

**Dutchess County**  
**2020-2024 Consolidated Plan Priorities**

**PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS**

**Priority Need:** Use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for public facilities and improvements that support existing and emerging centers. Public facilities and improvements include public facility improvements, sidewalks and crosswalks, parks and recreation, and water and wastewater. In general, public facilities and public improvements are interpreted to include all facilities and improvements that are publicly owned, or that are owned by a nonprofit and open to the general public.

**Strategic Goals:**

Public Facilities and Improvements:

- Repair of existing or construction of new sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts, bike friendly features and bus shelters that improve pedestrian connections and safety for all residents with a priority for people with disabilities, older adults, persons with vision impairments, and children.
- Improvements to existing municipal facilities and municipal parks and recreation areas, with a priority for accessible improvements. New recreation facilities will be considered based on clearly demonstrated need.
- Improvements designed to mitigate flooding and improve resiliency of critical infrastructure, facilities, neighborhoods and housing.
  - Within these goals, prioritize projects that:
  - Reinforce traditional or emerging centers with a mixture of uses and building types, support main streets, and build on existing infrastructure.
  - Were developed through an asset inventory, capital planning process, or Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC) or other local plans.
  - Contain green features.

Water and wastewater:

- Development of central water and wastewater systems within existing and emerging centers, so municipalities can expand economically, for both housing and business.
- Maintenance of central water and wastewater systems in municipalities that have properly set user charges (i.e., water and sewer rates). Properly set charges are those that accurately reflect the cost of operations and maintenance and are regularly reviewed and adjusted to reflect these costs.
- Alternative wastewater systems in existing and emerging centers, cluster subdivisions, small or unique lots, or those in environmentally sensitive areas.
- New techniques to contain drainage such as green streets, pervious parking lots and walkways, and rain gardens, with a priority for areas where runoff and infiltration of storm water into sewer systems is a problem.

**PUBLIC SERVICES**

**Priority Need:** Support the use of CDBG public service funds for activities that specifically benefit and address the issues of affordable housing, homeless prevention and homelessness; education, diversion and workforce development for youth; substance abuse and mental illness services; and services to senior citizens focused on transportation and basic needs.

## **Strategic Goals:**

### Homeless:

The priorities surrounding homelessness are covered in two sections of this strategic plan. This section focuses on emergency housing and support services. The transitional and permanent housing needs are covered in the housing section below. Priority will be given to programs which support the identified needs and goals of the Dutchess County Continuum of Care (CoC) and are provided by agencies who actively participate in the CoC.

- Existing emergency shelter operations (does not include physical improvements)
- Programs that provide counseling and assistance to address immediate needs of the homeless and those at-risk of homelessness with the goal of developing longer term solutions and independent living skills.

### Youth:

- General counseling, juvenile delinquent diversion, education services to low/mod youth.
- High quality workforce development programs for low/mod youth between 16-24 including job mentoring, paid internships, partnership between schools and business, training for emerging employment sectors, work readiness skills and educational support services.

### Substance Abuse and Mental Illness:

- Residential services and emergency housing for individuals with active substance abuse or mental health issues who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- Follow-up substance abuse treatment programs to prevent further homelessness.
- Recovery coaches and peer-to-peer counseling services.
- Services that address accidental fatal drug overdoses.
- Programs that address substance abuse for youth age 12-17. This does not include general outreach/prevention activities.

### Senior Citizens

- Programs that address the needs of seniors including transportation, loneliness and isolation, and insufficient money for food, shelter or clothes.

## **JOB CREATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Priority Need:** Support programs and projects that encourage job creation for low- and moderate-income persons, as well as assist low- and moderate-income persons start businesses.

### **Strategic Goals:**

- Support programs and projects that encourage job creation for low- and moderate-income persons, as well as assist low- and moderate-income persons starting businesses.
- Support the conversion of vacant buildings, especially school buildings, located in/near existing or emerging hamlets, to support local housing or economic development goals/projects.
- Consider using Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program for economic revitalization projects that are large enough to assist with renewing neighborhoods and business districts.

## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**Priority Need:** Use HOME Investment Partnership and CDBG funds to improve housing affordability and availability through:

- New affordable rental housing with a priority for projects which have a set-aside for hard to serve populations
- Transitional and permanent affordable rental housing for the homeless
- Strategic investment in homeownership as part of larger neighborhood revitalization efforts
- Homeowner rehabilitation via the County's Senior Citizen Rehabilitation Program and volunteer rehabilitation programs.

Hard to serve populations include but are not limited to: extremely low-income persons (defined at less than 30% of the area median income), persons with justice system involvement, and persons with severe mental needs or a history of substance abuse issues.

### **Strategic Goals:**

#### Rental Housing:

- Creation of new affordable rental housing through new construction, rehabilitation of vacant residential buildings, and adaptive reuse of commercial or industrial properties.

Prioritize housing with the following characteristics:

- Intergenerational or non-restricted housing.
- Housing in communities or neighborhoods with limited affordable opportunities.
- Housing that sets aside a portion of the units for hard-to-serve populations.
- Housing which:
  - Is located in established or emerging centers
  - Is located along transit routes, and near employment and services
  - Incorporates –
    - Active design
    - Universal design
    - Green features
  - Created through the Dutchess County/City of Poughkeepsie Land Bank or the City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force

#### Owner-Occupied Housing:

- Volunteer owner-occupied rehabilitation programs such as Rebuilding Together and Habitat for Humanity.
- Homeownership:
  - As part of specific efforts to revitalize neighborhoods and expand fair housing choice
  - Created through the Dutchess County/City of Poughkeepsie Land Bank, the City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force or Habitat for Humanity

#### Transitional and Permanent Homeless Housing:

- Permanent or transitional housing for the homeless.
  - Priority will be given to:
    - Permanent housing.
    - Housing that address needs also identified by the Dutchess County Continuum of Care.
    - Housing that sets-aside a portion of their units for hard-to-serve populations
    - Housing developed by agencies that demonstrate collaboration and are active participants in the DCHC.
    - Created through the Dutchess County/City of Poughkeepsie Land Bank or City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force