



Substantial Amendments to the City of Mount Vernon, New York Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2017

The City of Mount Vernon's Department of Planning & Community Development (City), in conjunction with the Urban Renewal Agency (Agency), is responsible for the preparation and submission of the City's Annual Action Plans for Community Development Programs, funded by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Department of Planning and Community Development is proposing to amend its FY2017 One Year Action Plan component of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The City of Mount Vernon expects to submit the Substantial Amendment to HUD on or before August 8, 2018.

The annual action plan identifies the need of low and moderate income and special needs populations and describes the activities that the City intends to undertake to address the priorities and specific objectives for housing and community development. The Plan also identifies the public and private funding sources that will be used to carry out the needs and objectives outlined in the Plan.

HUD requires the City to submit an Annual Action Plan each year, identifying the activities it intends to undertake with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). The City is following the Citizen Participation Process outlined in the Office of Planning and Community Development Citizen Participation Plan. The City must hold a public comment period to obtain citizen input on any proposed changes in projects or funding allocations contained in the Action Plan, whenever the proposed changes meet the definition of a Substantial Amendment as outlined in the Citizen Participation Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

The thirty day public comment period begins on July 6, 2018 and ends at 12:00pm on August 6, 2018. The City will accept comments from the public on these Amendments during this timeframe.

The Public is hereby notified that comments on the Substantial Amendment will be accepted via email to:

Dominique McCoy
Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency
email: dmccoy@cmvny.com

The Substantial Amendment is available on the City website at: www.cmvny.com/cdbg. Hard copies are available for review at the:

Office of Planning and Community Development
1 Roosevelt Square, 2nd floor, Mount Vernon, NY 10550

No comments will be accepted via telephone.

SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT OVERVIEW:

The Substantial Amendment allows for the programming of available funds to best meet current needs as identified in the 5 Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. This Amendment adds two new CDBG activities by reallocating FY2014, FY2015, and FY216 funds, a summary of the changes is outlined below, followed by detailed information about each of the activities.

This Amendment also adds three new HOME activities by reallocating FY2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 unallocated funds, a summary of the changes is outlined below, followed by detailed information about each of the activities.

Community Development Block Grant Program:

The City is amending its FY 2017 Annual Action Plan, reallocating FY2014, FY2015, FY2016, and FY2017 funds as outlined below:

Changes to CDBG funded activities:	Prior Allocation	Funding Change	% Change in Allocation:
FY 2014 Unallocated Funds	\$258,580.27	-\$258,580.27	-100%
FY2015 Unallocated Funds	\$282,628.36	-\$282,628.36	-100%
FY2016 Unallocated Funds	\$500,000.00	-\$500,000.00	-100%
Renovating Playgrounds	\$0.00	\$641,208.63	New Activity
Street Repaving/Sidewalks	\$0.00	\$400,000.00	New Activity

Sub-Grantee's Name: Mount Vernon Department of Recreation	Program: CDBG
Project Title: Renovation of Playgrounds	Objective Category: Low-Moderate Income Areas
Priority Need: Public Infrastructure	Outcome Category: Availability/Accessibility
Project ID: 2017-2018	
CDBG Eligible Area: Yes	HUD Matrix Code: 03F
Type of Recipient: Urban Renewal Agency	IDIS Activity #:
Location: Adams Playground, 59 Adams Street Madison Playground, 45 Madison Avenue Old 7 th Avenue Playground, 125 S. 7 th Avenue Howard Street Playground, 26 Howard Street	Census Tract # 32 32 29 37

Purdy Park/Lyons Playground, 110 S. 9 th Avenue	29
Grove Street Playground, 42 Grove Street	35
Sophie J. Mee Playground, 259 S. 3 rd Avenue	31
Nicholas Playground, High Street	37
Eddie Williams Playground, 239 S. 7 th Avenue	31

Funding Source Including Year	
CDBG: \$641,208.63	
Prior Year Funds: FY2014, FY2015, and FY2016	Total: \$641,210.63

Description and Links to Consolidated Plan Goals:

Support neighborhood revitalization efforts to improve public facilities and infrastructure, especially in targeted areas.

Neighborhood parks and playgrounds are vital to a City’s quality of life and the City of Mount Vernon is committed to providing quality green spaces. The Office of Planning and Community Development in coordination with the Department of Public Works and the Department of Recreation will work together to complete park and playground improvements to meet the needs and priorities of the community. Depending on the playground, improvements may include the installation of new playground equipment, replacing broken or unsafe equipment, rehabbing sports courts, pathways, landscaping, and ADA compliance. The playgrounds targeted for improvements are located in CDBG eligible census tracts. The use of CDBG funds for these purposes is an investment in the future vitality of our City.

Mount Vernon has 241 acres of parks and open space, which provides only 0.0035 acres (153.5 square feet) per person. Parks and recreation opportunities are provided by the City of Mount Vernon, Westchester County and the private sector. Brush Park and Glover Field are the only major parks located on the south-side of the City. The Consolidated Plan established that funds will be targeted to the City’s four (4) identified “Local Target Areas”: the CD Target Area, Downtown, Mount Vernon West and Southside. These areas were identified by City staff, not for-profit stakeholders and the public as the areas most in need of investment in housing and non-housing community development funds.

The City intends to address the following park and playgrounds in this Action Plan:

Adams Playground, Madison Playground, Old 7th Avenue Playground, Howard Street Playground, Purdy Park/Lyons Playground, Grove Street Playground, Sophie J. Mee Playground, Nicholas Playground, Eddie Williams Playground, and Brush Park.

Sub-Grantee's Name: Mount Vernon Department of Public Works	Program: CDBG
Project Title: Improvement of Sidewalks, Curb cuts, signage	Objective Category: Low Moderate Income Area
Priority Need: Public Infrastructure	Outcome Category: Availability/Accessibility
Project ID: 2017-2018	
CDBG Eligible Area: Yes	HUD Matrix Code: 03L
Type of Recipient: Urban Renewal Agency	IDIS Activity #:
Location: South Fourth Avenue-East Third Street - Roughly bound by East Lincoln Avenue to the north, North Fulton Avenue to the east, Fourth Street to the south and West Lincoln Avenue to the west.	Census Tracts: Encompasses census block groups: 31.001, 31.002, 32.001, 36.001, 36.002, 36.003, 40.002 and 40.003.
Funding Source Including Year	
CDBG: \$400,000	
Prior Year Funds: FY2016	Total: \$400,000
<p>Description and Links to Consolidated Plan Goals:</p> <p>Support neighborhood revitalization efforts to improve public facilities and infrastructure, especially in targeted areas.</p> <p>The Consolidated Plan established that funds will be targeted to the South Fourth Avenue – East Third Street. This area was identified by City staff, not for-profit stakeholders and the public as one of the areas most in need of investment in housing and non-housing community development funds.</p> <p>The results of the public survey and at the April 14, 2014 public forum identified Downtown as one of the top 5 areas most at risk for deterioration. Streetscape and public infrastructure improvements were identified as being one of the needs in the area.</p> <p>The Office of Planning and Community Development in coordination with the Department of Public Works will work together to install new sidewalks, curbing, drainage, visibility signs, and ADA improvements to meet the needs and priorities of the community. The use of CDBG funds for this purpose is an investment in the future vitality of our City.</p>	

Sub-Grantee's Name: Westchester Residential Opportunities	Program: HOME
Project Title: Homebuyer Assistance Program	
Project ID: 2017-2018	
Type of Recipient: Urban Renewal Agency	IDIS Activity #:
Funding Source Including Year	
HOME: \$323,723	
Prior Year Funds: 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017	Total: \$383,565.70
<p>The City of Mount Vernon proposes to amend the FY2017 Annual Action Plan for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. The City will be adding a new activity to the Annual Action Plan as well as reprogramming prior HOME federal funding dollars.</p> <p>The amendment will insert homebuyer assistance program to be funded by HOME funds as well as existing unprogrammed funds.</p>	

Sub-Grantee's Name: Allied Community Enterprise	Program: HOME
Project Title: CHDO	
Project ID: 2017-2018	
Type of Recipient: CHDO	IDIS Activity #:
Funding Source Including Year	
HOME:	
Prior Year Funds: 2016, 2017	Total: \$255,732
<p>The City of Mount Vernon proposes to amend the FY2017 Annual Action Plan for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. The City will be adding a new activity to the Annual Action Plan as well as reprogramming prior HOME federal funding dollars.</p> <p>The CHDO will construct or renovate one to two homes for low moderate income buyers who participate in the home buyer assistance program being established by the City of Mount Vernon.</p>	

Sub-Grantee's Name: Habitat for Humanity of Westchester	Program: HOME
Project Title: Residential Rehabilitation	
Project ID: 2017-2018	
Type of Recipient: Community Based Organization	IDIS Activity #:
Funding Source Including Year	
HOME: \$474,642.75	
Prior Year Funds: 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017	Total: \$474,642.75
<p>The City of Mount Vernon proposes to amend the FY2017 Annual Action Plan for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. The City will be adding a new activity to the Annual Action Plan as well as reprogramming prior HOME federal funding dollars.</p> <p>The amendment will insert owner occupied residential rehabilitation to be funded by HOME funds as well as existing unprogrammed funds. This program will prioritize assistance to the elderly, disabled, and veterans.</p>	