bills so they don’t end up homeless like I am	2/7/2025 11:07 PM
40	None	2/7/2025 10:53 PM
41	Integrated housing, take advantage of publicly funded townhouses that then will sell to individuals seeking home ownership, housing development that fixes up blighted and vacant homes to sell to the public	2/7/2025 10:49 PM
42	clean up vacant lots address homelessness better, especially for veterans provide work training for all ages with stipends for attending and completion of programs (Think O.I.C,)	2/7/2025 9:58 PM
43	working elevators in the parking garages	2/7/2025 9:15 PM
44	We need a vision and leadership	2/7/2025 9:10 PM
45	Provide funding to Infinite Possibilities Homes For people coming in and helping them employ and train residents in construction trades to which then other agencies can hire people in recovery.	2/7/2025 7:24 PM
46	We need more of the neighborhood homes be owner occupied and not owned by rental companies, more people might then be more invested in keeping the area upkept .	2/7/2025 6:10 PM
47	Veteran housing is needed.	2/7/2025 5:30 PM
48	1 prioritize infrastructure 2 prioritize jobs 3 lower cost of living (all aspects) 4 prioritize Americans, the mayor should not care or be making statements about immigration when we have so many people who are homeless or on the brink/struggling to make ends meet	2/7/2025 5:23 PM
49	A shift away from neighborhoods and a focus on building small communities around a local grocery store, school, and community space.	2/7/2025 5:16 PM
50	I have nothing further.	2/7/2025 2:08 PM
51	Bad landlords and bad tenants need to be reigned. It's destroying our housing stock and leading to blight and vacant properties, many of which have had fires in them recently due to squatting. The programs that do receive money need to publicly prove they are making a difference, especially with our youth population. Some places seem to get funding because they make the most noise but I want to see statistics that show they're spending it on things that are making a difference. More needs to be done to assist the younger youth in our city to help them positively grow. I think this can assist in the long term with economic development too. If we invest in our younger youth, assist them with education and life skills, things they may not be learning at home, it'll set them up to be more successful adults and aid in the economic growth of the city.	2/7/2025 9:39 AM
52	Neither you nor anyone else reading this is going to do anything to help anyone but yourselves. You don't give 2 shits about me nor anyone else who's poor/disabled/ homeless - beyond what bare minimum you can do to generate good publicity for yourselves and bring in more free money/corporate welfare/grants, etc., to keep your no-work desk jobs safe. You have way too	2/6/2025 5:58 PM

	much invested in your crooked corrupt little town to ever change anything - my suffering be damned. Fuck you too, scumbags. I hope you all rot in hell for what you've done to me.	
53	It is not an easy job if you break it into small parts it can be easier to address one bad house can be renewed or replaced with a new house or made into a lawn for a house people whom respect others and teach others respect is great - it will be noticed i think most people stay in jobs where they are happy people need to learn to care and respect themselves, their property, their jobs and everyone - we all play a roll in some way - you may not see it and that is okay thank you for your part p.s. the millcreek tube needs replaced full length - it may be out of view but it is overdue (it will be costly - plan now before it fails)	2/6/2025 1:45 PM
54	Do not reinvent the wheel. Financially support the organizations already doing the work. Do not hire someone from outside of Erie when there are qualified persons here.	2/6/2025 9:54 AM
55	The sidewalks could use improvement demolishing inhabitable houses rebuilt new houses modularize the older homes in the area	2/4/2025 7:02 PM
56	I want to see money going to help people to become homeowners in Erie and go help maintain their homes. I don’t like the absentee landlord idea.	2/4/2025 6:44 PM
57	None	1/29/2025 2:25 PM
58	Nothing's going to change in this crooked corrupt little town. It's always going to be business as usual with you people. As long as all of you remain the "have's" and all of us "have-not's" stay in our place none of you snakes will ever give 2 shits about any of our opinions. I might as well have spent the last hour picking my nose and watching my life turn to shit at your hands than wasting my time filling out this useless survey....	1/28/2025 7:51 PM
59	Good work so far!! I wish that the city would offer assistance to landlords to bring laundry machines to the main floor in single family or family units so that elderly people like me don't have to take serious risks going to the cellar	1/28/2025 1:24 PM
60	lots of talk and surveys but always the result is the same recipe that ignores anything new and results in further decline	1/24/2025 1:46 PM
61	Absentee landlords need to be held accountable and code enforcement needs to more consistent and active.	1/22/2025 2:31 PM
62	A huge amount of money is wasted on economic/community development projects that go nowhere. Municipal authorities are to blame for a lot of this. Less emphasis on tourism development, which is at best seasonal, and more on housing and jobs for year-round residents.	1/16/2025 1:51 PM
63	I’ve lived in Erie all my life. It is a wonderful place to be, but through my years I’ve noticed that there are a lot of corrupt cops and a lot of used violence. Lack of education for our children and support systems.	1/15/2025 9:50 AM
64	We need more suitable fee-owned housing stock in and adjacent to the downtown business district, small business support infrastructure support, and youth aftercare programs that keep kids energy directed in a productive direction.	1/14/2025 4:27 PM
65	Arts and culture should be integrated into each of these efforts, aligning with education, workforce development and job creation, and mental health treatment. The arts are proven to have a significant impact on each of these priority areas and more. Creative brain drain is a tried and true narrative for Erie, and it's time we leverage the talent we work so hard to cultivate and use it to create the dynamic city we envision.	1/14/2025 3:06 PM
66	the need for funding for housing repairs for low income home owners, landlords that are willing to rent to low income renters for improvement to their units	1/14/2025 2:02 PM
67	Public restrooms continue to be an issue for downtown residents and visitors. There have been multiple opportunities to address this and nothing has happened. If you can provide people with comfort and dignity you can be better at providing all the other resources. Basic needs should be addressed first to build trust with the public.	1/14/2025 12:34 PM

Q26 What is your household's yearly income?

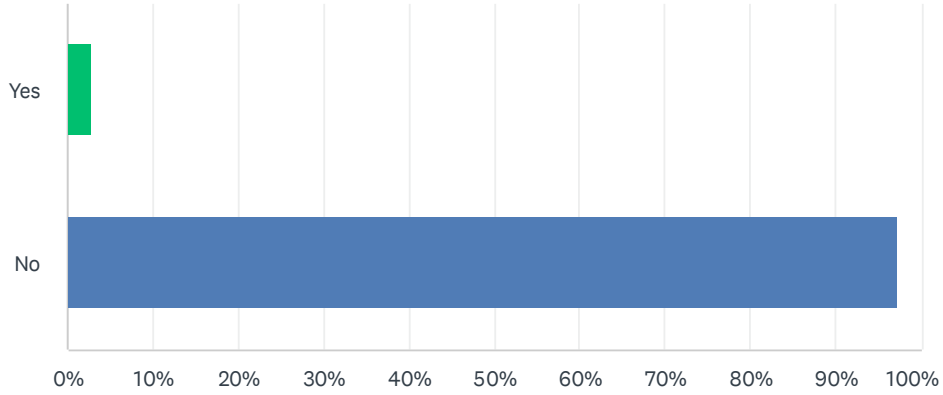
Answered: 132 Skipped: 96



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than $15,000	6.82%	9
$15,000 to $24,999	14.39%	19
$25,000 to $34,999	12.88%	17
$35,000 to $49,999	13.64%	18
$50,000 to $74,999	18.94%	25
$75,000 or higher	33.33%	44
TOTAL		132

Q27 Are you Hispanic or Latino?

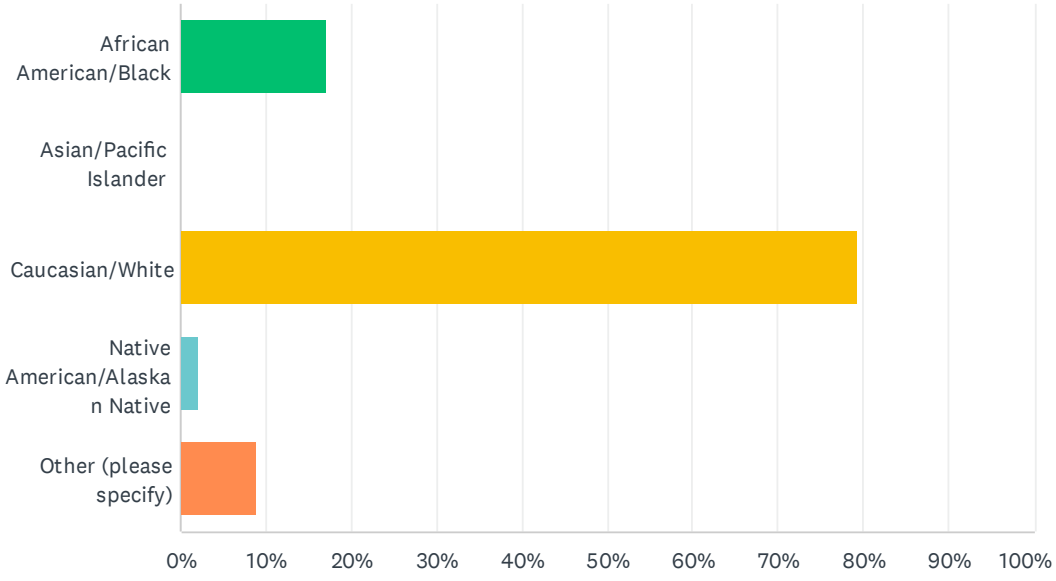
Answered: 139 Skipped: 89



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	2.88%	4
No	97.12%	135
TOTAL		139

Q28 What is your race? If you are multi-racial, please check all that apply.

Answered: 135 Skipped: 93



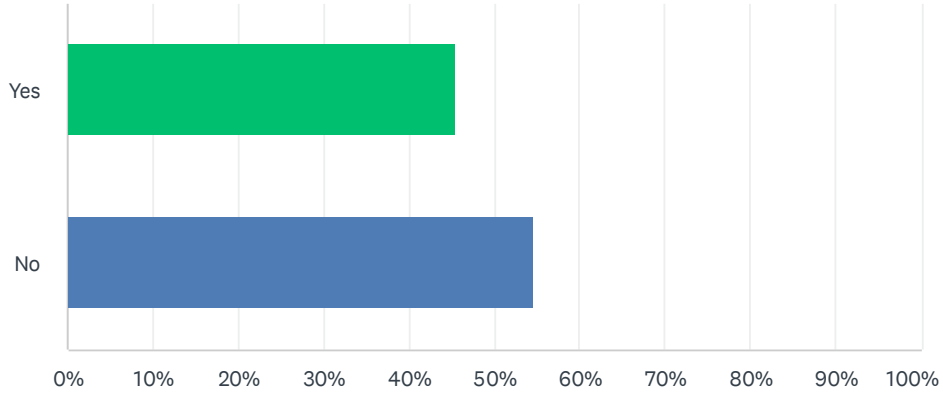
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
African American/Black	17.04%	23
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Caucasian/White	79.26%	107
Native American/Alaskan Native	2.22%	3
Other (please specify)	8.89%	12
Total Respondents: 135		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	housing	2/14/2025 3:58 PM
2	American afghan	2/13/2025 11:42 PM
3	Middle Eastern	2/13/2025 9:31 PM
4	Middle East Arabic	2/13/2025 8:59 PM
5	Asking race is racist	2/13/2025 12:14 AM
6	middle eastern	2/11/2025 3:08 PM
7	N/a	2/7/2025 5:36 PM
8	Irish/welsch	2/7/2025 5:24 PM
9	Disenfranchised/cancelled white straight male - the most hated and harassed race in this country today.	2/6/2025 6:00 PM
10	mixed	2/6/2025 1:46 PM

11	White straight male - the new nigger, except we'll never get emancipation.....	1/28/2025 7:53 PM
12	hispanic	1/28/2025 10:58 AM

Q29 Does your household include a person with a disability?

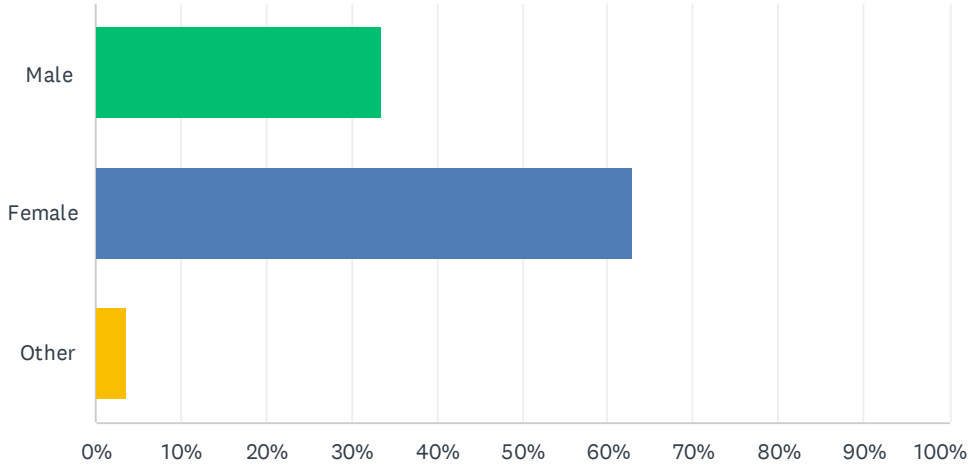
Answered: 141 Skipped: 87



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	45.39%	64
No	54.61%	77
TOTAL		141

Q30 What is your gender?

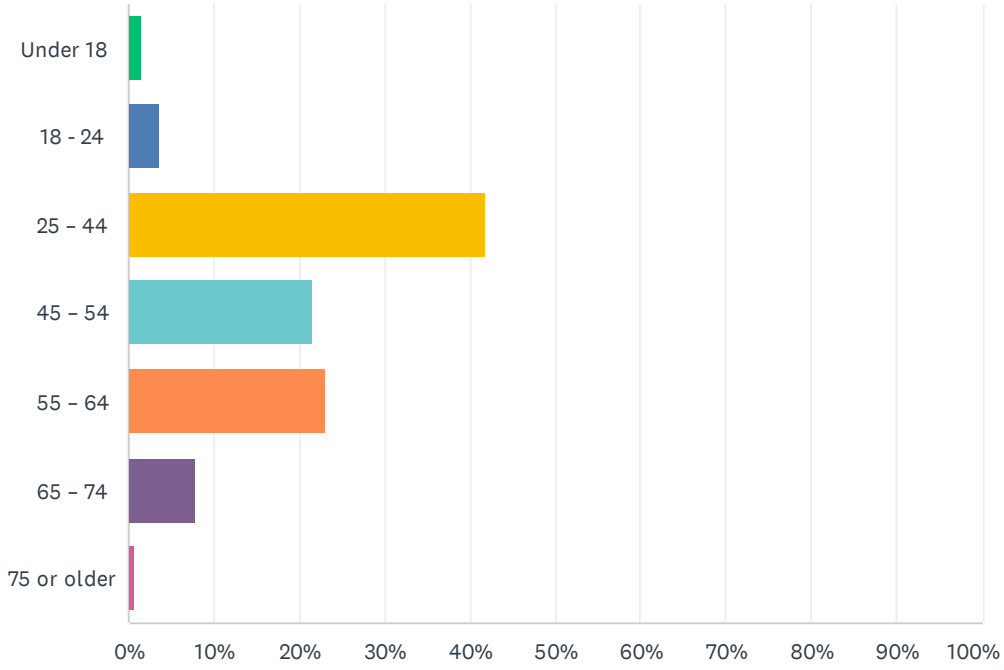
Answered: 140 Skipped: 88



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	33.57%	47
Female	62.86%	88
Other	3.57%	5
TOTAL		140

Q31 What is your age?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 89



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	1.44%	2
18 - 24	3.60%	5
25 – 44	41.73%	58
45 – 54	21.58%	30
55 – 64	23.02%	32
65 – 74	7.91%	11
75 or older	0.72%	1
TOTAL		139

ADS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
CITY OF ERIE
FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR PERIOD FY 2025-2029 AND FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that the City of Erie is currently preparing its Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029. The City will apply for FY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City will conduct public hearings on the use of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds received from HUD for the five-year period FY 2025-2029 and for FY 2025. In accordance with the Final Rule for consolidation of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs, 24 CFR Part 91, et. al., the City will prepare a Consolidated Plan and Annual Plan, which will be submitted to HUD on or before May 15, 2025, or at such time as instructed by HUD.

The purpose of these hearings is to obtain the views and comments of citizens, public agencies and other interested persons relative to housing and community development needs that may be addressed by CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds during the next five years. The hearings will be held at the following locations and times:

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
Council Chambers, City Hall
626 State Street, Erie, PA
10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

The Municipal Building is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. The City will provide appropriate accommodations for Disabled and Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons. Persons requiring special accommodations can make arrangements by contacting the City of Erie Department of Economic & Community Development at (814) 870-1270. Please call at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting. In addition, hearing impaired persons may call Pennsylvania Relay at 711.

The City of Erie expects to publish a summary of its proposed Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029 and Annual Action Plan for FY 2025 on or about April 7, 2025. A copy of these documents will be placed on public display for a thirty-day review period beginning on or about April 7, 2025. A second public hearing will be duly advertised and conducted to present the proposed plan to the public. The City will consider comments on the proposed plan prior to adoption by City Council in early May 2025. The City intends to submit its Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to HUD on or before May 15, 2025, or at such time as instructed by HUD.

Joseph Schember, Mayor
City of Erie, Pennsylvania

EP-41013236

PUBLIC MEETING

2025-2029 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2025 ACTION PLAN

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
10:00 A.M.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
Veronica Fields	DECD		
Mark Lanenbaum	PACA	814-434-0687	PACA1505@gmail
Dave Derer	City DECD		
Debbie Tate	DECD		
Nanette Martin	GECAC	814.459.4581 x 406	
Jennifer Hoffman	Meals on Wheels Erie	814-452-6930	jennifer@mealsonwheelserie.org
Lorri Blind	Community Comm Stone Project	814-403-3815	Lorri4youth@yahoo.com
Denice Manus	MANUS ENTERPRISES	814-456-7647	manusdenice@gmail.com
Debra Smith	DECD	814-870-1274	

MINUTES

2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF ERIE

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
10:00 am

ATTENDANCE:
Joseph Schember, Mayor
Renee Lamis, Chief of Staff to Mayor Schember
Bill Wasielewski, Mullin & Lonergan
Debra Smith, Director of Economic and Community Development
Dave Deter, Assistant Director of Economic and Community Development
Veronica Fields, Grant Administrator of Economic and Community Development
Deirdre Tate, Assistant Grant Administrator of Economic and Community Development
The hearings were held virtually via livestreaming on Government Access Channel 1021, on City of Erie YouTube, and in-person at City Hall in Council Chambers.

INTRODUCTION: WELCOME AND OPENING COMMENTS
The meeting was opened at 10:00am by Mayor Schember, who welcomed everyone to the First Public Hearing today regarding the City of Erie's 2025-2029 5-year Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan.

At this time, Mayor Schember turned the meeting over to Debra Smith, Director of the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Ms. Smith introduced Dave Deter, Assistant Director of DECD, Veronica Fields, Grant Administrator for DECD and Deirdre Tate, Assistant Grant Administrator for DECD, along with Renee Lamis, Chief of Staff to Mayor Schember.

FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
Ms. Smith welcomed Mullin & Lonergan Consultant, Bill Wasielewski who will facilitate today's meeting.

Mr. Wasielewski noted a sign-in sheet at the front, asking all attendees to please to sign in. He also made reference to the QR code on today's agenda (in Spanish and English) for taking a survey and its importance in helping the City determine what current needs in the city are.

The purpose of this meeting is to get input on the City's needs for the next five years. It is critical that we understand what these needs are. The primary focus of this presentation is to gather input regarding the City's Housing and Urban Development 2025-2029 5-Year Consolidated Plan as well as its Annual Action Plan for fiscal year 2025. The 2025 Annual Action Plan will dictate how the City will spend the 2025 year allocations.

The Plan is a document that consist of (3) three main pieces. The Community Development Block Grant needs for Economic Development, Housing Market Analysis and Homeless needs assessment as we move forward. A Strategic Plan lays out high priority needs in order for the HUD dollars to fund ESG, CDBG and HOME programs/activities and meet those overall needs. They will be taking all the data from the public meetings and stakeholder sessions and using it to help guide the development of the Master Plan.

Today we would like to hear from the public on what housing and community development needs they feel are important for the Community Development Block Grant, the HOME Investment Partnership and Emergency Solutions Grants funding (ESG) that DECD receives.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) offers 20.9% of its allocation toward Public Services which are critical for funding that goes to neighborhood Centers and nonprofit Organizations to help address those needs. The City receives an allocation every year from HUD under the HOME Investment Partnerships Program which allows funding to go toward affordable housing initiatives. The Emergency Service Grant Funding (ESG) is used to help address the needs of the homeless in our community, focusing on shelter operations, homeless prevention, rapid-rehousing and street outreach. It can also pay for HMIS, the computer system used, helps track the application of funds, distribution of funds, and other important details such as the number of people receiving these funds.

Questions asked are what type of income do you need to have in order to receive funding? In fiscal year 2024 the City's low to moderate income maximum limits are 80% of AMI by household size. These do change annually and the 2025 updated numbers are expected to be released this May or June.

Today we look for public input as it relates to affordable housing; homelessness; economic development; housing affordability accessibility and how it's changed over the past five years; types of housing needed; homelessness services; what are the underserved populations and gaps in serving those underserved populations; the City's public infrastructure needs. The information we receive from sessions like this will help guide us at the local level.

Finally, we look for comments on next steps in the process. Please note the QR Code on the agenda, (in Spanish and English) for taking a survey. We highly encourage your input and ask that you spread the word filling out the survey. This is the first of two public meetings with the second being scheduled for this evening at 6pm.

GROUNDRULES FOR TESTIMONY AT PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Smith asked those who would like to make public comment or offer input regarding the next five years to come to the podium, stating your name and organization's name.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Ms. Jennifer Hoffman, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels indicated their mission is for the elderly to age at home with dignity by providing a daily nutritious meal and grocery delivery. Currently they have more than 235 active clients who depend on this service.
They deliver approximately 200 meals daily, Monday- Friday. They have seen a lot more need recently, especially with our Veterans who are homebound or elderly. Currently, Meals on Wheels services approximately 32 Veterans per day, with a waiting list of nearly 60. She

partnered with the County of Erie for the 'Healing Services Development Fund' for those under 60 years of age who are permanently disabled and unable to work outside of the home. The majority of these Veterans live in the downtown Erie area. With her current funding, she can only serve 32. Meals on Wheels does not have the capacity to do 'Emergency Food'. She respectfully asks that the DECD considers that when deciding on funding for Meals on Wheels.

Mark Tanenbaum, Executive Director of PACA indicated that they are 70,000 sq. foot building on the National Historic Register located at 1501-1509 State Street. Over the last 12 years they have remodeled floors 1-4 with 5 being the final phase. They are shovel ready to do 7 additional living spaces on the 5th floor and are looking for additional help to bring this to fruition. They are a self-sustaining 501C3 that pays 100% of its Real Estate taxes. They are looking for live/work space in an artistic community and ready to go with this living aspect of its building. He would love the opportunity to give tours to any of those interested. Debra Smith mentioned that the Department of Economic and Community Development is in the process of taking applications which are due by close of business on Friday, January 31, 2025 and recommended he submit an application.

Denise Manus, Manus Enterprises asked for suggestions for getting her sidewalks fixed but is having a problem with getting an estimate on cost. She is asking for the City's support in asking for help with getting her sidewalks fixed.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Debra Smith, Director indicated that this is also our application process time period which started back in December with applications being due this Friday. If anyone needs an application please see her before leaving the meeting.

Dave Deter, Assistant Director clarified that most are familiar with us, but for those who are not our Fiscal year begins July 1st of 2025. Regarding the funding applications we are talking about, those funds will hopefully with available on July 1st. As there have been questions pertaining to the Federal budget not being in place yet, we may experience delays.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

PUBLIC MEETING

2025-2029 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2025 ACTION PLAN

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
6:00 P.M.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
Veronica Fields	~~DECD~~		
FLOYD HULL	AEH	(814) 323-8826	FJHLEGALTWO@GMAIL.C
Craitaja McFadden	YLI	~~814~~ 803-855-2137	
DEBRA Smith	/ City of Erie		
DAVE DEITER	CITY DECD		

MINUTES

2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF ERIE

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
6:00 pm

ATTENDANCE:
Joseph Schember, Mayor
Renee Lamis, Chief of Staff to Mayor Schember
Bill Wasielewski, Mullin & Lonergan
Debra Smith, Director of Economic and Community Development
Dave Deter, Assistant Director of Economic and Community Development
Veronica Fields, Grant Administrator of Economic and Community Development
The hearings were held virtually via livestreaming on Government Access Channel 1021, on City of Erie YouTube, and in-person at City Hall in Council Chambers.

INTRODUCTION: WELCOME AND OPENING COMMENTS
The meeting was opened at 6:00pm by Mayor Schember, who welcomed everyone to the First Public Hearing today regarding the City of Erie's 2025-2029 5-year Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan.

At this time, Mayor Schember turned the meeting over to Debra Smith, Director of the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Ms. Smith introduced Dave Deter, Assistant Director of DECD, Veronica Fields, Grant Administrator for DECD and Renee Lamis, Chief of Staff to Mayor Schember.

FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
Ms. Smith welcomed Mullin & Lonergan Consultant, Bill Wasielewski who will facilitate today's meeting.

Mr. Wasielewski noted a sign-in sheet at the front, asking all attendees to please to sign in. He also made reference to the QR code on today's agenda (in Spanish and English) for taking a survey and its importance in helping the City determine what the current needs are.

The purpose of this meeting is to get input on the City's needs for the next five years as it relates to Federal funds. It is critical that we understand what these needs are. The primary focus of this presentation is to gather input regarding the City's Housing and Urban Development 2025-2029 5-Year Consolidated Plan as well as its Annual Action Plan for fiscal year 2025. The 2025 Annual Action Plan will dictate how the City will spend the 2025 year allocations.

The Consolidated Plan is a document that consist of (3) three main pieces. The Housing Market Analysis, The Homeless needs assessment and the Community Development Block Grant needs

for Economic Development. Our Strategic Plan lays out high priority needs in which the City receives its HUD dollars to fund ESG, CDBG and HOME programs/activities and meet those overall needs. They will be taking all the data from the public meetings and stakeholder sessions and using it to help guide the development of the Master Plan.

Today we would like to hear public comment on what housing and community development needs are important for the Community Development Block Grant, the HOME Investment Partnership and Emergency Solutions Grants funding (ESG) that DECD receives.

The three main programs are the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) which offers 20.9% of its allocation toward Public Services which are critical for funding that goes to neighborhood Centers and nonprofit Organizations to help address those needs. The City receives an allocation every year from HUD under the HOME Investment Partnerships Program which includes the sister program the CDBG and allows funding to go toward affordable housing initiatives such as housing rehabilitation. The Emergency Service Grant Funding (ESG) provides help for needs of the homeless in our community, focusing on shelter operations, homeless prevention, rapid-rehousing and street outreach. It can also pay for HMIS, the computer system used, helps track the application of funds, distribution of funds, and other important details such as the number of people receiving these funds.

Questions asked are what type of income do you need to have in order to receive funding? In fiscal year 2024 the City's low to moderate income maximum limits are 80% of AMI by household size. These do change annually and the 2025 updated numbers are expected to be released this May or June.

Today we look for public input as it relates to affordable housing; homelessness; economic development; housing affordability accessibility and how it's changed over the past five years; types of housing needed; homelessness services; what are the underserved populations and gaps in serving those underserved populations; the City's public infrastructure needs. The information we receive from sessions like this will help guide us at the local level.

Finally, we look for comments on next steps in the process. Please note the QR Code on the agenda, (in Spanish and English) for taking a survey. We highly encourage your input and ask that you spread the word filling out the survey.

GROUNDRULES FOR TESTIMONY AT PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Smith asked those who would like to make public comment or offer input regarding the next five years to come to the podium, stating your name and organization's name.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Mr. Floyd Hull, Christian Ministries. Mr. Hull indicated that they have been given an opportunity through CDBG funding to open an entrepreneurial program which helps individuals to be more successful in their venture of small business ownership. An example of some of these successful businesses range from a Dance Studio to a Landscaping Company to a Daycare Center. One of their naturalized citizens has recently opened a café on 8th street. A current participant in their program wishes to open an African grocery store after graduation. Another current participant wishes to open a Home Health Care Services agency after graduation that does not charge their clients for services, but helps them through Grants. He wants them to be

part of our economic growth and through us, he has helped them be successful and for that he is very thankful.

Critaija McFadden, Youth Leadership Institute. She indicated that she works with Edison Nicholson. She thanked us for the great work that we do because currently she is partnering with Perseus House Charter School of Excellence and through this partnership she has students that she is currently coaching and mentoring from 9^{th} – 12^{th} grade to make sure all of their academic, financial and physical needs are met. Through this mentorship program, these students are being set up for future success.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mayor Schember thanked all for attending and providing valuable input.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
CITY OF ERIE
FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR PERIOD FY 2025-2029 AND FY 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that the City of Erie has prepared its Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029. The Five-Year Plan outlines the City's housing and non-housing community development needs and priorities for the next five years. The Annual Plan for FY 2025 describes how the City intends to expend approximately $2,855,318 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, $764,318 Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and $267,205 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These are estimated amounts. Actual allocation amounts will be reflected in the final plan submitted to HUD.

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029 and the proposed use of funds outlined in the FY 2025 Annual Plan were developed after conducting focus group meetings with area service providers, analyzing results from a questionnaire that was distributed to local housing and homeless providers, holding public hearings, and the review of requests from local service providers identifying needs. The FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025 Annual Action Plan contain the following major components:

1. Identification of housing and non-housing community development needs and priorities over the next five years within the City.
2. Identification of federal and non-federal resources reasonably expected to be made available during the program year to undertake activities identified in the proposed Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2025-2029.
3. A list of activities to be undertaken during the FY 2025 program year to address community development and housing needs including the geographic distribution of activities to be completed.
4. Identification of homeless and special needs activities to be undertaken during the 2025 annual program period to address identified needs within the City.

In order to obtain the views of citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties, the City has placed its proposed FY2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for FY 2025 on public display online at https://cityof.erie.pa.us/ and at the following locations:

- Department of Economic and Community Development; 626 State Street; Erie, PA
- Booker T. Washington Center; 1720 Holland Street; Erie, PA
- Martin Luther King Jr Center; 312 Chestnut Street; Erie, PA
- John F. Kennedy Center; 2021 East 20th Street; Erie, PA
- Blasco Library; 60 E Front Street; Erie, PA

The plan will be available for review during normal operational hours beginning on April 11-May 10, 2025. Public comment on the proposed Consolidated Plan and Action Plan can be directed to the Department of Economic and Community Development; 626 State Street; Erie, PA. Comments received before 4:00 p.m. May 10 will be considered.

Notice is also given that the City of Erie will hold two public hearings on May 5, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Both hearings will be held at City Hall, 626 State Street; Erie, PA. This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The City will provide appropriate accommodations for Disabled and Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons. Persons requiring special accommodations can make arrangements by contacting the City of Erie Department of Economic & Community Development at (814) 870-1270. Please call at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting. In addition, hearing impaired persons may call Pennsylvania Relay at 711. The purpose of these hearings is to obtain the views and comments of citizens, public agencies and other interested persons relative to housing and community development needs that may be addressed by CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds during the next five years.

City Council is expected to act on the proposed FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for FY 2025 on May 21, 2025 at the regularly scheduled meeting at 10:00 A.M. in City Hall 626 State Street; Erie, PA. In accordance with the Final Rule for consolidation of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs, 24 CFR Part 91, et. al., the City's Consolidated Plan and Annual Plan will be submitted to HUD on or before June 1, 2025, or at such time as directed by HUD.

Joseph Schember, Mayor
City of Erie, Pennsylvania

EP-41618206

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Second Public Needs Hearing
May 5, 2025 10 a.m.

Name (please print legibly)	Organization	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Karen Guttler	JFK	kguttler@thejfkcenter.org
Jennifer Dennehy	Dafmark	hoopsbydennehy@gmail.com
Bishop Frankie Quinn	Community Cornerstone Project	frquinn225@gmail.com
Shantel Hilliard	BTWC	Shilliard@btwcgreet.org
Edison Nicholson	YLT	ENicholson@ylterie.org
Gary N. Horton	UECDC	ghorton@uecdc.org
Jamie Hagerty	Mercy Center	jhagerty@mcmerie.org
Kathy Schaaf	City Erie Council	Kschaaf@erie.pa.us

MINUTES

2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

SECOND PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF ERIE

Monday, May 5, 2025
10:00 am

ATTENDANCE:
Joseph Schember, Mayor
Bill Wasielewski, Mullin & Lonergan
Debra Smith, Director of Economic and Community Development
Dave Deter, Assistant Director of Economic and Community Development
Veronica Fields, Grant Administrator of Economic and Community Development
Laura Grettler, John F. Kennedy Center
Jennifer Dennehy, Dafmark Dance Theatre
Bishop Frankie Quinn, Community Cornerstone Project
Shantel Hilliard, Booker T. Washington Center
Edison Nicholson, Youth Leadership Institute
Gary Horton, UECDC
Jennie Hagerty, Mercy Center for Women
Kathy Schaaf, Erie City Council

The hearings were held virtually via livestream on Government Access Channel 1021, on City of Erie YouTube, and in-person at City Hall in Council Chambers.

WELCOME AND OPENING COMMENTS
The meeting was opened at 10:00am by Mayor Schember, who welcomed everyone to the 10:00am Public Hearing today regarding the City of Erie's 2025-2029 5-year Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan. After, Mayor Schember turned the meeting over to Bill Wasielewski, Mullin & Lonergan.

FY2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
Mr. Wasielewski provided a PowerPoint presentation to follow for today's meetings.

Mr. Wasielewski indicated that the Five-Year Plan is required to be prepared and updated every five years. The Plan is a document consisting of (3) three main pieces. The Community Development Block Grant needs for Economic Development, Housing Market Analysis and Homeless needs assessment as we move forward, which are primarily demographic, and census driven. This was supplemented by a series of stakeholder meetings which occurred in January and early February to gather comments from the public in addition to stakeholders.

M&L is looking to supplement these with comments in real time on housing, homelessness and community development which will help guide us toward the layout of the Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan, the other element of the Consolidated Plan, lays out high priority needs in order for HUD dollars to fund ESG, CDBG and HOME programs/activities and meet those overall needs as M&L uses the data from the public meetings and stakeholder sessions as a tool to help guide the development of the Master Plan.

Finally, the Annual Action Plan for 2025 dictates how the city will utilize Federal funding allocations in fiscal year 2025.

He and his team were at City Hall conducting meetings in late January and early February which resulted in follow-up virtual meetings with stakeholders. M&L also met with the Housing Authority, The City of Erie Redevelopment Authority, members of the Continuum of Care, service providers within the community, along with affordable housing providers and advocates. He spoke with Gannon Small Business Development Center and various neighborhood groups. M&L provided an online survey for members of the public unable to make it to the meetings to help determine additional needs throughout the community. All this information led to the Strategic Plan. Bill further provided a survey to people with limited experience which went through the various shelters throughout the community targeting the current and past homeless population of which they received several responses back which they incorporated into the Plan. Finally, input received from (2) two public meetings was also added into the Plan.

M&L was able to obtain a copy of the 2024 *Point in Time Survey* which provides information on people in various emergency shelters throughout the community. 30% of households in Erie County experience cost burden, paying more than 30% of their income toward housing costs, an increase over the last 5-years. Inventory of affordable and accessible units in the city proved to be very insufficient. It showed the city is growing and continues to grow over the last 5 years. Stays in Emergency shelters are increasing and shows the long-term need as Shelters are at capacity. Waiting time to get into Shelters increases annually. Lack of inventory in affordable housing also shows a significant increase due to a person's criminal history being a barrier to obtaining housing along with poor rental history. Financial resources for rental application fees were also an issue. Some populations such as the elderly and those with large families had an increased need for housing.

Of the total of 228 online survey responses, 149 of those relating to housing activities show that families with children were the highest ranked item; 151 responses indicated interest in economic development initiatives, job creation and retention as the top priority; 150 responses on special needs showed the need for mental health services, early childhood education and health care services as top responses. Of the 148 responses on public infrastructure, road improvements and road reconstruction were listed as the highest priorities. Affordable housing was most often cited as the highest need followed by economic and workforce development, including training and job creation. Bill stressed that the key aspect of the 5-year Consolidated Plan is development of the Strategic Plan. These high priority needs over the next five years that were identified will be addressed in the Plan.

Strategic Plan goals are to provide homeowner rehab assistance; provide rental rehab assistance; create new affordable rental housing; increase homeownership; provide homeless housing and services; improve public facilities and infrastructure; provide public services; code enforcement; demolish dilapidated structures; economic development; revitalize central business district.

PROJECTED USE OF FUNDS

Debra Smith, Director of Economic and Community Development, gave a breakdown of the funding numbers. These are projected numbers. CDBG's allocation was $2,855,318. This is $115,446 less than what was received last year. This amount includes $23,417.06 in program income from various years. In 2015-2017, DECD was audited by the Office of the Inspector General. Findings show there was $115,446 of unsupported costs. DECD has elected to pay it in a lump sum, so are using the $2,855,318 as the proposed amount for CDBG. HOME funding last year was $764,318 and ESG funding was $267,205. Please note that we are using proposed amounts, which could change.

Dave Deter discussed CDBG project estimates planned for this funding year. Dave noted that we have not yet received the 2025 funding amounts. Estimated allocations for the Public Service category are $769,789.24; Housing Activities $221,000; Public Facilities/Improvements, $1,201,964.82; Special Economic Development $114,918; General Administration $571,063.

The HOME Investment Partnership Program, (3) activities: HANDS Boston Store Rental Rehab, $500,000; East Side Renaissance Rental Rehab, $200,000; City Administration, $64,318. By HUD requirement, 15% of the HOME allocation must be set aside for the Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) activities of which the HANDS Boston Store project qualifies for as CHDO activity.

The fiscal year allocation for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) 2025 and the prior year are identical because we have not yet received our 2025 allocation amounts and are using last year's amounts. The allocation of ESG funds is based on a ratio that includes the daily average number of beds provided per facility to the daily average provided by all facilities multiplied by the amount of ESG funds available for emergency shelter activity. Breakdown by category is as follows: Emergency and transitional shelters typically receive 60% of the ESG total; rapid re-housing typically receives $32.5%; The City is allowed to take 7.5% for Administrative.

SCHEDULE FOR PREPARATION, ADOPTION AND SUBMISSION OF 5-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2025-2029 AND FY2025 ANNUAL PLAN

At this time Bill Wasielewski of Mullin & Lonergan commented that disbursements are anticipated by the end of May. Bill provided an overview of the next steps. He added that the 5-year Consolidated Plan and the FY25 Annual Action Plan went on public display for 30 days, beginning April 11, 2025. They are carrying out their 2nd required Public meeting currently. He anticipates going to City Council for adoption of these plans on May 21, 2025, and submission to HUD shortly thereafter. These plans cannot be submitted until HUD provides direction on the allocations that the City will receive, as well as direction on when they can submit. If all goes well, the plan is expected early to mid-June.

GROUNDRULES FOR TESTIMONY AT PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Smith asked those who wished to make public comment to please come to the podium, stating your name and the organization's name.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Ms. Karen Grettler, John F. Kennedy Center. Ms. Grettler urged the city to continue to support after-school programs. She noted that all afterschool programs are similar in providing some level of academic assistance, recreation, sports, arts and culture, and meals. Her opinion is

that the JFK afterschool program is an efficiently run program and helps many children in the area. The goal of all programs is to keep kids safe. She noted an incident that occurred approximately 20 years ago affecting a retail store robbery which left people hurt. These teens were JFK kids. Larry Meredith, Deputy Director at the time indicated that if JFK had been open at that time, those kids would have been in the program, avoiding this entire event. She cited many successful examples of youth in their program going on to become very successful as adults, crediting the JFK afterschool program for this.

Jennifer Dennehy, Dafmark Dance Theatre. Ms. Dennehy discussed the afterschool and summer programs provided by Dafmark. She is an advocate for children's after school and summer programs. Not only do these programs keep youth safe, but programs are geared toward helping children academically. Dafmark provides free year-round programs for over 100 youth ages 6-18, offering high quality art and theater classes, dance and painting classes, photography classes, sculpture classes, digital arts classes, poetry and ceramics classes to low income, high needs students. She employs 30 staff, providing one on one academic mentoring in reading and math by certified teachers. She asked that Dafmark please be considered for funding as she attempts to grow staff key positions.

Shantel Hilliard, Booker T. Washington Center. Mr. Hilliard thanked the Mayor and DECD Executive team for all the support shown over the years. Funding has changed the trajectory of some youth that have gone through BTW's program. Shantel asked for focus not only on the afterschool program, but summer programs. He agrees with trying to give an educational component with the summer program. He focuses on youth 9-12 with the educational piece for literacy. Shantel stressed the importance of these programs and how they depend on funding. He thanked the team for their time and attention.

Edison Nicholson, Youth Leadership Institute. Mr. Nicholson offered many thanks for being considered for this funding. He gave a brief overview of connecting young people with existing services that Erie offers. He feels that the (5) most important are: Leadership Development, Training, Service Learning, Continuing education and Workforce Development. He looks forward to implementing services from those five categories by listing them in order of how young people are being helped.

Jennie Hagerty, Mercy Center for Women. Ms. Hagerty thanked all for the opportunity to present today. MCW has been helping women and children, (and now men) in the community for over 31 years. Individuals who are homeless and those who have faced domestic violence along with those who are in addiction recovery programs. All are a huge concern for the community. She urges both city and county government to work together in solving this big issue. MCW recently expanded with an additional facility that will house another 10-12 individuals as the need continues to grow.

Money would be better spent if individuals can be brought to the table who have been doing this work for many years and work together collaboratively. She is curious as to how the City and County work together with Infinite Erie and what those goals are.

Bishop Frankie Quinn, Community Cornerstone Project. Bishop Quinn thanked the staff for allowing him an opportunity to speak and to advocate for further funding for their programs. This is the 3rd year for the Community Cornerstone Project doing community incubator programming. He wants to focus on the CDBG support he has received and to thank all those

involved for it. It is instrumental in sustaining his programming goals. Community Cornerstone brings resources that are already established into his program. Furthermore, he offers office space in his building for those with ideas who have graduated from the program.

Gary Horton, UECDC. Mr. Horton thanked Mayor Schember and his staff for their continued support throughout the years. He appreciates the patience given to him and his staff. He encourages City Council to support recommendations to assist UECDC. His concern for funding cuts is valid with looming issues at the Federal level, given the current situation. He believes the changes we make with our youth will change the trajectory of the city going forward. He feels we have a housing problem that warrants investigation, leveraging more private and public funding. Homelessness is a big problem he hopes can be at the top of the list.

Kathy Schaaf, Erie City Council. Ms. Schaaf thanked everyone for what they do daily to help the people in our community. She, being the liaison for community centers locally, attends neighborhood watch meetings regularly. She supports each person who got up today to speak. She is a huge advocate for the homeless in our community and looks forward to this crisis being solved one day.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Debra Smith, Director, thanked all for attending today and asked that anyone who did not sign in, please do so. We will hold another public meeting today at 6pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

City of Erie, PA
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Second Public Needs Hearing
May 5, 2025 6 p.m.

Name (please print legibly)	Organization	E-mail Address & Phone Number
Liz Reyes	Love Your Block	kreyes@erie.pa.us 814-528-6289
Tyler Titus	City Council	
FLOYD HULL	AEH	FJHLEGALTWO@GMAIL.COM
Susannah Fortner	—	Susannah.fortner@gmail.com

MINUTES

2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

SECOND PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF ERIE

Monday, May 5, 2025
6:00 pm

ATTENDANCE:
Renee Lamis, Chief of Staff
Bill Wasielewski, Mullin & Lonergan Consultants
Debra Smith, Director of Economic and Community Development
Dave Deter, Assistant Director of Economic and Community Development
Veronica Fields, Grant Administrator of Economic and Community Development
Tyler Titus, Erie City Council
Liz Reyes, Love Your Block – City of Erie
Floyd Hull, AEH
Susannah Faulkner, Citizen

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FY2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
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Dave Deter discussed CDBG project estimates planned for this funding year. Dave noted that we have not yet received the 2025 funding amounts. Estimated allocations for the Public Service category are $769,789.24; Housing Activities $221,000; Public Facilities/Improvements, $1,201,964.82; Special Economic Development $114,918; General Administration $571,063.

The HOME Investment Partnership Program, (3) activities: HANDS Boston Store Rental Rehab, $500,000; East Side Renaissance Rental Rehab, $200,000; City Administration, $64,318. By HUD requirement, 15% of the HOME allocation must be set aside for the Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) activities of which the HANDS Boston Store project qualifies for as CHDO activity.

The fiscal year allocation for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) 2025 and the prior year are identical because we have not yet received our 2025 allocation amounts and are using last year's amounts. The allocation of ESG funds is based on a ratio that includes the daily average number of beds provided per facility to the daily average provided by all facilities multiplied by the amount of ESG funds available for emergency shelter activity. Breakdown by category is as follows: Emergency and transitional shelters typically receive 60% of the ESG total; rapid re-housing typically receives $32.5%; The City is allowed to take 7.5% for Administrative.

SCHEDULE FOR PREPARATION, ADOPTION AND SUBMISSION OF 5-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2025-2029 AND FY2025 ANNUAL PLAN

At this time Bill Wasielewski of Mullin & Lonergan commented that disbursements are anticipated by the end of May. Bill provided an overview of the next steps. He added that the 5-year Consolidated Plan and the FY25 Annual Action Plan went on public display for 30 days, beginning April 11, 2025. They are carrying out their 2nd required public meeting currently. He anticipates going to City Council for adoption of these plans on May 21, 2025, and submission to HUD shortly thereafter. These plans cannot be submitted until HUD provides direction on the allocations that the City will receive, as well as direction on when they can submit. If all goes well, the plan is expected early to mid-June.

GROUNDRULES FOR TESTIMONY AT PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Smith asked those who wished to make public comments to please come to the podium, stating your name and the organization's name.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Mr. Floyd Hull, AEH. Mr. Hull thanked CDBG funding for the opportunity to apply for this grant, allowing new business owners to fulfill their dreams. It takes a team and time dedicated to a mission to come to a positive end. As a mentor for the AEH, he has been blessed to start several businesses that have sustained in Erie. The daycare providers operate locally in our community. He has a dance studio and teaches music. Two men who completed his program start their own insurance agency. A lady became a handyperson and did so starting her own business. He concluded that the successes of those who have gone through these programs, is our success because it goes back into our community.

Liz Reyes, Love Your Block. Ms. Reyes is the neighborhood resource team leader for the City of Erie's Love Your Block Program. She thanked all for their support of the program. There are many residents in our community who reside in neighborhoods that may have a home designated as being in a state of disrepair/decay. She added that Love Your Block has worked side-by-side with residents who reside in these unstable and disenfranchised neighborhoods. Funding that Love You Block has received for mini grants has enabled them to make a real difference in these

Comments from Ms. Faulkner at Public Meeting 5/5/2025 6pm

Susannah Faulkner, Citizen. Ms. Faulkner is looking for clarity regarding public comment feedback, seeing online that May 10th is the deadline. This morning, she saw an indication that it is May 20th. When is it exactly? Mr. Wasilewski and Ms. Smith noted that the Plan went on display on April 11th, at which time there is a 30-day comment period. If Susannah would like to submit a comment, she is free to do so. Even if the 30-day timeframe is over we will not be submitting our Plan until we know what the actual allocation is. Susannah may submit an email or present a hard copy to DECD by May 10th. Susannah commented that she did not see anything on social media or in the paper, nor did she receive any correspondence.
Deb Smith noted the ad ran in the Erie Times on April 3rd. The ad was posted to the City of Erie's website as well. We are not required by HUD to put the information on social media. We have met those HUD requirements with our postings. Susannah commented that she understands the HUD requirements have been met, but there are only (4) people attending this evening and only (7) attended this morning. Why? She expressed her disappointment with the office of DECD. Susannah believes that a 165-page document is very hard for most to read through. Debra noted that a hard copy is available at the Public Centers throughout the Erie area, if the online document is too difficult to go through. Susannah is dissatisfied with the outreach. She feels as though the feedback she has received this evening is not sufficient regarding the 5-year plan and how federal dollars will be spent. Debra encouraged Susannah to give us alternative methods she may have in mind going forward to get the word out. Susannah believes that social media would be a wonderful avenue. Susannah has watched the livestream and the people who spoke have been advocating for their own organizations, why? She is shocked by the 2025 projections, given the draft budget that the President's office presented last Thursday. She inquired if all in attendance tonight have read the information from the Office of Management and Budget which proposes a 44% cut to HUD funding across the board. It is a decrease in all 9 sections of HUD funding. Again, she is disappointed as a concerned citizen that this has not been mentioned. Why are we decreasing the city amount by over $115,000 for things that happened a decade ago? She questioned the unfunded/repurposed HUD funds, noting that they totaled $1M last year. She has asked several times, to no avail, what prevents that from happening. She believes that nearly 20% of those funds have gone to streetscaping and street repurposing for the past few years. Lastly, she hopes we will be thinking more strategically going forward.

COMMENT LETTERS FROM 5/5 PUBLIC HEARING

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June 4, 2025

Ms. Susannah Faulkner
441 West 17th Street
Erie, PA 16502

Dear Ms. Faulkner:

Thank you for your comments recently provided to the City Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) as a result of the public hearings held on May 5, 2025 regarding the draft Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) that DECD intends to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for review and approval.

For the sake of clarity, your written comments referred to a "Housing Plan"; therefore, we hope to clear any misconceptions you may have and explain the differences between a housing plan and a HUD-required Consolidated Plan.

Although the City of Erie intends to develop a comprehensive housing plan, DECD will not be the lead in this effort. The goals of the City-Wide Comprehensive Housing Plan will be:

- **Blight Prevention and Control**
  Evaluate the existing processes for identifying and addressing blighted properties, and recommend strategies for prevention, control, and rehabilitation/new construction in partnership with the City of Erie Land Bank and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie.

  The Plan will provide strategies to assess blight removal processes, remove barriers associated with developing and accessing quality affordable housing, create a strategy to develop a pipeline of potential first-time homebuyers, identify the role of entities who will work on implementation, and incentivize new housing production in the city. The plan will also address the following barriers to creating quality housing opportunities in the City of Erie:

  - Blighted properties
  - Decline in population
  - Declining property values
  - Aging housing stock
  - Cost of improvements/materials
  - A shortage of affordable housing
  - Language and literacy barriers
  - Lack of contractors
  - Lack of a comprehensive city-wide housing strategy
  - Increasing rents due to demand for housing
  - Inability of low-income residents to address property code violations
  - An increase in homelessness since the COVID-19 pandemic

- **Housing Needs and Options Assessment**
  A comprehensive evaluation of the City's current housing market, assessing available housing options across all incomer levels. The assessment will analyze existing housing stock, rental units, and homeownership opportunities, identifying where safe and attainable housing exists and where gaps remain. A comprehensive city-wide housing strategy will be developed and will focus on the entire housing continuum – affordable, workforce, market-rate, and permanent supportive housing.

- **Addressing Service Gaps**
  Assess current services to residents and identify gaps in services, with recommendations for improvements. This will include, but not be limited to, services related to housing assistance, repairs, and support for first-time homebuyers

- **Quality and Affordability Recommendations**
  Solution-based recommendations for enhancing the overall quality and affordability of housing in the City of Erie that focuses on long-term sustainability and resilience.

- **Housing Needs for Vulnerable Populations**
  Determine the current and future needs of specific populations, including disabled individuals, the elderly, those experiencing chronic homelessness, students aging out of foster care, immigrants and refugees, and other vulnerable groups.

  Recommendations will also be made for meeting these needs through new construction, rehabilitation, or service enhancements.

- **Strategic Housing Plan**
  The strategic housing plan will include the following:

  - Develop strategies to incentivize contractors and landlords to engage in new housing production and/or rehabilitation and renovation of existing properties to ensure quality housing stock.
  - Identify strategies to subsidize the purchase of residential units by low-income residents and first-time homebuyers.
  - Provide a feasibility analysis of the preservation, demolition, and/or new construction of the Erie Heights affordable rental housing property to the Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE). The Erie Heights development is located along West 38th Street in the City of Erie PA.

In contrast, the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the use of HUD funding is a much more extensive plan, although it does have components focused on quality affordable housing for low- to moderate-income households.

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania is a federal entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). As a HUD entitlement community, the City is required to prepare a Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) in order to implement any federal programs that fund housing, community development, and economic development within the community.

This CP covers the period from FY2025 through FY2029 (July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2030), and must be submitted to HUD for approval. The lead entity responsible for the preparation of the CP is the City's Office of Economic and Community Development.

The City of Erie, through the CP, developed a single, consolidated planning and application document in consultation with public and private agencies. The CP for the City will serve the following functions:

- A planning document that enables the city to view its HUD funding, not in isolation, but as one tool in a comprehensive strategy to address housing, community development, and economic development needs;
- An application for CDBG funds, HOME funds and ESG funds under HUD's formula grant;
- A strategy document to be followed in carrying out HUD programs, and
- An action plan that provides a basis for assessing performance in the investment of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds.

The purpose of the CP is to guide federal funding decisions over the next five years. The CP is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to a community's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing
- To improve the quality of life and living environments for people with low-to moderate-incomes through community reinvestment and improvements to public facilities and infrastructure.
- To generate economic opportunities by supporting sustainable development activities that promote long-term community viability and the empowerment of people with low to moderate incomes to achieve self-sufficiency.

The overall priority for the investment of federal funds is to increase self-sufficiency and economic opportunity for lower income residents and individuals with special needs so that they can achieve a reasonable standard of living.

The Strategic Plan provides a framework to address the needs of the City for the next five years using CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. The City's strategy focuses on the need to:

- Improve the quality of the housing stock in the community by increasing the amount of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers that is affordable to low-and moderate-income persons and families. This includes creation of new units, preservation and rehabilitation of existing units.
- Provide housing and services for households experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Improve Community Assets. Improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for all residents in the community.
- Economic Development: Increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.

Outcomes show how programs and activities benefit a community, or the people served. Outcomes that illustrate the benefits of each activity funded by CDBG, HOME, and ESG are improved availability, affordability, and sustainability. All future activities funded in the next five years will support at least one objective and one outcome.

The City of Erie strives to equitably allocate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to income eligible areas and persons throughout the City and has funded activities during the past year to meet the City's FY 2020 to FY 2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Fifth Annual Action Plan goals and objectives. Erie's CDBG Program regularly meets the performance standards established by HUD.

This plan outlines the goals of the City of Erie for its CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. Following extensive outreach and public input, the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan clearly outline programs and activities that will address the identified needs and maximize investment of federal resources.

The City of Erie developed an outreach effort to maximize input from a large cross-section of stakeholders. The outreach effort included public meetings, public meetings notices, and stakeholder/focus group meetings meant to engage a broad variety of stakeholders and City of Erie residents.

The City solicits applications for funding and conducts public hearings to gain information on the needs of the community. During the preparation of the Consolidated Plan, the City conducted public needs meetings and an online survey to determine the needs.

The City of Erie acts as the single point of contact to coordinate efforts between public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health, mental health, and social service agencies. The city works with the following agencies to enhance funding and service allocations to address the housing and community development needs of the City:

- City of Erie Housing Authority - coordinate affordable housing (Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing improvements) especially for the very low- and extremely low-income residents of the City.
- Social Services Agencies - coordinate funding allocations to improve the availability and efficacy of social service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- Housing Providers - coordinate rehabilitation and development of affordable housing to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income households.

Each year, as part of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for project funding for eligible project activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and informational meetings, completing survey forms, and commenting on draft plans.

The City of Erie participates in the Continuum of Care, Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, comprised of City of Erie and Erie County service providers which offer a variety of housing solutions, including emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing, with a specific focus on households facing housing instability or chronic homelessness.

The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition collects data related to homelessness in the County and City, and the City uses that data to inform its Strategic Plan Needs and Goals.

The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition utilizes HMIS to collect data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The City of Erie uses the Home Team Written Standards for the implementation of all CoC funded projects, as well as Systems Performance Measures and Policies and Procedures for the Coordinated Entry System. To the extent feasible, evaluation of applications for ESG funding is conducted in alignment with those Systems Performance Measures and other Continuum policies and priorities.

The City of Erie, in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, held two (2) public hearings on January 29, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on the needs of the City of Erie and collect input on the proposed activities to be funded. Residents were given the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG Program and to offer their suggestions on future CDBG program priorities. The public hearings were advertised in The Erie Times News and posted on the Department of Economic and Community Development webpage. All hearings were held at City Hall, 626 State Street, Erie, PA. This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The City will provide appropriate accommodations for Disabled and Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons, as requested, during these hearings. A copy of the public notices is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.

The City of Erie maintains a stakeholder contact list for the Economic and Community Development program. All stakeholders received applications and emails notifying the listees of all public hearings and meetings. Additionally, a flyer was emailed to the entire stakeholder list inviting input during four sessions during the week of January 28, 2025. A copy of the list can be found in the attached Citizen Participation Appendix.

The City of Erie advertised on April 10, 2025 that a "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the Department of Economic and Community Development on public display online at https://cityof.erie.pa.us/ and at the City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development, 626 State Street, Erie, PA during normal operational hours. The "Draft Plan" was available from April 11, 2025 to May 10, 2025, for review and comment. Two additional public hearings were held on May 5, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Additionally, a survey was made available online to solicit public input. There was also a lived experience survey distributed by paper to emergency shelter and homeless service providers. The responses to both surveys were included throughout this Plan, as well as a **Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis, which can be found on the City of Erie website.**

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to guide the use of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds in the City of Erie over the next five years. The plan is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to the City's needs. The goals are:

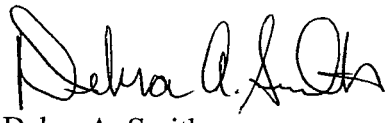
- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock in both the rental and homeowner markets, increasing the availability of affordable housing by reducing barriers, and increasing the number of accessible units.

- To improve the quality of life and living conditions for low-and moderate-income individuals through improvements in public facilities and infrastructure and the removal of slum/blighting influences.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low-and moderate-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency.

The City of Erie's priority needs were determined based on existing data on the needs of the community, as well as consultation with City staff, extensive stakeholder outreach workshops, public hearings, and citizen surveys.

- Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
- Provide Homeless Housing and Services
- Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
- Provide Public Services
- Eliminate Slum/Blighting Influences
- Economic Development

Sincerely,



Debra A. Smith
Director

DAS/kms
cc: Dave Deter
Veronica Fields

Debra Smith

From: Diane Gallagher <dgallagher@ccIncErie.org>
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 8:48 AM
To: Debra Smith
Subject: Five Year Housing Plan

Warning: Unusual sender <dgallagher@ccincerie.org>
You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Dear Director Smith,

Thank you for your service to our city. I work for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie, and I'm writing today out of deep concern for the state of housing in Erie.

I hope the Five-Year Housing Plan will:

- Provide **repair grants to homeowners**, with clear and accessible guidelines.
- Protect housing funds from being redirected to other priorities like road work; our homes must come first when it comes to this housing-related funding.
- Take real action on **vacant and blighted properties**, with the City stepping in when needed.
- Most importantly, increase **affordable housing** and ensure **safe, habitable rentals** for every resident.

Some of our neighbors are living without the dignity and safety they deserve. I urge you to let this Plan be bold enough to change that.

Thank you for your time and attention to these concerns and for continuing to listen to the voices of Erie's residents.

With gratitude,
Diane Gallagher

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Diocese of Erie

Diane Gallagher
Director of the Office of Social Service & Impact
dgallagher@ccincerie.org
www.CatholicCharitiesErie.org
814-824-1251
429 East Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16504

June 10, 2025

Ms. Diane Gallagher
dgallagher@ccIncErie.org

Dear Ms. Gallagher:

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The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to guide the use of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds in the City of Erie over the next five years. The plan is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to the City's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock in both the rental and homeowner markets, increasing the availability of affordable housing by reducing barriers, and increasing the number of accessible units.

- To improve the quality of life and living conditions for low-and moderate-income individuals through improvements in public facilities and infrastructure and the removal of slum/blighting influences.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low-and moderate-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency.

The City of Erie's priority needs were determined based on existing data on the needs of the community, as well as consultation with City staff, extensive stakeholder outreach workshops, public hearings, and citizen surveys.

- Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
- Provide Homeless Housing and Services
- Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
- Provide Public Services
- Eliminate Slum/Blighting Influences
- Economic Development

Sincerely,

Debra A. Smith
Director

DAS/kms
cc: Dave Deter
Veronica Fields

Debra Smith

From: Elizabeth Slaby <eslaby@ccincerie.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 4:02 PM
To: Debra Smith
Subject: 5 Year Housing Plan

Warning: Unusual sender <eslaby@ccincerie.org>
You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Dear Director Smith,

Thank you for your service to our city. I'm writing today out of deep concern for the state of housing in Erie and a deep appreciation for the good that long term planning focused on just social structures can bring to our city.

I hope the Five-Year Housing Plan will:

- Provide **repair grants to homeowners**, with clear and accessible guidelines.
- Protect housing funds from being redirected to other priorities like road work; our homes must come first when it comes to this housing-related funding.
- Take real action on **vacant and blighted properties**, with the City stepping in when needed.
- Most importantly, increase **affordable housing** and ensure **safe, habitable rentals** for every resident.

We need to keep human dignity, family, community, and respect for rights and responsibilities before us always. Our neighbors are living without the dignity and safety they deserve. I urge you to let this Plan be bold enough to change that.

Thank you for your time and attention to these concerns and for continuing to listen to the voices of Erie's residents. In the future, I hope the City will expand public comment opportunities and use social media to better inform residents of how and when they can contribute.

With gratitude,
Elizabeth Slaby

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Diocese of Erie
Elizabeth Slaby
Director of the Office of Social Justice & Life
eslabyccincerie.org
www.CatholicCharitiesErie.org
814-824-1254
429 East Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16504

June 10, 2025

Ms. Elizabeth Slaby
eslaby@ccincerie.org

Dear Ms. Slaby:

Thank you for your comments recently provided to the City Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) as a result of the public hearings held on May 5, 2025 regarding the draft Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) that DECD intends to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for review and approval.

For the sake of clarity, your written comments referred to a "Housing Plan"; therefore, we hope to clear any misconceptions you may have and explain the differences between a housing plan and a HUD-required Consolidated Plan.

Although the City of Erie intends to develop a comprehensive housing plan, DECD will not be the lead in this effort. The goals of the City-Wide Comprehensive Housing Plan will be:

- **Blight Prevention and Control**
  Evaluate the existing processes for identifying and addressing blighted properties, and recommend strategies for prevention, control, and rehabilitation/new construction in partnership with the City of Erie Land Bank and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie.

  The Plan will provide strategies to assess blight removal processes, remove barriers associated with developing and accessing quality affordable housing, create a strategy to develop a pipeline of potential first-time homebuyers, identify the role of entities who will work on implementation, and incentivize new housing production in the city. The plan will also address the following barriers to creating quality housing opportunities in the City of Erie:

  - Blighted properties
  - Decline in population
  - Declining property values
  - Aging housing stock
  - Cost of improvements/materials
  - A shortage of affordable housing
  - Language and literacy barriers
  - Lack of contractors
  - Lack of a comprehensive city-wide housing strategy
  - Increasing rents due to demand for housing
  - Inability of low-income residents to address property code violations
  - An increase in homelessness since the COVID-19 pandemic

- **Housing Needs and Options Assessment**
  A comprehensive evaluation of the City's current housing market, assessing available housing options across all incomer levels. The assessment will analyze existing housing stock, rental units, and homeownership opportunities, identifying where safe and attainable housing exists and where gaps remain. A comprehensive city-wide housing strategy will be developed and will focus on the entire housing continuum – affordable, workforce, market-rate, and permanent supportive housing.

- **Addressing Service Gaps**
  Assess current services to residents and identify gaps in services, with recommendations for improvements. This will include, but not be limited to, services related to housing assistance, repairs, and support for first-time homebuyers

- **Quality and Affordability Recommendations**
  Solution-based recommendations for enhancing the overall quality and affordability of housing in the City of Erie that focuses on long-term sustainability and resilience.

- **Housing Needs for Vulnerable Populations**
  Determine the current and future needs of specific populations, including disabled individuals, the elderly, those experiencing chronic homelessness, students aging out of foster care, immigrants and refugees, and other vulnerable groups.

  Recommendations will also be made for meeting these needs through new construction, rehabilitation, or service enhancements.

- **Strategic Housing Plan**
  The strategic housing plan will include the following:

  - Develop strategies to incentivize contractors and landlords to engage in new housing production and/or rehabilitation and renovation of existing properties to ensure quality housing stock.
  - Identify strategies to subsidize the purchase of residential units by low-income residents and first-time homebuyers.
  - Provide a feasibility analysis of the preservation, demolition, and/or new construction of the Erie Heights affordable rental housing property to the Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE). The Erie Heights development is located along West 38th Street in the City of Erie PA.

In contrast, the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the use of HUD funding is a much more extensive plan, although it does have components focused on quality affordable housing for low- to moderate-income households.

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania is a federal entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). As a HUD entitlement community, the City is required to prepare a Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) in order to implement any federal programs that fund housing, community development, and economic development within the community.

This CP covers the period from FY2025 through FY2029 (July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2030), and must be submitted to HUD for approval. The lead entity responsible for the preparation of the CP is the City's Office of Economic and Community Development.

The City of Erie, through the CP, developed a single, consolidated planning and application document in consultation with public and private agencies. The CP for the City will serve the following functions:

- A planning document that enables the city to view its HUD funding, not in isolation, but as one tool in a comprehensive strategy to address housing, community development, and economic development needs;
- An application for CDBG funds, HOME funds and ESG funds under HUD's formula grant;
- A strategy document to be followed in carrying out HUD programs, and
- An action plan that provides a basis for assessing performance in the investment of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds.

The purpose of the CP is to guide federal funding decisions over the next five years. The CP is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to a community's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing
- To improve the quality of life and living environments for people with low-to moderate-incomes through community reinvestment and improvements to public facilities and infrastructure.
- To generate economic opportunities by supporting sustainable development activities that promote long-term community viability and the empowerment of people with low to moderate incomes to achieve self-sufficiency.

The overall priority for the investment of federal funds is to increase self-sufficiency and economic opportunity for lower income residents and individuals with special needs so that they can achieve a reasonable standard of living.

The Strategic Plan provides a framework to address the needs of the City for the next five years using CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. The City's strategy focuses on the need to:

- Improve the quality of the housing stock in the community by increasing the amount of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers that is affordable to low-and moderate-income persons and families. This includes creation of new units, preservation and rehabilitation of existing units.
- Provide housing and services for households experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Improve Community Assets. Improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for all residents in the community.
- Economic Development: Increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.

Outcomes show how programs and activities benefit a community, or the people served. Outcomes that illustrate the benefits of each activity funded by CDBG, HOME, and ESG are improved availability, affordability, and sustainability. All future activities funded in the next five years will support at least one objective and one outcome.

The City of Erie strives to equitably allocate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to income eligible areas and persons throughout the City and has funded activities during the past year to meet the City's FY 2020 to FY 2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Fifth Annual Action Plan goals and objectives. Erie's CDBG Program regularly meets the performance standards established by HUD.

This plan outlines the goals of the City of Erie for its CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. Following extensive outreach and public input, the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan clearly outline programs and activities that will address the identified needs and maximize investment of federal resources.

The City of Erie developed an outreach effort to maximize input from a large cross-section of stakeholders. The outreach effort included public meetings, public meetings notices, and stakeholder/focus group meetings meant to engage a broad variety of stakeholders and City of Erie residents.

The City solicits applications for funding and conducts public hearings to gain information on the needs of the community. During the preparation of the Consolidated Plan, the City conducted public needs meetings and an online survey to determine the needs.

The City of Erie acts as the single point of contact to coordinate efforts between public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health, mental health, and social service agencies. The city works with the following agencies to enhance funding and service allocations to address the housing and community development needs of the City:

- City of Erie Housing Authority - coordinate affordable housing (Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing improvements) especially for the very low- and extremely low-income residents of the City.
- Social Services Agencies - coordinate funding allocations to improve the availability and efficacy of social service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- Housing Providers - coordinate rehabilitation and development of affordable housing to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income households.

Each year, as part of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for project funding for eligible project activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and informational meetings, completing survey forms, and commenting on draft plans.

The City of Erie participates in the Continuum of Care, Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, comprised of City of Erie and Erie County service providers which offer a variety of housing solutions, including emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing, with a specific focus on households facing housing instability or chronic homelessness.

The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition collects data related to homelessness in the County and City, and the City uses that data to inform its Strategic Plan Needs and Goals.

The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition utilizes HMIS to collect data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The City of Erie uses the Home Team Written Standards for the implementation of all CoC funded projects, as well as Systems Performance Measures and Policies and Procedures for the Coordinated Entry System. To the extent feasible, evaluation of applications for ESG funding is conducted in alignment with those Systems Performance Measures and other Continuum policies and priorities.

The City of Erie, in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, held two (2) public hearings on January 29, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on the needs of the City of Erie and collect input on the proposed activities to be funded. Residents were given the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG Program and to offer their suggestions on future CDBG program priorities. The public hearings were advertised in The Erie Times News and posted on the Department of Economic and Community Development webpage. All hearings were held at City Hall, 626 State Street, Erie, PA. This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The City will provide appropriate accommodations for Disabled and Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons, as requested, during these hearings. A copy of the public notices is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.

The City of Erie maintains a stakeholder contact list for the Economic and Community Development program. All stakeholders received applications and emails notifying the listees of all public hearings and meetings. Additionally, a flyer was emailed to the entire stakeholder list inviting input during four sessions during the week of January 28, 2025.

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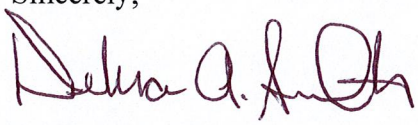
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Sincerely,



Debra A. Smith
Director

DAS/kms
cc: Dave Deter
Veronica Fields

Debra Smith

From: Jenn Kennedy <jennkennedy365@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 11:58 AM
To: Debra Smith
Subject: Five Year Housing Plan

Warning: Unusual sender <jennkennedy365@gmail.com>
You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Dear Director Smith,

I write in regards to the Five Year Housing Plan for the City of Erie.

Firstly, it is important to me that the housing plan include funds to be granted to homeowners for repairs, following the intentions of the HUD HOME grants. I would also like to see such funds transparently administered and easily made available to those who qualify.

Secondly, I do not think funds related to housing should be used for other city needs, like street paving. I understand that the budget is tight, but our housing stock is deteriorating and the city must keep all funds available for repairs.

Thirdly, I hope that the housing plan includes what to do about the significant number of blighted houses in this city. The Housing Authority is doing good work with the Land Bank; however, the City has the legal ability also to tear down blighted houses once the proper legal requirements are met.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, there must be more affordable housing built in this city, and more long-term solutions are needed for the population of unhoused people. There is a large problem in this city with rental units that are inhabitable and yet people live in them. A proper strategy around Code Enforcement is desperately needed in this city.

Thank you for your work and time on this, and for listening to community voices. I also encourage the City to strengthen future public comment processes by providing clearer timelines and promoting them via social media and other channels, so that more residents can weigh in on issues that affect them deeply.

Sincerely,

Jenn Kennedy
814-460-6601

June 10, 2025

Ms. Jenn Kennedy
Jennkennedy365@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Kennedy:

Thank you for your comments recently provided to the City Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) as a result of the public hearings held on May 5, 2025 regarding the draft Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) that DECD intends to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for review and approval.

For the sake of clarity, your written comments referred to a "Housing Plan"; therefore, we hope to clear any misconceptions you may have and explain the differences between a housing plan and a HUD-required Consolidated Plan.

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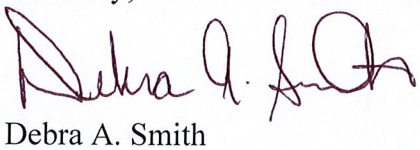
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Sincerely,



Debra A. Smith
Director

DAS/kms
cc: Dave Deter
Veronica Fields

Debra Smith

From: Melinda Hall <mhall@cathedralofstpaul.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 11:33 AM
To: Debra Smith
Subject: comments on housing plan

Warning: Unusual sender <mhall@cathedralofstpaul.org>
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I write in regards to the Five Year Housing Plan for the City of Erie.

Firstly, it is important to me that the housing plan include funds to be granted to homeowners for repairs, following the intentions of the HUD HOME grants. I would also like to see such funds transparently administered and easily made available to those who qualify.

Secondly, I do not think funds related to housing should be used for other city needs, like street paving. I understand that the budget is tight, but our housing stock is deteriorating and the city must keep all funds available for repairs.

Thirdly, I hope that the housing plan includes what to do about the significant number of blighted houses in this city. The Housing Authority is doing good work with the Land Bank; however, the City has the legal ability also to tear down blighted houses once the proper legal requirements are met.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, there must be more affordable housing built in this city, and more long-term solutions are needed for the population of unhoused people. There is a large problem in this city with rental units that are inhabitable and yet people live in them. A proper strategy around Code Enforcement is desperately needed in this city.

Thank you for your work and time on this, and for listening to community voices. I also encourage the City to strengthen future public comment processes by providing clearer timelines and promoting them via social media and other channels, so that more residents can weigh in on issues that affect them deeply.

Sincerely,

Melinda Hall

--
The Very Rev. Melinda Hall
Cathedral of St. Paul | 134 West Seventh Street | Erie PA | 16501
814.452.3779 | cathedralofstpaul.org

June 10, 2025

Ms. Melinda Hall
mhall@cathedralofstpaul.org

Dear Ms. Hall:

Thank you for your comments recently provided to the City Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) as a result of the public hearings held on May 5, 2025 regarding the draft Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) that DECD intends to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for review and approval.

For the sake of clarity, your written comments referred to a "Housing Plan"; therefore, we hope to clear any misconceptions you may have and explain the differences between a housing plan and a HUD-required Consolidated Plan.

Although the City of Erie intends to develop a comprehensive housing plan, DECD will not be the lead in this effort. The goals of the City-Wide Comprehensive Housing Plan will be:

- **Blight Prevention and Control**
  Evaluate the existing processes for identifying and addressing blighted properties, and recommend strategies for prevention, control, and rehabilitation/new construction in partnership with the City of Erie Land Bank and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie.

  The Plan will provide strategies to assess blight removal processes, remove barriers associated with developing and accessing quality affordable housing, create a strategy to develop a pipeline of potential first-time homebuyers, identify the role of entities who will work on implementation, and incentivize new housing production in the city. The plan will also address the following barriers to creating quality housing opportunities in the City of Erie:

  - Blighted properties
  - Decline in population
  - Declining property values
  - Aging housing stock
  - Cost of improvements/materials
  - A shortage of affordable housing
  - Language and literacy barriers
  - Lack of contractors
  - Lack of a comprehensive city-wide housing strategy
  - Increasing rents due to demand for housing
  - Inability of low-income residents to address property code violations
  - An increase in homelessness since the COVID-19 pandemic

- **Housing Needs and Options Assessment**
  A comprehensive evaluation of the City's current housing market, assessing available housing options across all incomer levels. The assessment will analyze existing housing stock, rental units, and homeownership opportunities, identifying where safe and attainable housing exists and where gaps remain. A comprehensive city-wide housing strategy will be developed and will focus on the entire housing continuum – affordable, workforce, market-rate, and permanent supportive housing.

- **Addressing Service Gaps**
  Assess current services to residents and identify gaps in services, with recommendations for improvements. This will include, but not be limited to, services related to housing assistance, repairs, and support for first-time homebuyers

- **Quality and Affordability Recommendations**
  Solution-based recommendations for enhancing the overall quality and affordability of housing in the City of Erie that focuses on long-term sustainability and resilience.

- **Housing Needs for Vulnerable Populations**
  Determine the current and future needs of specific populations, including disabled individuals, the elderly, those experiencing chronic homelessness, students aging out of foster care, immigrants and refugees, and other vulnerable groups.

  Recommendations will also be made for meeting these needs through new construction, rehabilitation, or service enhancements.

- **Strategic Housing Plan**
  The strategic housing plan will include the following:

  - Develop strategies to incentivize contractors and landlords to engage in new housing production and/or rehabilitation and renovation of existing properties to ensure quality housing stock.
  - Identify strategies to subsidize the purchase of residential units by low-income residents and first-time homebuyers.
  - Provide a feasibility analysis of the preservation, demolition, and/or new construction of the Erie Heights affordable rental housing property to the Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE). The Erie Heights development is located along West 38th Street in the City of Erie PA.

In contrast, the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the use of HUD funding is a much more extensive plan, although it does have components focused on quality affordable housing for low- to moderate-income households.

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania is a federal entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). As a HUD entitlement community, the City is required to prepare a Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) in order to implement any federal programs that fund housing, community development, and economic development within the community.

This CP covers the period from FY2025 through FY2029 (July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2030), and must be submitted to HUD for approval. The lead entity responsible for the preparation of the CP is the City's Office of Economic and Community Development.

The City of Erie, through the CP, developed a single, consolidated planning and application document in consultation with public and private agencies. The CP for the City will serve the following functions:

- A planning document that enables the city to view its HUD funding, not in isolation, but as one tool in a comprehensive strategy to address housing, community development, and economic development needs;
- An application for CDBG funds, HOME funds and ESG funds under HUD's formula grant;
- A strategy document to be followed in carrying out HUD programs, and
- An action plan that provides a basis for assessing performance in the investment of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds.

The purpose of the CP is to guide federal funding decisions over the next five years. The CP is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to a community's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing
- To improve the quality of life and living environments for people with low-to moderate-incomes through community reinvestment and improvements to public facilities and infrastructure.
- To generate economic opportunities by supporting sustainable development activities that promote long-term community viability and the empowerment of people with low to moderate incomes to achieve self-sufficiency.

The overall priority for the investment of federal funds is to increase self-sufficiency and economic opportunity for lower income residents and individuals with special needs so that they can achieve a reasonable standard of living.

The Strategic Plan provides a framework to address the needs of the City for the next five years using CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. The City's strategy focuses on the need to:

- Improve the quality of the housing stock in the community by increasing the amount of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers that is affordable to low-and moderate-income persons and families. This includes creation of new units, preservation and rehabilitation of existing units.
- Provide housing and services for households experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Improve Community Assets. Improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for all residents in the community.
- Economic Development: Increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.

Outcomes show how programs and activities benefit a community, or the people served. Outcomes that illustrate the benefits of each activity funded by CDBG, HOME, and ESG are improved availability, affordability, and sustainability. All future activities funded in the next five years will support at least one objective and one outcome.

The City of Erie strives to equitably allocate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to income eligible areas and persons throughout the City and has funded activities during the past year to meet the City's FY 2020 to FY 2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Fifth Annual Action Plan goals and objectives. Erie's CDBG Program regularly meets the performance standards established by HUD.

This plan outlines the goals of the City of Erie for its CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. Following extensive outreach and public input, the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan clearly outline programs and activities that will address the identified needs and maximize investment of federal resources.

The City of Erie developed an outreach effort to maximize input from a large cross-section of stakeholders. The outreach effort included public meetings, public meetings notices, and stakeholder/focus group meetings meant to engage a broad variety of stakeholders and City of Erie residents.

The City solicits applications for funding and conducts public hearings to gain information on the needs of the community. During the preparation of the Consolidated Plan, the City conducted public needs meetings and an online survey to determine the needs.

The City of Erie acts as the single point of contact to coordinate efforts between public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health, mental health, and social service agencies. The city works with the following agencies to enhance funding and service allocations to address the housing and community development needs of the City:

- City of Erie Housing Authority - coordinate affordable housing (Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing improvements) especially for the very low- and extremely low-income residents of the City.
- Social Services Agencies - coordinate funding allocations to improve the availability and efficacy of social service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- Housing Providers - coordinate rehabilitation and development of affordable housing to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income households.

Each year, as part of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for project funding for eligible project activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and informational meetings, completing survey forms, and commenting on draft plans.

The City of Erie participates in the Continuum of Care, Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, comprised of City of Erie and Erie County service providers which offer a variety of housing solutions, including emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing, with a specific focus on households facing housing instability or chronic homelessness.

The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition collects data related to homelessness in the County and City, and the City uses that data to inform its Strategic Plan Needs and Goals.

The Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition utilizes HMIS to collect data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The City of Erie uses the Home Team Written Standards for the implementation of all CoC funded projects, as well as Systems Performance Measures and Policies and Procedures for the Coordinated Entry System. To the extent feasible, evaluation of applications for ESG funding is conducted in alignment with those Systems Performance Measures and other Continuum policies and priorities.

The City of Erie, in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, held two (2) public hearings on January 29, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on the needs of the City of Erie and collect input on the proposed activities to be funded. Residents were given the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG Program and to offer their suggestions on future CDBG program priorities. The public hearings were advertised in The Erie Times News and posted on the Department of Economic and Community Development webpage. All hearings were held at City Hall, 626 State Street, Erie, PA. This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The City will provide appropriate accommodations for Disabled and Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons, as requested, during these hearings. A copy of the public notices is included in the Citizen Participation Appendix.

The City of Erie maintains a stakeholder contact list for the Economic and Community Development program. All stakeholders received applications and emails notifying the listees of all public hearings and meetings. Additionally, a flyer was emailed to the entire stakeholder list inviting input during four sessions during the week of January 28, 2025.

The City of Erie advertised on April 10, 2025 that a "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the Department of Economic and Community Development on public display online at https://cityof.erie.pa.us/ and at the City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development, 626 State Street, Erie, PA during normal operational hours. The "Draft Plan" was available from April 11, 2025 to May 10, 2025, for review and comment. Two additional public hearings were held on May 5, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Additionally, a survey was made available online to solicit public input. There was also a lived experience survey distributed by paper to emergency shelter and homeless service providers. The responses to both surveys were included throughout this Plan, as well as a **Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis, which can be found on the City of Erie website.**

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to guide the use of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds in the City of Erie over the next five years. The plan is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to the City's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock in both the rental and homeowner markets, increasing the availability of affordable housing by reducing barriers, and increasing the number of accessible units.

- To improve the quality of life and living conditions for low-and moderate-income individuals through improvements in public facilities and infrastructure and the removal of slum/blighting influences.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low-and moderate-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency.

The City of Erie's priority needs were determined based on existing data on the needs of the community, as well as consultation with City staff, extensive stakeholder outreach workshops, public hearings, and citizen surveys.

- Increase Access To/Quality of Affordable Housing
- Provide Homeless Housing and Services
- Improve Public Facilities and Infrastructure
- Provide Public Services
- Eliminate Slum/Blighting Influences
- Economic Development

Sincerely,

Debra A. Smith
Director

DAS/kms
cc: Dave Deter
Veronica Fields

The John F. Kennedy Center's 1.78 square mile target service area is part of the City of Erie's CDBG Impact Area, approximating the boundaries of northeast Erie City.

JFK's After-School Program is currently serving 143 total children ages 5-18. Of those total children, 98 (68%) are extremely low income; 109 (76%) live in female headed households, 105 (73%) are African American; and 95 (66%) are public housing residents.

Lower income at-risk children living in the disadvantaged neighborhood immediately surrounding the center need a safe place to go during the critical hours after school. The John F. Kennedy Center helps kids keep away from street violence and avoid unhealthy and risky behaviors. The program offers nutritious after-school snacks and supper; academic support; sports and recreation; and life skills opportunities.

After-school programs are in a unique position to affect children's lives. Unlike school, families do not have to send their kids to an after-school program. In the case of younger children, it is largely parental choice. In the case of middle and high school kids, it is largely the kids' choice to participate. This puts significant responsibility on after-school programs to offer quality community-based programming that will attract kids and their families.

In the next five years, the John F. Kennedy Center would like to see the following addressed on Erie's eastside.

Career Awareness and Job Development – Provide opportunities for youth to explore a wide variety of careers with emphasis on living-wage jobs that do not require a college degree. Alongside this, provide more incubator space and greater opportunities for small minority business start up in the inner city. Together, in time, this will bring more income to the residents of East Erie.

Safety – Make East Erie safer after dark; more streetlights and security cameras in the neighborhood; gun buy-back programs to get guns off the streets and out of the hands of children.

Drug Prevention – Variety of programs with incentives for "saying no". Mental health clinics on Erie's East side that focus on drop-in programming.

Police Presence – Increase police presence through police athletic league opportunities including basketball, football, and track 'n field.

Neighborhood Cohesiveness – Monthly neighborhood activities modeled after National Night Out

More City Council meetings held in the lower income community, including in the public housing developments

Housing rehabilitation and/or demolition of abandoned buildings; tax credits for purchase of existing housing stocks; work with landlords to lower cost of rentals

More green space for families and children; maybe a skateboard park at Rodger Young

Unique Appendix Erie County 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Introduction

This section assesses the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater needs in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole. HUD defines a disproportionate impact as any group that is 10 percentage points higher than the jurisdiction as a whole. Severe housing needs include one or more of the following:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities
3. Is overcrowded with more than 1.5 person per room in the unit
4. Experiences cost burden above 50%

An analysis of the tables below indicates Asian households earning 0-30% AMI and 50-100% AMI experience severe housing problems disproportionately (note the small sample size). As with housing problems, overall, the percentage of households with a severe housing problem is highest for the lowest income brackets (0-50% AMI) and decreases as income increases.

	0-30% AMI	**30-50% AMI**	**50-80% AMI**	**80-100% AMI**
Racial/ Ethnic Group	**% with one or more severe housing problems**			
White	62.0%	27.4%	6.8%	3.2%
Black/ African American	59.9%	29.7%	4.9%	0.0%
Asian	**100%**	0.0%	**35.3%**	**35.3%**
American Indian, Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Hispanic	65.5%	20.4%	12.4%	0.0%
Jurisdiction as a Whole	62.8%	26.9%	8.7%	3.4%

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion - 91.205 (b)(2)

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

Erie Refocused, the City's Comprehensive Plan, divided the city into 17 planning areas. The plan breaks down the neighborhoods into 5 categories: Highly Distressed, Distressed, Transitional At-Risk, Stable At-Risk, and Healthy. Only two neighborhoods are considered healthy, and three are stable at-risk. There were two highly distressed: East Bayfront and Trinity Park. According to the plan, these areas are the most deeply destabilizing parts of the city's housing market due to the sheer number of vacant and obsolete housing units and their proximity to downtown Erie and transitional neighborhoods. Having such dysfunctional markets so close to downtown blunts the impact of recent and future downtown investments and lowers levels of confidence and reinvestment in all surrounding neighborhoods. These neighborhoods have a 57% minority and 43% poverty rate. The distressed neighborhoods are West Bayfront, Little Italy, and Pulaski-Lighthouse. These neighborhoods have a 30% minority and 37% poverty rate. Finally, the transitional at-risk neighborhoods are Lakeside, Fairmont-McClelland, Academy-Marvintown, and Arbor Heights.

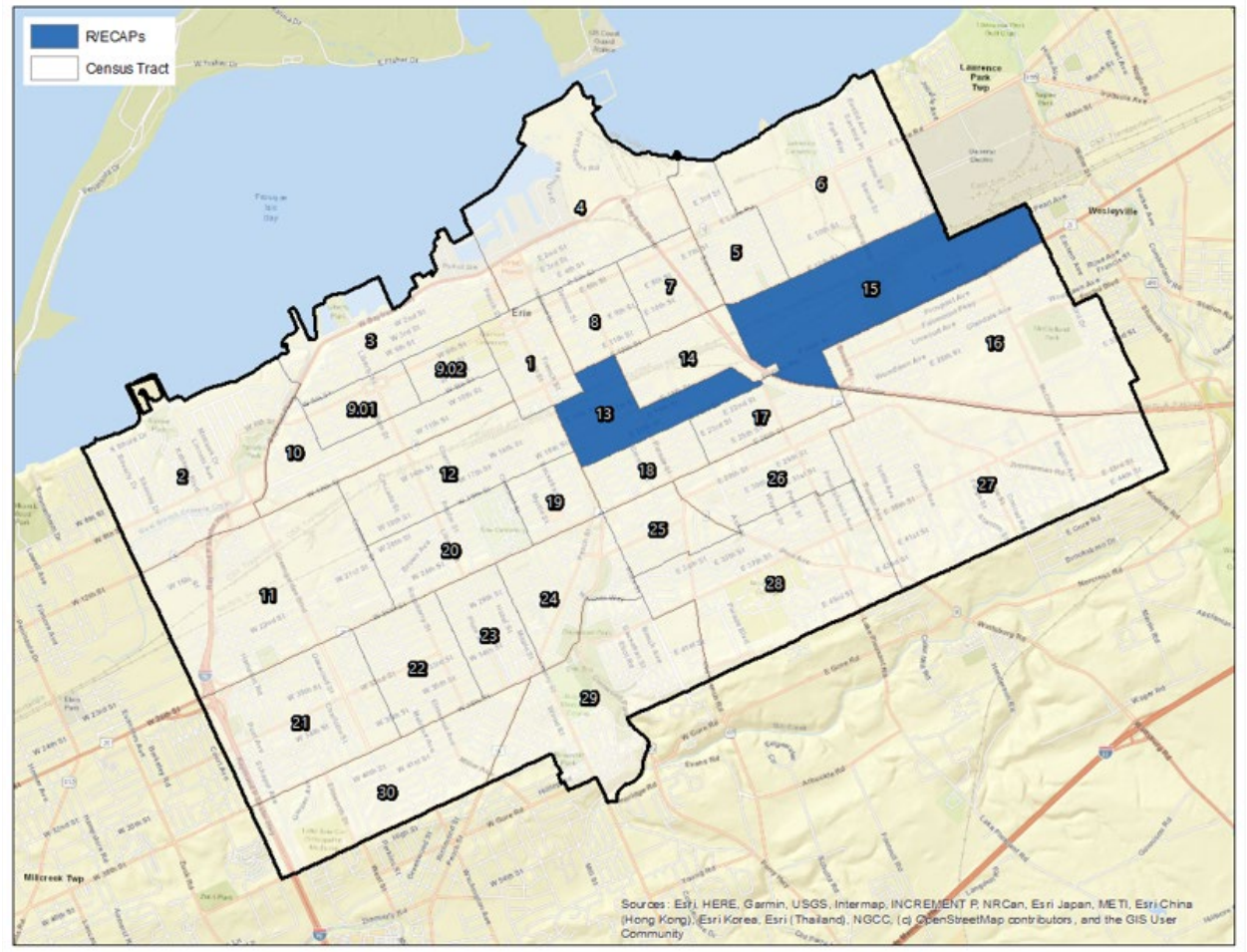


HUD defines R/ECAPs as census tracts with a non-white population of at least 50% (and 20% outside of metropolitan/micropolitan areas) and a poverty rate that either exceeds 40% *or* is three times the average tract poverty rate for the metropolitan/micropolitan area, whichever is lower.

By combining these data, it is possible to determine geographic patterns where there are concentrated areas of poverty among racial/ethnic minorities.

Under HUD's definition of racially/ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAP), no census tract falls under this definition. HUD defines concentrations of racial and ethnic minorities was as a census tract with a non-white population of 50% or more. A concentrated area of poverty is defined as a census tract with 40% or more individuals living at or below the poverty line. It is important to look at disparities between groups in relation to disproportionate poverty and access to community assets to assess fair housing needs.

The map below shows the areas the meet the minority and poverty thresholds. There are two R/ECAP census tracts. These tracts are located in the northeastern quadrant of the City and east-central areas of the City.



NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Elderly

Elderly persons are more likely to live on fixed, very low incomes or require special supportive service to complete their daily routines. This means elderly residents especially need affordable housing options and easy access to service providers.

Representatives from organizations that work with seniors indicate that there is a continued need for affordable senior housing. Seniors often desire to “age in place,” but many also need housing that will accommodate physical disabilities. 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) data shows that within the city/s population, approximately 16% were elderly (15,054 individuals). This was an increase from the last five years, when those age 65 or older made up 14.1% of the City’s total population.

Over one in three (37.19%) persons 65 years and over had at least one disability in 2023. The most common disabilities for this age group were ambulatory (64.94%) and independent living difficulty (39.49%). In addition to living on fixed incomes, the extra cost care can create a further financial burden.

Individuals with Disabilities

There were 16,461 individuals with disabilities across in the city in 2023, representing 17.9% of the population. The most common disability within the City of Erie was cognitive difficulty. Cognitive disability is a term that refers to a broad range of conditions that include intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorders, severe, persistent mental illness, brain injury, stroke, and Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. In the city, living with cognitive difficulty was reported by 8,427 individuals, making up 51.94% of the Erie’s population that live with a disability. Other common disabilities experienced by residents include living with an ambulatory difficulty and living with independent living difficulty, making up 43.66% and 34.46% of all City residents who live with a disability respectively.

Approximately 32.4% of those living with a disability live below the poverty level, compared to 22.8% of people without a disability. The poverty rate across the City’s total population was approximately 24.6%, which is more than double the poverty rate for Pennsylvania as a whole (11.8%). Within the City as a whole, median earnings for people with a disability were $22,771, compared to $31,538 for earners without a disability. These figures underscore the struggle that many Erie households that include a person with a disability experience in finding and maintaining suitable housing.

Erie Meals on Wheels indicated an increased need for severely disabled, non-elderly individuals and Veterans.

Substance Abuse and Addiction

Substance misuse and addiction are factors City residents experiencing housing and other challenges. According to American Addiction Centers, homelessness and addiction often occur simultaneously. Substance abuse can develop due to the stressors associated with homelessness, or addiction can contribute to home loss.

The Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse administers drug and alcohol prevention programs and residential and outpatient treatment programs, as well as provides information and referrals to treatment and services. The Office's case management unit provides drug and alcohol screenings, assessments, treatment referral and monitoring, along with case management support. The Office provides treatment to priority populations such as pregnant women who inject drugs, pregnant women who use substances, persons who inject drugs, overdose survivors and veterans. If the individual does not have health insurance and cannot pay for treatment, the D&A office provides applications assistance and referrals to the appropriate paperwork for medical assistance. No one is denied service because of an inability to pay.

Although the City works through the County's drug and alcohol abuse programs, according to the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the City of Erie has seen overdose incidents increase by 196% and overdose deaths increase by 400% from 2019 to 2020. Data from authorities shows that the rate is not slowing. In the first six months of 2021, Erie experienced a 97% increase in overdose victims.

According to an article published in The Erie Times on February 26, 2024, "For the second straight year, drug deaths in the county approached record numbers in 2023. There were 121 drug-related deaths last year, with the results of toxicology testing on two suspected victims of fatal overdoses last year still pending as of Thursday, according to Erie County Coroner Lyell Cook." The article went on to explain that fact sheets were distributed in the Spring of 2024 to educate residents that readily available drugs are factors in more deaths of Americans under the age of 50 than any other cause of death.

The Erie Times article also described local efforts to help those experiencing drug addiction. The Erie Burau of Police started a program in the summer of 2022 to investigate all overdose deaths and identify at-risk individuals an offer aid in connecting with resources including treatment programs. Educational efforts are an ongoing need to make people aware of the resources and aid available.

According to the Pennsylvania Youth Survey reports, Erie County has one of the highest rates of adolescent substance use in the state. Stakeholders cited the report and indicated that these challenges are further exacerbated by a lack of adequate mental health support and mentorship for young girls.

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services - 91.210(c)

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.

The City of Erie has many services and facilities that strive to meet the needs of homeless persons.

- City Mission/Grace House - To effectively meet both the immediate and long-term challenges of those we serve, the Erie City Mission has five core programs that focus on both intervention and prevention needs. Our intervention programs include an emergency men's shelter, long-term addictions recovery for men and women, and hunger relief through free meals. Our prevention program, Urban University, offers educational, leadership, and career exploration opportunities to inner-city youth. The City Mission provides 56 individual beds for the Emergency Shelter. The agency has 96 beds available for all of their programs.
- Community Shelter Services - This organization provides emergency shelter mainly to people in single-parent families with children and unaccompanied adult men. It has an inventory of 55 total beds (30 for individuals and 25 for families). This organization also offers outreach programs to the homeless of the area, three meals per day to its clients, and clothing when and if it is available.
- Community of Caring - This facility provides 24 beds of emergency shelter. Its main clients are men, women, and those with a mental illness.
- St. Patrick's Haven - This facility provides homeless shelter to men of the area. Currently, it has undergone renovations and now has the capacity to serve 21 individuals.
- The Refuge - This organization provides emergency assistance to homeless families. It serves 15 families on average and is always nearly 100% occupied. Many of the clients are victims of domestic violence, have mental health problems, or drug and alcohol problems. The Refuge has a total of 32 beds.
- SafeNet - Hospitality House - This organization has beds for 43 persons in families with children and provides services for abused females and children.

- Mercy Center for Women - The Center provides housing for 25-27 residents at any given time. This agency also provides mentoring programs, a professional clothing program, self-esteem/self-empowerment, and addictive relationships counseling.
- SafeNet-TLC Program and Bridge House –Transitional Housing. TLC has six (6) beds and Bridge House has 20 beds.
- Erie United Methodist Alliance -- In partnership with Family Services of NW PA and Bethesda Lutheran Services, EUMA began the Journey Home program that provides youth aging out of foster care with independent and supportive living apartments. These traditional apartments and the supportive living environment that EUMA provides helps them learn to live independently after turning 18. At all supportive living sites, an EUMA live-in resident assistant provides safety, security and is a partner in helping youth navigate life on their own.
- The Upper Room – This organization provides a safe and welcoming place for Erie's poor and homeless year-round. It offers its guests a warm, comfortable place where they are free to spend as much time as they wish. It provides important daily services such as: restroom facilities, access to showers through the Downtown YMCA, telephone privileges, daily newspapers, limited computer use, and an address for receiving essential correspondence. It also serves daily hot coffee, occasional donated snacks, and regular Sunday meals.
- GECAC - In order to reduce poverty in its community, a Community Action Agency works to better focus available local, state, federal, and private resources to assist low-income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge, to gain access to new opportunities, and achieve economic self-sufficiency. This agency provides advocacy, education, technical assistance, collaboration, and networking.
- The Erie County Department of Veteran Services – This department is committed to aiding and assisting all Erie County Veterans and their families in obtaining federal, state and county benefits.

The City also has a tight network of Community Centers that, among other services, offer housing assistance, after school programs, childcare, and financial empowerment training. Working together in a collaborative manner, they have created the Minority Community Investment Coalition. The goal of the coalition is to better coordinate services and speak as one as they seek more financial resources.

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing - 91.210(e)

Public policies and plans can impact on municipalities affordable housing options. Local zoning code and comprehensive plans guide the development of communities. Restrictive zoning codes on type and density of housing can create affordable housing issues. Restrictive zoning can make it more expensive for developers to increase the supply of housing and thus the housing that is created is not affordable to low- to moderate-income households.

The City of Erie has 17 zoning districts: six residential, seven commercial, and four manufacturing/industrial. Overall, Erie's zoning code contains many provisions that will not restrict affordable housing. The City allows accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all of its residential districts and several other non-residential districts. ADUs are essential for supplying affordable units and supplementing rental income to those struggling to afford their existing home. The City also allows for multi-family housing developments in several of its residential and non-residential districts.

Additionally, the City allows group homes in several districts and does not have an overly restrictive definition, which allows more who need assistance to reside in the home. It also does not restrict emergency housing, shelters, temporary housing, or permanent supportive housing facilities to non-residential zoning districts.

The city's zoning code does have some room for improvement, as there are some regulations that could restrict affordable housing. For instance, the City has a broad definition of "family", but it is still limiting. It defines family as "a) A single person occupying a dwelling unit and maintaining a household; or (b) Two or more relatives, occupying a dwelling unit, living together and maintaining a common household, including not more than two boarders or roomers. (c) Not more than four (4) unrelated persons occupying a dwelling unit, living together and maintaining a common household. (d) Permanent group homes for the disabled or family-like living arrangements for disabled persons. Groups of more than four three unrelated persons may be treated as a "family" if they are defined as disabled under the Fair Housing Act Amendments to the Federal Civil Rights Act, and meet the criteria of a group home special exception. Please note: Disabled persons shall be those who are so designated under the Fair Housing Amendment (1988) to the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1968." The city could consider removing the four unrelated persons cap and put the focus on functioning as a single housekeeping unit.

Furthermore, the City should consider allowing manufactured or modular housing on single lots like single family dwelling units.

Erie Refocused, the City's Comprehensive Plan, points out that the City of Erie's housing market neighborhoods have been dangerously weakened by decades of disinvestment brought about

by the imbalance of supply and demand for all real estate, public and private. Disinvestment is pervasive and 45% of residential properties are located on or adjacent to blocks where one or more properties are visibly distressed; 39% of residential properties are located on or adjacent to blocks where at least 10% of properties are visibly distressed. The average sale price of a house in very good condition is $157,000 when the house is surrounded by similar properties. That price drops to $91,000 when the house is on a block where maintenance standards are in the middle – with numerous properties showing at least small signs of disinvestment. And the price falls to $52,000 when that very good house is on a block that is noticeably distressed – a scenario that costs the city approximately $12,002 in property tax revenue each year as a result of stunted property values. This has put the housing market in the city in an uncompetitive position in the region's residential and retail markets. Erie has a demolition and blight remediation program. Continuing to invest funding into these efforts will greatly improve the residential investment in the City.

Erie Refocused suggests the critical imbalance of supply and demand can be addressed in a new zoning code by stipulating that, for as long as weak-market conditions persist, sections of the City cannot be up-zoned (upgraded in density or intensity of use) without a complementary down-zoning somewhere else. General down-zoning of sections of the City should also be explored, which would typically involve the conversion of vacant land controlled by the City, some other public agency, or a land trust, to a "conservation" status that effectively prohibits development until strong growth pressures return. Correcting this imbalance could help revitalize neighborhoods and allow for appropriate redevelopment and the potential for additional affordable housing.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets - 91.215 (f)

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

Infinite Erie is a community and economic development strategy designed to harness funding opportunities, unify public, private, and civic stakeholders around a common vision, and advance economic development across Erie County. The City of Erie shares Infinite Erie's goals to foster economic growth; promote vibrant neighborhoods; and build an economy that benefits everyone.

Infinite Erie's Investment Playbook outlines a pipeline of projects that align with community needs and transformative goals and guides stakeholders to align around priority projects that enhance community development, drive market momentum, and contribute to Erie's economic vitality. If fully implemented, projects supported by the Infinite Erie Playbook will generate $500 million of economic impact, support and sustain over 3,500 jobs and contribute $21 million to the state and local tax base. Consistent with Infinite Erie, the following efforts are underway in the City, undertaken by a variety of partner organizations.

Over the last decade, major anchor institutions in the region have invested nearly $600 million dollars in capital projects. The City of Erie has an emerging Innovation District - focusing on cybersecurity, data science, Insurtech, fintech, and other emerging industries - is poised to create jobs for the 21st century in Erie County. Radius CoWork and the Erie Technology Incubator hatch new startups everyday –and will continue to create a diverse mix of tech-enabled jobs in the region.

The Erie Downtown Development Corporation (EDDC) is a non-profit organization looking to revive the City's downtown. Its goals include businesses and investment attraction, creation of programming, and supporting local businesses. The EDDC works closely with the Erie Downtown Equity Fund ("EDEF"), a for-profit private equity fund raised to provide "gap financing" to assist the EDDC's real estate development activity. The EDEF has raised over $30 million, led by the efforts of community stakeholders, including Erie Insurance, UPMC Hamot, Gannon University, Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie Community Foundation, Marquette Savings Bank, Erie Bank, and Northwest Bank.

The Erie County Redevelopment Authority and the Enterprise Development Center of Erie County are currently undertaking major redevelopment efforts on the City's former industrial sites. The former Erie Malleable site, a former brownfield, is undergoing transformative rehabilitation, updating existing buildings into office space. Demolition and reconstruction will

also occur on the site, which will provide office space for light manufacturing facilities. The proposed redevelopment, Ironworks Square, expects to create or retain 200 jobs in the City. In addition, the EDC is proposing demolition of the remaining smokestacks at the former Hammermill site to make way for advanced manufacturing uses on the site. Finally, the RDA in partnership with Grow Erie is in the process of establishing the Savocchio Opportunity Park, an urban agriculture facility and community greenhouse. The commercial facility is expected to contain more than 17,000 square feet of all-season, high-tech greenhouses where fish and plants will be integrated. The proposed aquaponics facility is projected to provide more than 20 direct and indirect jobs to neighborhood residents. The other building, a community greenhouse, will be a 2,500-square-foot polycarbonate facility open to residents. The climate-controlled greenhouse will allow for year-round crop production. The project could generate at least 50 jobs once fully realized, with later phases including a commercial kitchen incubator and a co-packing facility.

The City of Erie works with Kiva, a microloan organization that provides interest free loans from $1,000 to $15,000 to small businesses. Repayments are flexible and loans are not granted based on credit scores or history. Kiva prioritizes character, the impact the loan will have on the community, and how much community support is behind the business/endeavor. To support downtown business development and expansion, the Gannon Small Business Development Center works with businesses to establish or expand existing downtown businesses by providing technical assistance and planning services designed to increase revenue and jobs over time.

As mentioned in NA-50, the Active Erie Transportation Plan and Downtown Streetscape Master Plan propose recommendations to make Erie more walkable and bikeable. Recommendations in the plans include bikeways along low-stress streets and local connections to destinations including schools, parks, and shopping areas. Adding bicycle lanes will also increase the connectivity of the city and improve a naturally affordable means of transportation. Additionally, improvements to many city streets, such as reducing travel lane widths to reduce traffic speeds and shorten pedestrian crossing distance, will help make pedestrian travel around the city safer and more feasible for a greater number of residents.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

The Erie Technology Incubator at Gannon University serves Northwest Pennsylvania with a unique blend of strategic guidance, dedicated mentor teams, 1:1 coaching, and networking

opportunities. The incubator provides early-stage technology-enabled companies with critical resources and support to guide clients through key milestones and phases of their entrepreneurial journey. Gannon also has the Small Business Development Center which offers no-cost, confidential consulting services for small businesses and entrepreneurs looking to start or expand a business.

In an article published in The Erie Times-News on February 7, 2025, Erie Community College (EC3) is doubling the space it occupies at the Erie County Technical School Skills Center (ECTS). College President Chris Gray stated, "The college intends to expand its manufacturing programs, including CNC (Computer Numeric Controlled) and IMM (Industrial Machine Maintenance) to fill the void in the Erie County workforce," Gray said. "This program will also allow ECTS students a pathway forward into continuing education." The partnership between EC3 and ECTS works to offer viable programs for students and employers. Such programs could create a pipeline of workforce to fill positions created by the ongoing development and redevelopment efforts in the City.

Erie's Public Schools Adult Education Program Teach After Hours focus is to fulfill educational, instructional, and support services for the Erie Community to earn industry credentials in the focused fields of training and high school diploma program. Training includes the fields of welding, machinist, construction trades and health careers. This program also includes resume/portfolio and soft skill development. This program also offers individualized training programs that can be designed based on an employer's needs.

The Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC) works to reduce poverty by focusing all available funding and resources to assist low-income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge, to gain access to new opportunities, and achieve economic self-sufficiency. This agency will help develop a plan to tackle an individual's short and long-term career goals and teach the steps and skills to get a good job. Through its partnerships with universities, technical schools, and local businesses, its programs get people to work.

Urban Erie Community Development Corp (UECDC) provides free quality educational and employment programming including: workforce development training, an after-school youth program, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and G.E.D. courses.

The City has a robust and vibrant network of Community Centers that offer a wide range of services including financial empowerment training, adult learning, and workforce training. These programs will assist in helping those in need gain job skills to give them a greater range of employment opportunities. These programs in turn help the business community by encouraging local businesses with a local workforce that enhances the community character for the entire City. The Booker T. Washington Development and Education Center is located in the

heart of the City of Erie, PA and is focused on creating quality educational programs and resources available to the public, including after-school programs and other educational programming that invests in youth.

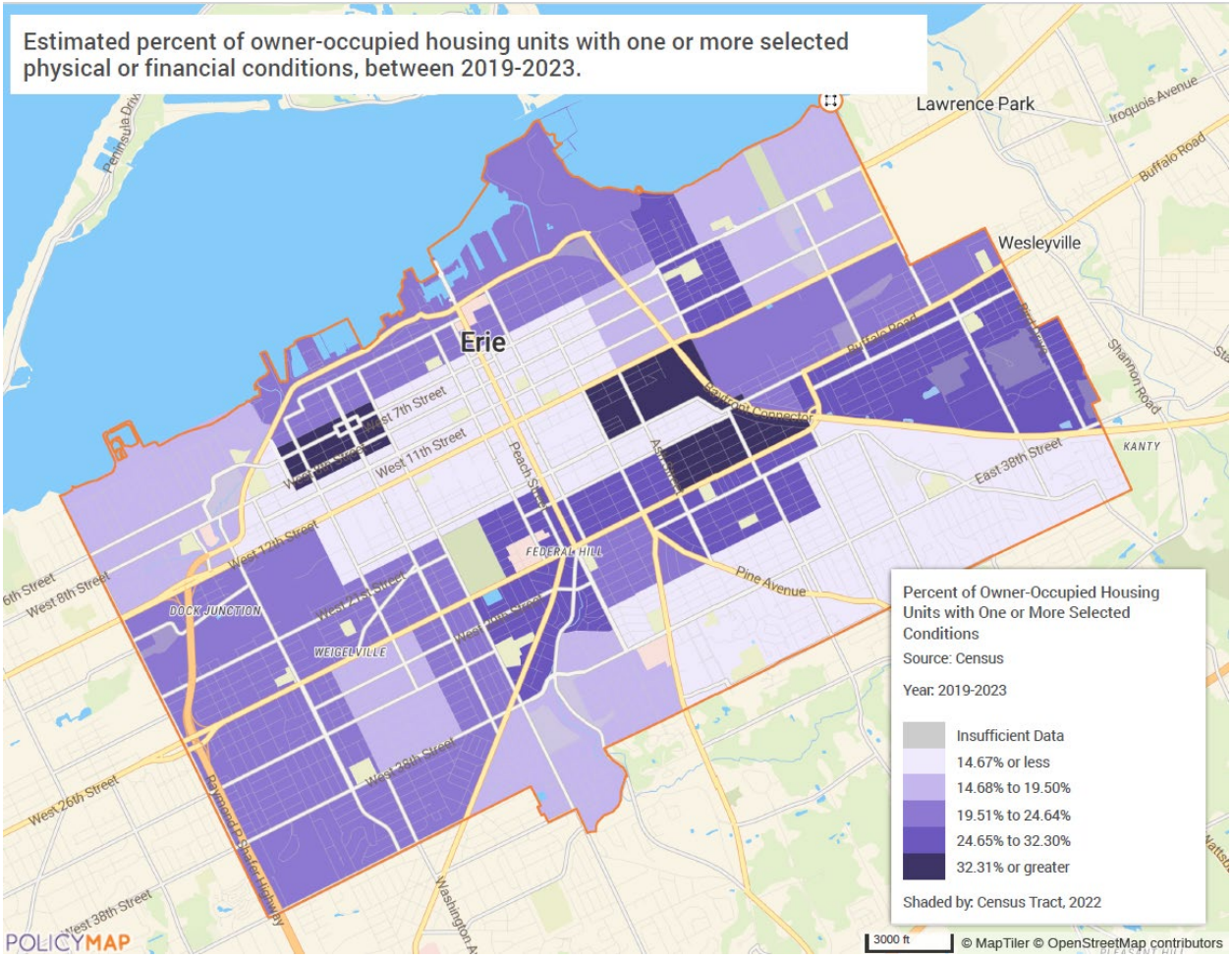
The Erie Center for Arts & Technology is expanding its Construction and Trades Training Program to add on-the-job training (OJT). This will help alleviate the significant challenge of identifying qualified firms to provide home repair and rehabilitation while providing training and new employment opportunities for individuals within the City's urban core.

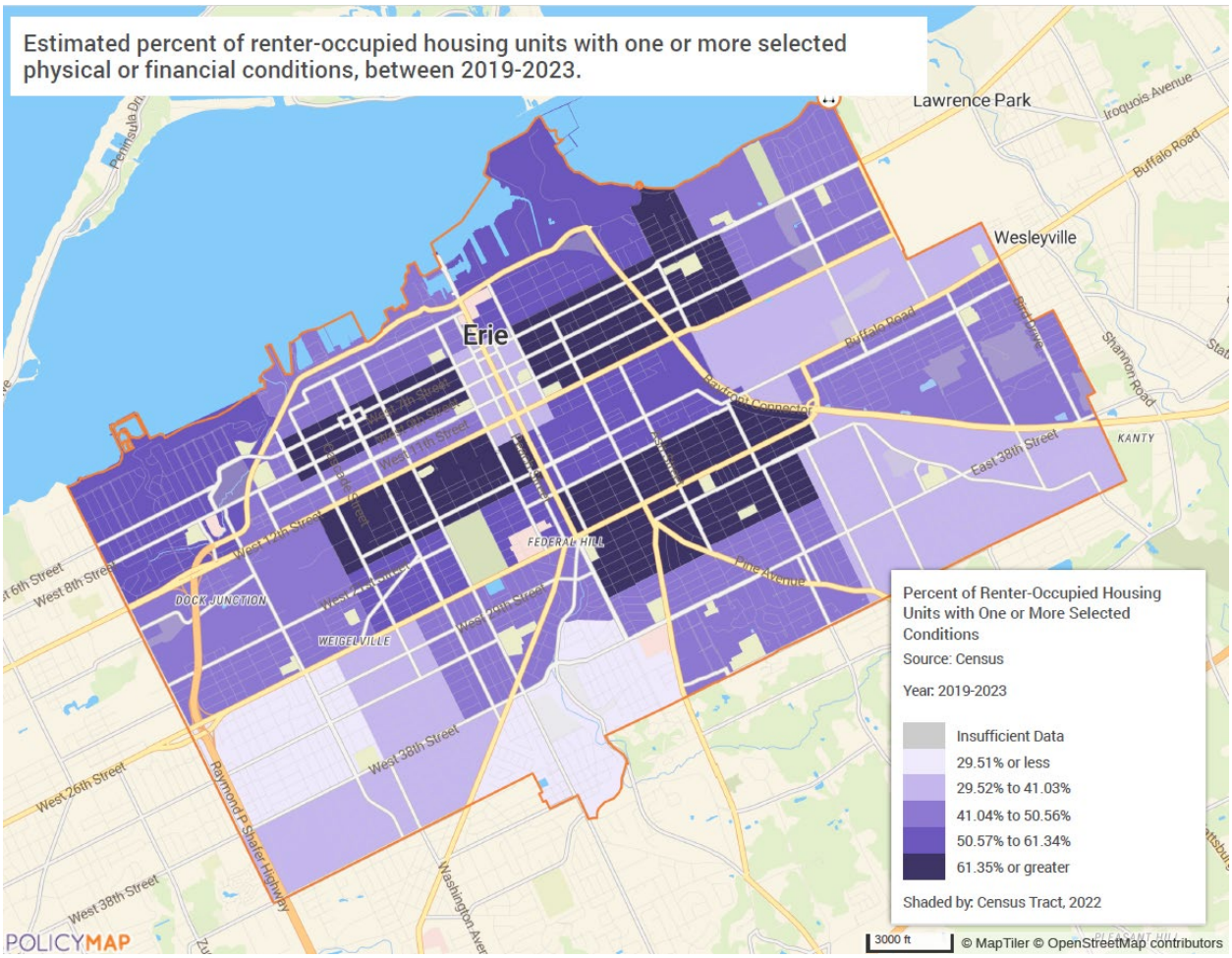
Stakeholders identified needs not only for workforce training, but also the need for programming at the high school level to educate on financial literacy, including credit scores, and how to care for a home. This is a partnership opportunity. Additionally, finding ways to link transportation and employment opportunities would greatly benefit the lower income workforce.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

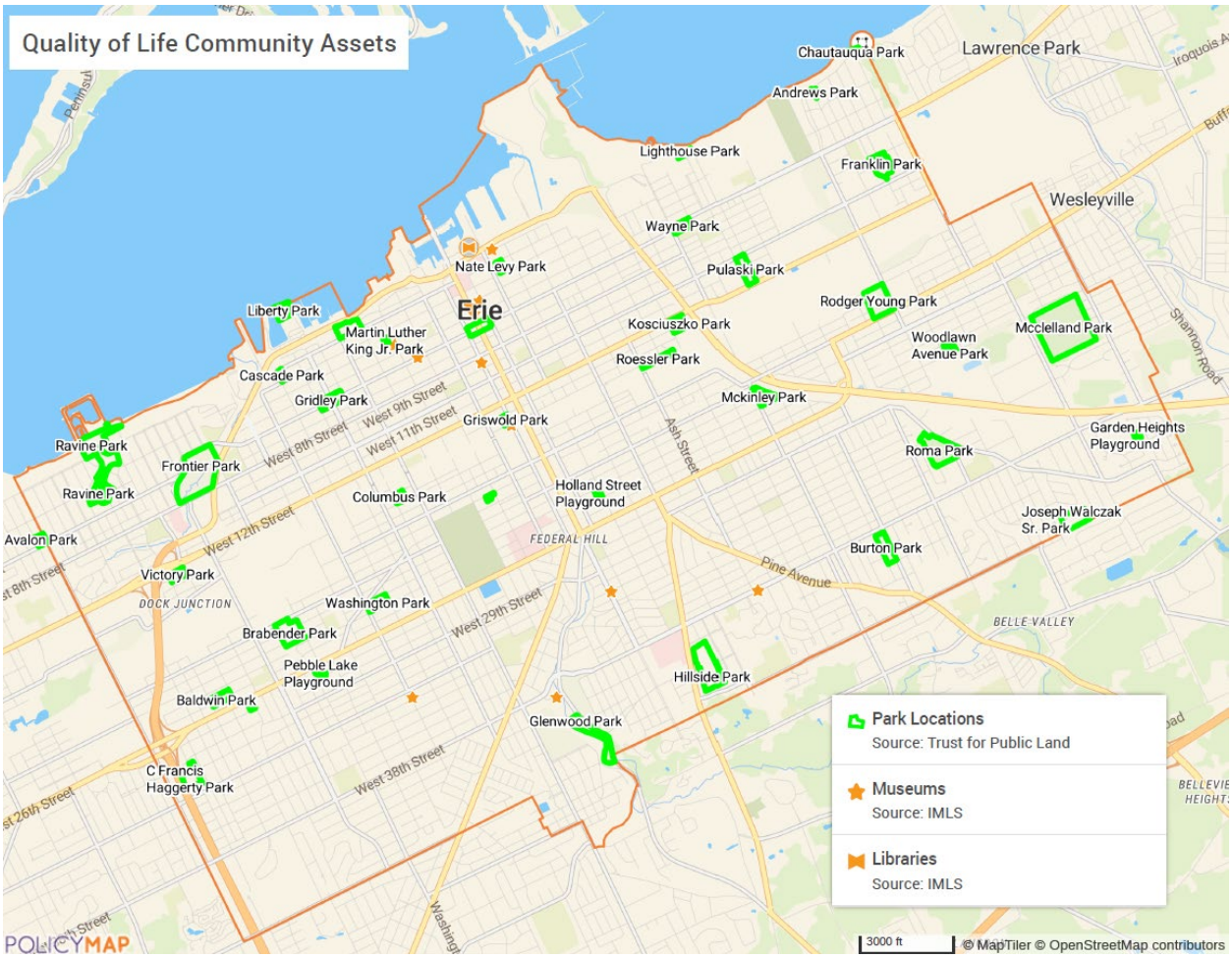
Using 2023 ACS data, the below maps show the percentage of housing units each Census Tract in the City of Erie that have two or more selected conditions. The first map shows owner-occupied units. The second map shows rental units. Important note: although the maps use the same color gradient and same amount of color variations, the homeowner's highest percentage range begins at 32.31% while the rental unit's highest percentage range begins at 61.35%. Downtown sees high concentrations of renter-occupied units with selected conditions, whereas the concentration of owner-occupied units is not as high, possibly due to there not being as many owner-occupied units. The southern corner of the City has higher concentrations of owner-occupied units with multiple housing problems. Looking at the renter-occupied map, there are only a few areas in the southern corner of the city that clearly have less than 30% of units with one or more condition.





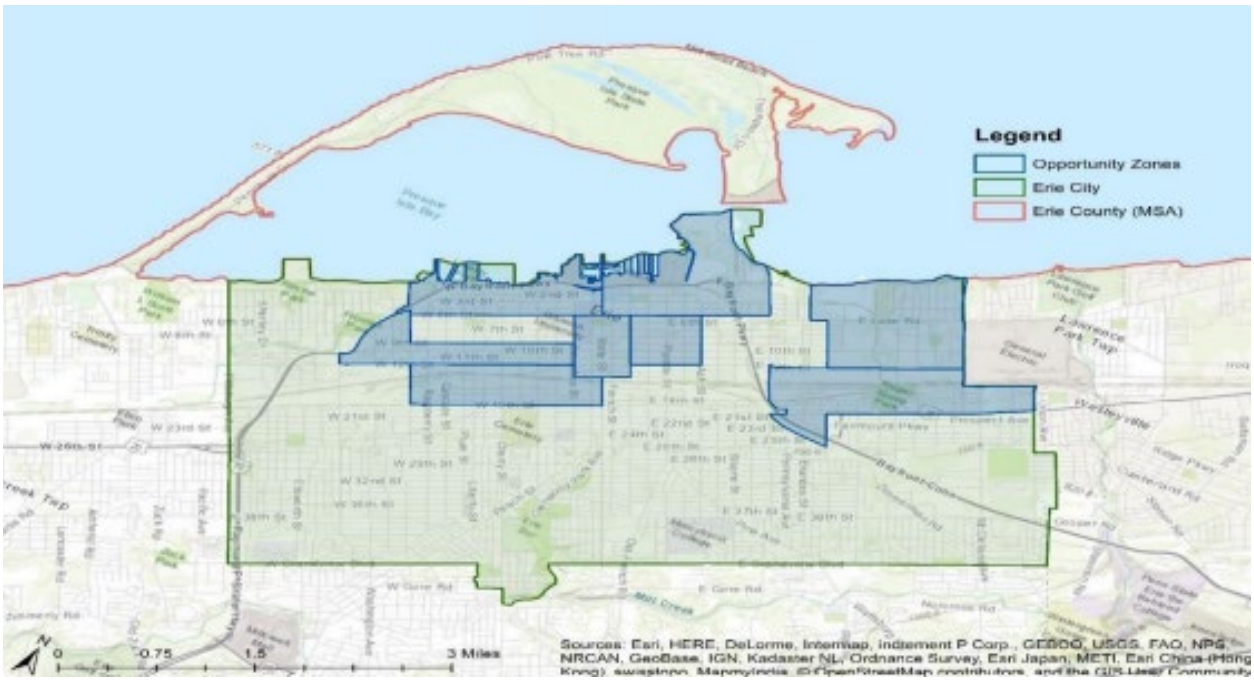
Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

As shown on the map below, these neighborhoods are in close proximity to several cultural and recreational areas.



Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

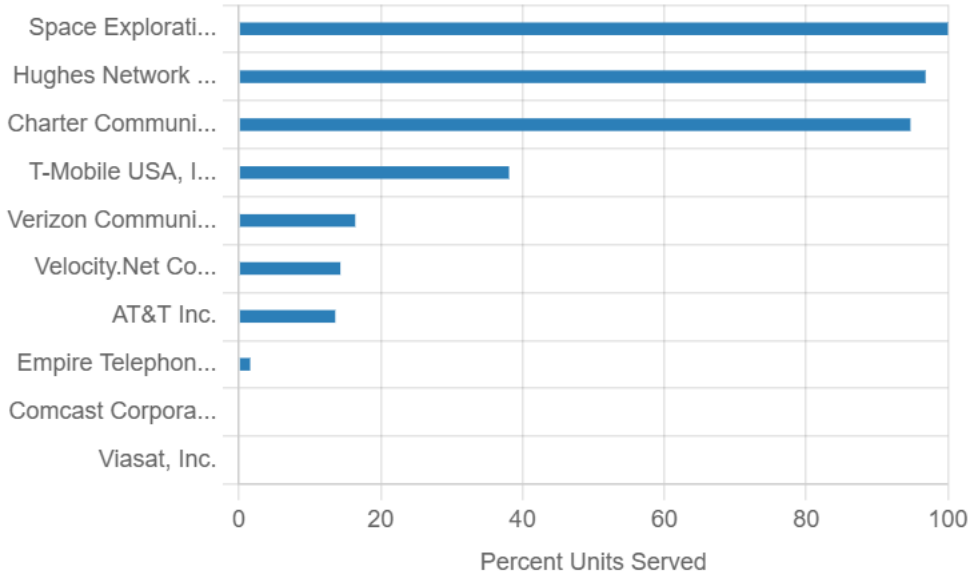
The City of Erie has recognized eight opportunity zone tracts as shown in the map below. These opportunity zones align with the highly distressed and distressed neighborhoods mentioned above.


Legend
Opportunity Zones
Erie City
Erie County (MSA)
N
0
0.75
1.5
3 Miles
Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

As the graph below indicates, more than 90% of the City is served by at least three providers. The fourth provider only serves nearly 40% of the city. Erie does have multiple options for broadband service providers and therefore does not currently have a need for additional providers.



MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

The City of Erie is part of the 2023 update to the Erie County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Erie County considered the full range of natural and non-natural hazards that could impact the County and then identified and ranked hazards of greatest concern. The list below identifies these hazards.

- Coastal Erosion
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Extreme Temperature
- Flood, Flash Flood, Ice Jam
- Invasive Species
- Landslide
- Tornado, Wind Storm
- Winter Storm
- Lake Hazards

The risk assessment section in the hazard mitigation plan contains information on identified hazards that threaten Erie County and the surrounding region as well as vulnerability as it relates to the City's assets. The concerns that have the highest risk, and are most likely to impact the City of Erie, are:

- Coastal erosion -- Shoreline erosion and bluff recession may be influenced by future climate-related changes such as warmer temperatures, increases in precipitation, and increases in the frequency and severity of storms. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expects intensified flooding and drought conditions in Pennsylvania. Significant changes in these events may cause increased variability in lake levels, thereby increasing the risk of erosion. Increased winter precipitation and rising temperatures will melt snow earlier in the spring, which could influence the ice that builds up during the winter (i.e., minimal ice formation), thereby decreasing seasonal mitigative factors.

- Flood, flash flood, ice jam -- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) notes that the most likely impact of climate change on Pennsylvania will be an increase in extreme precipitation. Interestingly, a secondary consequence of that precipitation is a quick-rising flood. Further, the IPCC lists increased flooding as a primary impact in the Midwest and a significant impact in the Northeast.

- Invasive species -- Human activity, usually unintentional, is the primary means invasive species appear and spread in new ecosystems. International trade and travel allow species to be carried from their native environment to new locations on shipping containers, ballasts, crates, and pallets (NWF, 2023). The opportunity for non-native species to be introduced to new areas will continue due to the rise of international trade.

- Tornado, windstorm -- Future wind and tornado events will affect areas of Erie County differently. The agricultural industry, including the vineyards, would be heavily affected. Fruit, fruit trees, and crops are vulnerable to the effects of windstorms and tornadoes. Residential sections would likely experience structure, tree, and utility damage. The IPCC suggests that severe weather in Pennsylvania may increase in frequency and intensity, and this weather could result in an uptick in tornado occurrences.

- Winter storms – The City of Erie has historically been prone to harsh winter weather and storms, largely due to the effects of Lake Erie; however, the severity of severe winter storms may change in the future. For instance, heavy winter precipitation and blizzard conditions can impact power distribution utilities. As those systems age, weather-related impacts may become more frequent in the form of power outages. The National Climate Assessment identifies a shortened snow season in the Northeast U.S., of which its report considers Pennsylvania a part. The report cites the increase in winter precipitation that falls as rain due to a likely northward shift in the rain-snow transition zone. Some data suggest a connection between arctic amplification and frequent, heavy snowfall winter storms. Enhanced arctic warming increases the amplification or waviness of jet stream patterns, allowing cold arctic air masses to reach the Northeast United States. This phenomenon could increase intense snowstorms in Erie County as the climate transitions to a warmer average. Erie County has seen a 5 to 10% change in the snow-to-rain precipitation ratio over a nearly 70-year period. Under a high emissions climate scenario, researchers expected winter precipitation to increase by 10 to 15% across Pennsylvania.

RECAPTURE POLICY

NOTE ATTACHMENT N1-A

Note conditions:

1. If all or any part of the property or any interest in it is sold or transferred (or if a beneficial interest in Borrower is sold or transferred and Borrower is not a natural person) without Lender's prior written consent, or if any other Default occurs, Lender may, at its option, require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by the Security Instrument. However, this option shall not be exercised by Lender if exercise is prohibited by federal law as of the date of this Security Instrument. If Lender exercises this option, Lender shall give Borrower notice of acceleration. The notice shall provide a period of not less than forty five (45) days from the date the notice is delivered or mailed within which Borrower must pay all sums secured by the Security Instrument. If Borrower fails to pay these sums prior to the expiration of this period, Lender may invoke any remedies permitted by the Security Instrument without further notice or demand on Borrower.

2. The Property must be owner-occupied. Assuming no other default by the Borrower, no repayment of principal or interest will be due so long as the Borrower continues to own and occupy the dwelling as his/her/their principal residence as required and complies with all terms of the Note, the Security Instrument, and the other HOME program requirements.

3. If you continue to own the Property for ten years after the rehabilitation is completed, and comply with all other requirements of the program, no repayment will be required. If the property is sold before the 1st year following the completion of rehabilitation all funds will be repaid, every year thereafter, 1/5th (5 years) or 1/10th (10 years) of the proceeds granted will be forgiven every year.

You do not have to pay back the rehabilitation funds if you gift the Property to your children, your parent(s), or your sibling(s). A gift is a transfer for no money or other value, except for the assumption of any debt on the Property. However, they must fulfill the 5/10 year period. The 5/10-year period does not start over if you gift your property. The new owner starts at the year where you left off. For example, if it has been 4 years since the rehabilitation, and you gift your property to your child, your child has to own the house for only 6 more years to fulfill the 10-year period.

Special allowances may be made in exceptional circumstances, for example, if the Borrower shall die or be placed in a long-term health care facility, the forgiveness provisions set forth above shall continue if ownership of the property remains in Borrower, the Borrower's spouse and/or the Borrower's children. All other terms and conditions contained herein, including maintenance of the Property in accordance with HUD Housing Quality Standards and City of Erie codes, must be adhered to in order for the forgiveness provisions detailed above to continue in full force.

4. On or about the fifth/tenth (5th/10th) anniversary of the date of project completion, or upon the happening of an event of default or upon sale of the Property, the Lender will conduct an inspection of the Property to confirm that the Property has been maintained in accordance with HUD's applicable Housing Quality Standards and applicable City of Erie codes. In the event that violations are found, the Borrower will be given ninety (90) days to correct such violations. The Lender shall conduct a second inspection at the end of the ninety (90) day period. In the event the Property does not pass such second inspection, the Borrower will not be entitled to forgiveness of any of the loan amount. The lien of this Note and the mortgage executed concurrently will remain in full force and effect against the Property.

5. The Lender shall make all determinations with regard to compliance and non-compliance with applicable terms and conditions.

_____
Borrower

_____
Borrower

Witness:

_____

Property Address:

_____

NOTE ATTACHMENT C

CITY OF ERIE, PA
CITY OF ERIE HOMEBUYER PROGRAM
RECAPTURE POLICY

The City of Erie, PA provides City of Erie Homebuyer Program funds for eligible Homebuyer Program activities in order to provide for the sale of housing units to income qualified homebuyers in the City. Listed below is the City's Resale/Recapture Policy under the HOME Investment Partnership Program. This policy complies with the HOME Program regulations at 24 CFR Part 92.254.

Under the Homebuyer Program, there are certain requirements that must be placed on the properties by means of deed restrictions or a recorded mortgage. **The City formally chooses, as required by the Homebuyer Program regulations, to enforce the Homebuyer Program period of affordability via the recapture method.** The recapture policy will be in effect for a time frame equal to the period of affordability as described by the HOME Program regulations at 24 CFR Part 92.254. Homebuyers who receive under $15,000 in Homebuyer Program funds will have a minimum affordability of five (5) years. Homebuyers who receive $15,000 to $24,999 in Homebuyer Program Funds will have a minimum affordability period of ten (10) years. The effective date of the beginning of the required period depends on whether or not HOME funds are used to rehabilitate the property. If no HOME funds are used for rehabilitation, the effective date is the date all completed data is entered into IDIS and as documented by a fully-executed Settlement Statement in the homebuyer's and/or homeowner's file or mortgage loan. If HOME funds are used for rehabilitation, the effective date is the date when all rehabilitation work has been completed, all invoices relating to the work have been paid, a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued by the City of Erie Code Enforcement Office, and you have signed off on the rehabilitation work.

The federal assistance will be provided in the form of a 1% interest per annum, compounded deferred payment loan (DPL), and will be secured by a Homebuyer Program Written Agreement, fully executed and dated by all applicable parties. Under "**Recapture**", if the home is **SOLD** prior to the end of the required affordability period [the homebuyer or the property owner may sell to any willing buyer at any price] a portion of the net sales proceeds from the sale, if any, will be returned to the city to be used for other Homebuyer Program-eligible activities.

The form of recapture to be used by the City of Erie shall be "a sharing of net proceeds." Sharing of net proceeds is defined as the sales price of the property LESS the outstanding mortgage debt owed to the primary lender LESS the homeowner's contribution of the initial down payment. Net proceeds will be shared between the City of Erie and the homeowner based on an annual pro-rata share during the term of affordability if the title of the property is changed before the period of affordability. For example, if the property were to sell in year 1 of the affordability period, and the affordability period was 5 years, then the City would receive 100% of the net proceeds of the Homebuyer Program funds invested, and the homeowner would receive any balance. If the property were sold in year 2, the City would receive 80% and homeowner would receive 20%. If the property were sold in year 3, the City would receive 60% and homeowner would receive 40%. If the property were sold in year 4, the City would receive

40% and homeowner would receive 60%. If the property were sold in year 5, the City would receive 20% and homeowner would receive 80%. Hence, for a project that has an affordability period of 5 years, after year 5 there would be no sharing of net proceeds. The homeowner would keep 100% of the sale proceeds. These provisions will be enforced through a recorded note and mortgage on the property at the time of the Homebuyer Program investment into the project. See example on last page.

In Homebuyer Program-assisted homebuyer projects, the affordability restrictions imposed by deed restrictions, covenants running with the land, or other similar mechanisms may terminate upon foreclosure, transfer in lieu of foreclosure or assignment of an FHA insured mortgage to HUD. The City of Erie may use purchase options, rights of first refusal or other preemptive rights to purchase the housing before foreclosure to preserve affordability. However, the affordability restrictions must be reviewed according to the original terms if, during the original affordability period, the owner of record before the termination event, obtains an ownership interest in the housing.

In addition, the termination of the affordability restrictions in the event of foreclosure, transfer in lieu of foreclosure or assignment of an FHA insured mortgage to HUD, does not satisfy the requirement that the property remains qualified as affordable housing under the Home Investment Partnership Program §92.254 for the period of affordability. Consequently, the following rules apply to Homebuyer Program-assisted homebuyer projects in the event of foreclosure, transfer in lieu of foreclosure or assignment of an FHA insured mortgage to HUD.

1. Recapture

Homebuyer housing with a recapture agreement is not subject to the affordability requirements after the City of Erie has recaptured the Homebuyer Program funds in accordance with its written agreement. If the ownership of the housing is conveyed pursuant to a foreclosure or other involuntary sale, the City of Erie will attempt to recoup any net proceeds that may be available through the foreclosure sale. Because all recapture provisions must be limited to net proceeds, the City of Erie's repayment obligation is limited to the amount of the Homebuyer Program subsidy, if any, that it is able to recover.

EXAMPLE: ***Shared Net Proceeds***

In this option, the HOME rule states that if the net proceeds are not sufficient to recapture the entire Homebuyer Program investment or a reduced amount as described above, plus enable the homebuyer to recover the amount of the down-payment and any investment in the form of capital improvements made by the homebuyer since purchase, the City of Erie may share the net proceeds. In practice, this approach has been the most widely used model and has been applied to all recapture situations, not just insufficient net proceeds. Shared net proceeds, in combination with the pro rata reduction over time, is the most commonly used approach.

- To calculate the amount of net proceeds (or shared appreciation) to be returned to the City:

Direct HOME Subsidy _____ X Net Proceeds = Homebuyer Program Recapture

Direct Homebuyer Program Subsidy + Homebuyer Investment

- To calculate the amount of net proceeds (or shared appreciation) available to the homebuyer:
  - Divide the homebuyer's investment by the sum of the direct Homebuyer Program subsidy and the homebuyer's investment.
  - Multiply by the net proceeds to calculate the amount of homebuyer investment to return to the homebuyer.

$$\frac{\text{Homebuyer Investment}}{\text{Direct Homebuyer Program Subsidy + Homebuyer Investment}} \text{ X Net Proceeds = Amount to Homebuyer}$$

A homebuyer received $10,000 in Homebuyer Program down-payment assistance and provided $2,000 of her own funds for the down-payment. She invested another $3,000 on capital improvements to the property and is selling the home after two years. The City structured its recapture provisions to share the net proceeds with the Homebuyer Program-assisted homebuyer. In this example, the net proceeds of the sale are $5,000. Using the two formulas above, the amount of the net proceeds to be recaptured by the City of Erie is $3,333.

$$\frac{\$10{,}000}{(\$10{,}000 + \$5{,}000)} \text{ X } \$5{,}000 = \$3{,}333$$

The amount of the net proceeds to be recovered by the homebuyer is $1,667.

$$\frac{\$5{,}000}{(\$10{,}000 + \$5{,}000)} \text{ X } \$5{,}000 = \$1{,}667$$

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT GUIDELINES

Updated 10/11/2024

(WRITTEN STANDARDS FOR PROVIDING ASSISTANCE)

Introduction

The City of Erie is a direct entitlement under the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) as established under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition Housing Act of 2009.

The City distributed Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding to the following Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing facility providers:

Community Shelter Services
SafeNet
Mercy Center for Women
City Mission
The Refuge
Community of Caring
St. Patrick's Haven

The City has built partnerships with these providers over the past 20+ years and requests each provider apply for continued funding annually. Applications are by request only.

The City also selected a Rapid Re-housing provider that has ample experience delivering case management services and disbursing financial assistance to clients.

All subrecipients are required to be members of the CoC.

Currently, the City allocates funding to the Emergency Shelter/Transitional facility providers based upon the ratio of the daily average number of beds provided per facility to the daily average provided by all facilities, times the amount of ESG funds available for emergency shelter activities.

Index

I. Evaluation of Eligibility

II. Documentation of Homelessness

III. Matching Requirements

IV. Street Outreach

V. Referral, Length of Stay

VI. Coordination Among Agencies

VII. Determining Participants to Receive Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Services

VIII. Amount of Financial Assistance

IX. Reporting and Retention of Records

X. Performance and HMIS Standards

XI. Termination/Grievance

Attachment A: HUD Homeless Definition

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT
WRITTEN STANDARDS

I. Evaluation of Eligibility

Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Homeless Assistance

Individual shelters and transitional facilities will develop their own intake guidelines for applicants. However, at a minimum, their guidelines must ensure conditions stated in this section. If otherwise eligible for assistance, an individual or family may not be denied assistance solely due to race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability or other handicap, age, marital status, or status with regard to public assistance. Subrecipients are also required to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to programs and activities for limited English proficiency (LEP) persons. Denial of assistance solely because an applicant or participant is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking is prohibited.

In order to receive Emergency Solutions (ESG) assistance at Emergency Shelters or Transitional Facilities, agencies must complete the following steps:

1) The subrecipient must conduct an initial evaluation to determine if each individual or family is eligible for ESG assistance, as well as what amount and type of assistance the individual or family needs to regain stability in permanent housing. These evaluations must be conducted in accordance with the centralized or coordinated assessment requirements agreed upon by the Erie Home Team/CoC and the written standards established under these Emergency Solutions Grant regulations. In addition, subrecipients must comply with the following (24 CFR 576.4):
   - Subrecipient must use the standards of the community-wide HMIS reporting tool for participants. (Providers for victims exempt, but must use an HMIS comparable database.)
   - Subrecipients must consistently apply the same standards for all program participants.

2) The subrecipient must obtain the appropriate required **homeless verification for an eligible category** (see Attachment A for category definitions and documentation requirements).

3) Additionally, individual subrecipients will assess and prioritize the essential needs of all clients and must make the appropriate recommendations and/or referrals. (See Section V, Coordination among Agencies.)

Eligible Costs

The total amount budgeted for Essential services may not exceed 30% of a subrecipient's total ESG budget. In addition, staff costs listed under Operations (other than security) may not exceed 10% of the total ESG budget.

Although DECD does permit subrecipients to use ESG funds to cover payroll costs for those employees providing direct benefits to clients, these costs are typically limited to salary, Unemployment, Workers Compensation, FICA and Disability.

Rapid Re-Housing Application:

Intake Procedures and Methods used to verify homeless status: (as of 1/23/18). GECAC's housing intake procedures have changed. The U.S. Department of HUD has mandated changes in the application process for all homeless and housing programs. Coordinated Entry System has been approved by the Erie Home Team. Any potential applicant must begin the process with Erie County Care Management to determine eligibility for assistance. The overall order of priority for securing evidence of homelessness is established as follows: (1) third party documentation; (2) intake worker observations; and (3) self-certification.

Based on consultation with the CoC, the City's ESG Rapid Re-Housing program started a pilot in FY17 with modified eligibility criteria to reduce barriers for homeless individuals and families. During the pilot, the following will apply:

- Households will have incomes at or below 150% of current federal poverty levels.
- Households will not be required to pay $100 towards the security deposit.

All other Rapid Re-Housing eligibility criteria in the Written Standards will still apply. Referring agencies will use a modified universal form provided by GECAC with the information relevant to this pilot. The City, GECAC, and CoC/Erie Home Team will evaluate outcomes for further decisions to continuously improve the program.

Rapid Re-Housing Recipients

Rapid Re-Housing recipients must be referred to the Rapid Re-Housing provider by Continuum of Care (CoC) agencies. In order to be referred, the CoC referring agency must complete the following steps:

1.) Secure participant's required source documentation for income,
2.) Secure required source documentation for homelessness,
3.) Obtain required demographics,
4.) Complete the appropriate required income form to ensure participant is at or below 150% of current federal poverty levels, and
5.) Secure the required Release of Information between Rapid Re-Housing Partnering Agencies form for client.

Rapid Re-Housing assistance will be used to assist homeless individuals/families. Clients must have not received assistance within the past twelve months and meet one or more of the HUD ESG definitions below. (See also Attachment A, Categories 1 and 4.)

1) A family or individual that lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

   (i) The primary nighttime residence is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;

   (ii) Living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements; or

   (iii) An individual exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.

2) Any individual or family who: (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence; (ii) Has no other residence; and (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks, *e.g.,* family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

If a client has received services within the past 12 months, but their situation has changed and their CoC caseworker feels they now will benefit from the rapid re-housing service, a waiver must be approved by three CoC executive committee members of which one member must be the Erie County representative and one member must be the City of Erie representative.

Note: Funding MAY NOT be used to keep participants in their current housing. It must be used to pay a portion of the security deposit and up to three months' rent on a new housing unit. Any deviation from this standard will require a waiver from three CoC executive committee members of which one member must be the Erie County representative and one member must be the City of Erie representative.

If the participant meets all of the requirements above, the referring agency may then refer client to the rapid re-housing provider and share information with that provider. Documentation for each client must be maintained for a minimum of five years after the grant term has expired.

For the Rapid Re-Housing Program, regulations require subrecipients re-evaluate participant's eligibility and the types and amounts of assistance the participant needs not less than once every 12 months. Re-evaluation must establish that:

- The participant does not have an annual income that exceeds 150% or less of median family income for the area.
- The participant lacks sufficient resources and support networks necessary to retain housing.

Note: This will not affect most participants as assistance is limited to a security deposit and the first three months rent.

The subrecipient may require each rapid re-housing participant to notify the subrecipient regarding changes in their income or other circumstances that affect the need for assistance. When notified of a relevant change, the subrecipient must re-evaluate the participant's eligibility.

All recipients of rapid re-housing funding must provide a lease agreement to the rapid rehousing provider. Leases must contain a provision or addendum with the required VAWA information as outlined in 576.106(g). Each applicant for rental assistance must be provided the notice of occupancy rights and certification form described in 576.409(c).

All housing units utilized through the City's ESG Rapid Re-Housing program must meet habitability standards at 24 CFR 576.40 and recordkeeping and reporting requirements at 24 CFR 576.500(j). A standard inspection checklist is to be used to conduct property inspections for habitability standards, and will include all the elements that must be covered under 24 CFR 576.403. Upon completion of the property inspection, an inspection report documenting that the property met all the standards contained in the checklist will be included in the participant files.

II. Matching Requirements

The ESG program requires recipients to make matching contributions in a 1:1 ratio equal to the amount of the fiscal year ESG grant. This requirement is passed on to subrecipients. Match may be cash or in-kind and must be used for ESG-eligible costs.

III. Documentation of Homelessness

Subrecipients are required to maintain documentation of the applicant's homelessness status in order to determine their eligibility. The documentation is typically obtained from a third party at the time of referral, entry, intake or orientation. The documentation should be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years after the grant period has expired.

The applicant must be homeless as defined by HUD and eligible under the Emergency Solutions Grant program. See Attachment A: Homeless Definition.

Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing Eligibility

Category 1: Literally Homeless
Category 2: Imminent Risk of Homeless
Category 4: Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence

Rapid Rehousing Eligibility

Category 1: Literally Homeless
Category 4: Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence

**To qualify under Category 3 (Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes), the project must be located within a CoC that has specific HUD approval to serve this category and document such approval of the applicable statue/definition.*

The order of priority for obtaining evidence of homeless status for all ESG programs is the following: 1) third-party documentation, 2) intake worker observations, and 3) certification from the person seeking assistance. However, lack of third-party documentation must not prevent an individual or family from being immediately admitted to emergency shelter or receiving services by a victim service provider. Records contained in HMIS or a comparable database used by victim or legal service providers are acceptable evidence of third-party documentation. Intake worker observations are also acceptable if the HMIS retains an auditable history of all entries.

Subrecipients shall attempt to secure documentation for the appropriate category as outlined in Attachment A, Recordkeeping Requirements and these Written Standards.

IV. Street Outreach

The City will not provide funding for Street Outreach Services.

V. Referral, Length of Stay

Referrals

All client referrals must be made through the Erie County Coordinated Entry System.

Subrecipients must assist each program participant, as needed, to obtain:

- Appropriate supportive services, including assistance in obtaining permanent housing, medical health treatment, mental health treatment, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living, and
- Other Federal, State, local and private assistance available to assist the participant in obtaining housing stability, including:

1) Medicaid
2) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (7 CFR Parts 271-283)
3) Women, Infants and Children (WIC) (7 CFR Part 246)
4) Federal-State Unemployment Insurance Program (20 CFR Parts 601-603, 606, 609, 614-617, 625, 640, 650)
5) Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) (20 CFR Part 404)
6) Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (20 CFR Part 416)
7) Child and Adult Care Food Program (42 U.S.C. 1766(t)(7 CFR Part 226))
8) Other assistance available under the programs listed in §576.400(c)

Subrecipients must coordinate, to the maximum extent practical, with other programs targeted to homeless people to provide a strategic, community-wide system to prevent and end homelessness. These programs include:

- Shelter Care Plus
- Supportive Housing Programs
- Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program for Single Room Occupancy for Homeless Individuals
- Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
- Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grants
- Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals
- Healthcare for the Homeless
- Programs for Runaway and Homeless Youth
- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
- Services in Supportive Housing Grants
- Emergency Food and Shelter Programs
- Transitional Housing for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Programs
- Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program
- Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program
- VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program
- Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program
- Homeless Veterans Dental Program
- Supportive Services for Veterans' Families Programs
- Veterans Justice Outreach Initiatives
- Public Housing
- Tenant-based or Project-based Housing Assistance Programs
- TANF
- Head Start
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grants
- Workforce Investment Act Services

Additionally, policies and procedures must be consistent with the definitions of homelessness at 24 CFR 576.2 and the recordkeeping requirements of 24 CFR 576.500 (b), (c), (d), and (e).

Length of Stay

Subrecipients must ensure program participants continually work toward securing permanent housing. Under no circumstances shall a client exceed the two-year maximum stay period. Individual subrecipients will set their own discharge policies and procedures. However, all subrecipients must have a grievance process and written procedures in place. Program participants must be informed of the grievance procedures.

V. Coordination Among Agencies

ESG recipients are required to be members in and actively participate in the CoC.

For Rapid Re-Housing, coordination among agencies will be directed by the Erie CoC. Referrals for services must come from CoC members. In order to obtain services, **clients must sign a release of information** form so the referring agency may release files to the Rapid Re-housing provider. Members that refer clients must continue providing the services they were providing at the time of the referral up until the client secures housing. CoC members will evaluate the outcomes of the program and report problems or concerns at the CoC general membership meeting, which meets every other month.

Coordination with the CoC membership integrates the proposed program with other homeless programs and mainstream housing and service providers listed in 576.400 (b) and (c) through its diverse membership.

For discussions regarding all ESG Guideline changes, the City will consult the CoC Executive Committee or the General Membership. The City will continue to require a homeless or a formerly homeless CoC member review all updates.

Should that individual be absent from a review by any of the CoC committees, the City will seek this individual's input in addition to the CoC input.

VI. Determining Participants to Receive Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Services

Rapid Re-Housing and Homeless Prevention Services will be provided to those participants that are referred to the service provider by CoC members.

The Rapid Re-Housing provider will make the determination as to the rapid re-housing funding to be distributed to the participant. Participants may receive a portion of the security deposit and up to the first three months' rent.

VIII. Amount of Financial Assistance

The maximum amount a program participant can receive is $2,000, however this amount should not be considered the normal amount. The Rapid Re-Housing caseworker must review the amount of the required security deposit and accompanying three months rent for cost reasonableness.

Households will not be required to pay $100 towards the security deposit. The portion of the rent to be paid will be determined by the rapid re-housing provider staff. Factors to consider in determining the amount of rent to be paid will be as follows:

- The monthly rent amount
- The client's current assets
- The client's current monthly income
- Any changes in the client's income, employment, status while receiving assistance
- The overall demand of the program
- Other assistance the participant is receiving (total monthly assistance the participant is receiving from all sources shall never exceed the total monthly rent)

Clients will be required to inform the rapid re-housing provider if their status changes, and additional evaluations may be requested. Typically, clients receive one evaluation only, as none will exceed the regulatory one-year period.

Participants may receive funding for the partial payment of a security deposit and up to three months rent one time. Once the participant receives funding for a security deposit, he/she is ineligible to receive funding for another security deposit or rent on a different unit. The participant can receive a waiver one time to this requirement if he/she did not secure or remain in housing through no fault of their own. This condition will require a waiver from three CoC executive committee members of which one member must be the Erie County representative and one member must be the City of Erie representative.

The City of Erie will use these written standards as initial guidelines for the ESG grant and will continue to refine these standards as the community, and in particular the CoC, adapts and further develops strategies and new best practices.

IX. Reporting and Retention of Records

Subrecipients will be required to submit monthly Direct Benefit Reports by the 5th day of the month. All subrecipients must submit year-end final ESG Completion reports and information required by HUD for the CAPER (such as the Sage Reporting system) by July 15th each year to the City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development.

ESG subrecipients must include nondiscrimination provisions related to admissions, occupancy and operating policies for nondiscrimination and equal access to programs, shelters, benefits, or services funded through the HUD ESG program.

Client files and program records must be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years after the grant period has expired.

Subrecipients must make records available to the Grantee as requested for monitoring purposes.

X. Performance and HMIS Standards

The measurements below are designed to align with HUD's CoC System Performance Measures and the ESG reporting requirements. These performance measures will be reported annually in the City's CAPER. These standards were discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on April 13, 2017. The City also consulted with the HMIS Coordinator prior to adopting the 2024 HMIS Data Standards that went into effect October 1, 2023.

Subrecipients will track the following information using HMIS or a HMIS-comparable database. The Question numbers following each measure align with Sage/CAPER reporting.

1. The residence of individuals prior to project entry (*Q15*);
2. The number of individuals and families served that are chronically homeless (*Q26b*);
3. The exit destination of individuals to determine entries into permanent housing, temporary destinations, or other institutions (*Q23a*).

Erie County's Homeless Management Information System is an electronic web-based database application. The HMIS-Erie system is administered by Erie County. The system is accessible to all participating homeless service providers and other community-based programs that have been issued authorized log-ons and have participated in one-on-one user training. The system provides data collection, client tracking, bed availability, identification of gaps or duplications in services, unduplicated counts of homeless individuals and families (including the compilation of chronic individuals), and formulates reports required by funding sources and community planning.

All subrecipients required to use HMIS must coordinate efforts with the designated HMIS coordinator for HUD-required reports (including the CAPER). Subrecipients will also protect the privacy of all participant information per the HMIS Data and Technical Standards.

X. Termination/Grievance

Subrecipients may terminate assistance provided by ESG-funded activities to participants who violate program requirements.

Subrecipients must have termination and grievance policies and procedures that describe the program requirements, termination process, and grievance procedure.

Subrecipients must effectively communicate the termination and grievance procedures to participants and ensure that the procedures are fully understood, either with written information or by posting the policy in a public place.

No individual or family may be denied admission to or removed from an emergency shelter on the basis or as a direct result of the fact that the individual or family is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking if the individual or family otherwise qualifies for occupancy. ESG subrecipients may not deny or terminate assistance based solely on an individual or family's sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status if the individual or family would be otherwise eligible for assistance.

Attachment A: HUD Homeless Definition



Homeless Definition

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING HOMELESS			
	Category 1	Literally Homeless	(1) Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning: (i) Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; (ii) Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); or (iii) Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution
	Category 2	Imminent Risk of Homelessness	(2) Individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that: (i) Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance; (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; and (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing
	Category 3	Homeless under other Federal statutes	(3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who: (i) Are defined as homeless under the other listed federal statutes; (ii) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing during the 60 days prior to the homeless assistance application; (iii) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during in the preceding 60 days; and (iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time due to special needs or barriers
	Category 4	Fleeing/ Attempting to Flee DV	(4) Any individual or family who: (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence; (ii) Has no other residence; and (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing