



**Support Services Department
Community Development Block Grant**

2019 Annual Action Plan

Support Services Department
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF WALLA WALLA CDBG 2019 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Walla Walla will hold a Public Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program's 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 6:30pm in the City of Walla Walla Council Chambers, 15 N. 3rd Ave., Walla Walla, WA. Copies of the CAPER are available for review on the city's website, <https://bit.ly/CAPER2019> and upon request at 509-527-4540. This material can be made available in an alternate format by calling 509-527-4540 or by writing jbeckmeyer@wallawallawa.gov. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 7-1-1. Written comments on the CAPER will be accepted through March 27, 2020 at the Support Services Department.

Council Chambers is ADA accessible. Additional requests for modification can be made to the Title VI/ADA Coordinator at bolson@wallawallawa.gov or by calling 509-527-4540 two business days prior to the hearing. Spanish interpretation will be available at the Public Hearing.

Si necesita esta o cualquier otra información acerca del Informe Anual de Evaluación de Rendimiento de 2019 del Programa de Desarrollo Comunitario en español puede hablar con Jennifer al 509-524-4496.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2020.

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

Accomplishments for the 2019 Program Year consisted of:

- Micro-Business Assistance Program continued into its second year spearheaded by the City of Walla Walla in conjunction with multiple other local governmental and private partners. 23 new and existing businesses owned by low- to moderate-income individuals were assisted through this program in 2019 and 10 new FTE jobs were created and three jobs were retained. Seven of the businesses assisted are located in the NRSA.
- Continued success of the public service activities in 2019 and continuing to exceed the Strategic Plan goals. Establishment of the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area in 2019 meant that 1,946 of the 2,680 served through public services were NRSA residents.
- Work was completed repair work on three homes and three more homes are in the docket to begin repair work in 2020.
- 18 solar lights were installed on homeowner properties in low-income neighborhoods as an effort to increase exterior security lighting. All of these homes are located in the NRSA.
- Updated the City's 20-year Comprehensive Plan that included a major overhaul to the zoning code
- Outreach to individuals, public and private agencies, and neighborhood groups with a focus on assessing the needs of persons with low incomes, substandard housing, disabilities, and at-risk of becoming homeless continued throughout the year with overall success
- Citizen engagement in both English and Spanish citywide and in particular with neighborhood groups and community agencies that provide services within the NRSA
- Participation by the City of Walla Walla in the restructuring of the local Continuum of Care and formation of the Council on Housing to oversee the implementation of Walla Walla County's Homeless Housing Plan
- Strengthened communication with other city departments relating to different aspects of the CDBG Program: finance, engineering, streets, GIS, police and fire departments, legal, city clerk, parks and recreation, library, planning and building

- Continued engagement and outreach into the City’s Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area and Opportunity Zone.
- City of Walla Walla worked with other local providers and agencies to secure funding to support the Anchor Community Initiative whose goal is to end homelessness for all youth ages 13-24 by 2022. The City continues to support this coordinated community-wide effort.
- Efforts to further fair housing include making sure fair housing information is readily available and shared throughout the community in both English and Spanish.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Enhance Quality of Life for Walla Walla Residents	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	8600	2680	31.16%	1900	2680	141.05%
Enhance Quality of Life for Walla Walla Residents	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	10	0	0.00%	0	0	0

Enhance Quality of Life for Walla Walla Residents	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	0	0		0	0	
Enhance Quality of Life for Walla Walla Residents	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	0	10		0	10	
Increase Affordable and Accessible Housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	0	0.00%	2	0	0.00%
Increase Affordable and Accessible Housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	65	21	32.30%	13	21	161.53%
Promote Healthy and Vibrant Neighborhoods	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	7300	3225	44.17%	1450	3225	222.41%
Support Economic Development Activities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	0	0		0	0	

Support Economic Development Activities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	10	10	100.00%	3	10	333.33%
Support Economic Development Activities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	40	23	57.50%	12	23	191.66%

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

One of the highest identified needs in the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan was more jobs and higher wages. 2018 was the year that the CDBG program saw its efforts at economic development come to fruition with the launch of the City's Micro-Business Assistance Program. This program started as a partnership with Mercy Corps Northwest in an effort to bring technical assistance and increased financial capacity to low-income business owners and entrepreneurs in Walla Walla. In 2019, 13 FTE jobs were created/retained in the City of Walla Walla and 23 businesses were assisted thanks to this program.

Housing was the other highest priority need and has seen continued success at the start of the City's second 5-year plan. Three homes were completed and another three are being scheduled for repairs in 2020. Homeowners that participated in the exterior security lighting program also received significant improvements in the safety of their homes and surrounding areas. Home repair and security lighting efforts are ongoing into 2020 and neighborhood feedback continues to express that these activities are a high priority in the 2019-2023 ConPlan.

Investment in public infrastructure such as sidewalk replacement and ADA ramp construction has continued to be strong and GIS work indicates the need continues to be high within the NRSA, where these improvements are targeted. This activity continues to be a high priority for community members and the City. The activity for 2019 was to remove and replace damaged sections of sidewalk and build new ADA-accessible ramps in three different block groups, leading to a higher than anticipated number of people served in this program year.

Public service activities typically respond to needs above and beyond the estimated goals. Needs for these services are high and the mechanisms in place for referrals for pro-bono legal help, literacy classes and neighborhood revitalization activities have shown to be very successful. Serving over 1,000 people per program year, 2,680 in 2019, continues to be the pace, particularly for the neighborhood revitalization organization Commitment to Community that is an area benefit activity in the established NRSA that served 1,946 people.

Several projects listed above have yet to report accomplishment data in 2019, for example home repair for rental housing and housing assistance as a public service goals have yet to be met. Those accomplishments will be reached as the ConPlan continues through years two through five.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG
White	544
Black or African American	5
Asian	1
American Indian or American Native	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
Total	551
Hispanic	348
Not Hispanic	203

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Of the families served in 2019, 63% were Hispanic and 1% families of color. Not included in this calculation are multi-racial households that were served and those of two different races. Overall, the program continues to positively impact highly diverse areas and low/mod residents.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	394,643	284,712.21

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The City expended \$284,712 in the 2019 program year. This includes \$11,345 in program income that came in from the home repair program and was expended through the home repair revolving loan fund.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
City Wide	40	40	Investments include public services, home repair, and economic development
West WW	40	40	Investments include neighborhood revitalization, home repair, exterior security lights, economic development, and public infrastructure

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Over 40% of the grant funds went to investments made directly in the West Walla Walla NRSA or directly benefited people living in this Strategy Area. Other funds were expended on administrative and planning activities for the CDBG program and on activities available to LMI persons living outside of the target census tracts.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Public service activities leveraged an additional \$325,000, approximately, in private, state, and local funding for its adult literacy, pro-bono legal referral and Commitment to Community neighborhood revitalization programs.

The Micro-Business Assistance (MBA) Program was able to leverage an additional \$49,380 of additional private funding and \$17,200 in public funds to support this economic development initiative started by the City of Walla Walla. In addition to the local support, Mercy Corps Northwest submitted an application for \$150,000 SBA PRIME Grant that was awarded October 1, 2019 and a grant from the USDA for \$47,083. This allowed them to retain the Walla Walla program manager and to expand Mercy Corps services locally. For every dollar of CDBG funds spend on the MBA Program, \$3.30 dollars were raised as match in 2019.

For activities that directly impacted the NRSA, funds leveraged and received that were used on activities within the NRSA in neighborhood revitalization and economic development were \$220,000 and \$105,465 respectively, for a total of \$325,465 of leveraged funds in the NRSA in 2019.

No publicly owned land or properties were used to address needs identified in the plan.

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	15	21
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	15	21

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	15	21
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	15	21

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

Three homes received major rehabilitation work. 18 homes were retrofitted with exterior security lights to improve homeowner safety and sense of security. This number is slightly higher than anticipated for the 2019 program year.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Work will continue on homes that are in the docket for the major rehabilitation program. Some projects were slowed down in 2019 because of a hot construction market, which means possibly more will be repaired in 2020 than were repaired in 2019. Exterior security lighting program is scheduled to grow in 2020 and number of homeowners and potentially renters participating in this program is expected to increase.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	0	0
Low-income	0	0
Moderate-income	3	0
Total	3	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Three homes were repaired in 2019 and more are planned for 2020. All of the homeowners in the 2019 program were moderate-income. Homes that received security lights were all located in the NRSA and did not require income information to qualify.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

- Exit Homelessness program run by Walla Walla Homeless Alliance was moved from the basement of City Hall to the Sleep Center, the City's emergency sleep site for homeless individuals. The program connects people staying at the sleep site to resources that assist them in finding jobs, getting ids, secure housing, and more, with the ultimate goal of exiting homelessness.
- A part-time social worker was hired to help connect people at the sleep site to resources in the community such as food, furnishings, clothes, services, and benefits.
- The Anchor Community Initiative brought almost \$1 million dollars to Walla Walla County to assist with youth outreach, wrap-around services, and two housing navigator positions were created to help youth navigate the housing system and know their rights. Those positions will be filled early 2020.
- The Summer Ambassador Program run by the Walla Walla Police Department continues to have success in the Downtown area connecting those who are homeless with services.
- Comprehensive Healthcare through its Housing and Recovery through Peer Services (HARPS) program does provide resources and outreach to homeless persons that are also receiving mental health treatment through their agency.
- Veteran's Affairs uses outreach workers to do street outreach directed at Veterans within its service area, which includes Walla Walla.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

- The first emergency shelter for youth ages 12-17 had its first full operational year in 2019.
- Christian Aid Center expanded capacity and now is able to house 52 bed women and children's shelter that opened in 2018 and completed it's first full year of operations in 2019.
- Waypoint, a transitional housing facility for persons dealing with mental health crises, opened in 2018 and was fully operational and at capacity in 2019.
- The City oversees a sleep site that consists of 31 Conestoga wagon huts that sleep roughly 40 people and has overflow capacity for up to 8 people. The sleep site was at capacity most nights in 2019.
- The city is exploring supporting a Housing IDA program that will help homeless or households at risk of becoming homeless save money and receive funds to secure permanent housing. That program will be further explored and perhaps implemented in 2020.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

- Walla Walla’s Catholic Charities continues to serve as the local liaison for the Office of Homeless Youth in partnership with Building Changes and A Way Home Washington that work together to better understand local data around youth homelessness in order to improve our community's response to their unique needs. Because of those and other community collaborative efforts, Walla Walla was selected as one of four Anchor Communities in the State of Washington in 2018. Throughout 2019, partner agencies started work to build a “Yes to Yes” system to ensure that any youth ages 12-24 who wants to receive shelter and wrap-around services will be able to access them locally. The first milestone reached was Walla Walla was the first community of the four to answer “yes” to all of the questions in the Building Changes scorecard, meaning the community is well on its way to being able to serve the needs of youth in an age appropriate and meaningful way. The goal of the Anchor Community Initiative is to end youth and young adult homelessness in Walla Walla County by 2022.
- Monthly Housing Providers meetings continue to take place and provide a space for local providers to come together to discuss challenges, barriers, suggest ideas and become more familiar with the struggles low-income families and individuals face while navigating the housing market. This meeting is a good example of multiple agencies coming together to identify who can best fit the needs of a particular client at any given time.
- Comprehensive Healthcare, the primary local mental health provider, continued to operate a facility that is a 16-bed acute in-patient clinic and 3 to 4 respite beds are also available.
- VA hosted a multi-agency training for organizations that work with veterans directly and homeless populations in general to learn about implementing best-practice timely intervention methods.
- The City’s Micro-Business Assistance Program launched in 2018 and continued through 2019 and is directed at low-income families who have experience job insecurity, seasonal unemployment, are recipients of public assistance, or earn below 80% AMI and are interested in learning how to open a business or currently own a business and need technical assistance and grant or microloan financing to bring it to the next level and see their business grow and flourish. The ultimate goal is to see families move out of poverty and earn income through their own business that allows them to be self-sustaining.
- The City of Walla Walla, Early Learning Coalition, and Children’s Home Society have participated in a year of technical assistance with the National League of Citeis to look at ways the city and community as a whole can improve supports for families with small children including childcare, preschool, parent engagement and classes, in order to assess and address the needs of families with small children in our community.

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

- Local Continuum of Care reorganized and restructured in 2018 to begin working on updating and adopting policies and procedures in line with HUD CoC requirements for Coordinated Entry, including development of a universal release of information form and assessment tool to prioritize services, and improve agency coordination amongst different subgroups all while lining up with Coordinated Entry best-practices. This work is still in progress and is being overseen by the local Council on Housing.
- BMAC, STAR, YWCA all serving homeless populations as Coordinated Entry entrance points. Working on continued coordination with other service providers and agencies that work with people experiencing homelessness.
- Work continues to encourage participation of all agencies who provide services to homeless persons in CE system. 610 individuals were entered into the CES in 2019.
- City's sleep center is now included in HMIS data entry to better track progress of homeless individuals accessing the sleep site.
- The Loft, serving youth ages 12-17, is also entering data into HMIS. The Anchor Community Initiative work has also allowed for the hiring of housing navigators and is supporting the work of the Legal Counsel for Youth and Children, Trilogy Recovery Community, and other partners who work with youth to get them safely housed and receive the wrap-around services that they need to remain stably housed.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

Walla Walla Housing Authority is a HUD designated “high performer”. The City continues to be an active partner in support of its development and rehabilitation activities. We are also working collaboratively to affirmatively further fair housing around the city.

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

The Walla Walla Housing Authority offers self-sufficiency and personal finance workshops to encourage participants in taking steps towards homeownership.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

N/A. Walla Walla Housing Authority is a “high performer.”

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

In 2018 year the City's zoning code was updated, implementing the goals and policies of the most recent Comprehensive Plan. The new code loosened residential zoning, creating one neighborhood residential zone while eliminating lot sizes and lot dimensions, changing maximum lot coverage, and adds new provisions for cottage housing and accessory dwelling units. Multifamily Residential development potential was also increased and established density requirements, increased allowed lot coverage and building height, reduced the level of review, and decreased parking code requirements. This is a very significant overhaul to the zoning code and will hopefully help to encourage development of more affordable housing, particularly in what is referred to as the "missing middle." Results from these efforts in 2019 include construction starting on the first multi-family housing development in almost 10 years in downtown Walla Walla. A percentage of the units will be available to families whose incomes are below 80% of the area median income.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Dialogue between public and private service providers to ensure that city policies and practices complement community efforts is ongoing. The City is more actively seeking women and minority participation on boards and committees, and encourages diverse applicants for city employment opportunities.

Language barriers are being addressed by holding public meetings in Spanish in low-income neighborhoods. Outreach material for the CDBG program is provided in English and Spanish in print and on the city's website. Interpreters are used at public hearings and other CDBG related public meetings. The City also updated its Title VI Plan, which included provisions for Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency policies and procedures, that applies to all City programs, services, and activities, and is in the process of updating the ADA Transition plan to better serve needs of people with disabilities throughout the city.

Continued support of Micro-Business Assistance (MBA) Program enables the City to better address the needs of low-income entrepreneurs and specifically women and minority owned businesses. Economic growth amongst all sectors, particularly for those considered to be low-income, is an important part of our Consolidated Plan and this program will encourage and enable that growth to take place.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Blue Mountain Action Council performs lead-based paint testing at every qualifying home they rehab

and weatherize and are lead-certified by the Washington State Department of Commerce. In 2019 they worked on three (3) homes total.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

- As mentioned above, the MBA Program is the City’s greatest tool to see low-income families invest in their businesses and create wealth and grow their assets that will in turn reduce reliance on public assistance among MBA participants.
- Understanding Your Credit classes were offered in English and Spanish by Mercy Corps Northwest and personal finance sessions were offered by the Asset Building Coalition. Both services are designed to help low-income individuals learn to better manage their finances, improve their credit and to be aware of predatory lending practices. Some participants have even created plans to help them purchase a home.
- The YWCA continued programming titled “Living in New Circumstances,” or LINC. The program is focused on helping survivors of domestic violence thrive in new circumstances and is available in both English and Spanish.
- SonBridge is another community non-profit that offers programming to assist low-income individuals through their Impact classes, SOS Health Clinic, and referrals to social services.
- Delivery of public services such as adult literacy classes, job training for adults and youth, and pro-bono legal services are all designed to assist community members attain self-sufficiency and exit poverty that are offered through Blue Mountain Action Council and funded by CDBG.
- Efforts in the NRSA addressed economic development by supporting business owners through the MBA program and neighborhood revitalization efforts such as trash clean-ups, neighborhood meetings, park improvement projects, neighborhood Christmas parties, all geared at improving neighborhood relations and security and improve conditions of families living in the NRSA.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

There has been an increase in coordination of services and information sharing thanks to the Coordinated Entry System in Walla Walla and monthly Housing Providers meetings where service providers come together with the goal of sharing resources, information and addressing their clients’ challenges together. The Anchor Community Initiative has also brought multiple agencies to the table with specific benchmarks and goals to meet in improving coordination of efforts to ensure homeless youth are identified and housed quickly and effectively.

The City continues to work with community partners in identifying which services are best delivered by which entity, public or private, in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Addressing the rising need of mental health and substance abuse services is part of the dialogue between city, county, and community partners, and how those needs can be addressed through supportive housing.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

- Continued work on improving the Coordinated Entry system, currently located at Blue Mountain Action Council with additional entry sites at the YWCA, STAR Project, and the Loft (youth shelter). Assessments are available in Spanish at most locations.
- Regular monthly meetings of Housing Providers organized by the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health keeps housing providers in the know of issues and struggles facing low-income individuals and families seeking housing.
- Blue Mountain Action Council, the local Community Action Agency, continues to provide low-income housing and job training opportunities and administers the Public Service CDBG activities. Monitoring visits show they comply with CDBG regulations and are serving a higher than anticipated number of city residents.
- Implementation of the Walla Walla County Homeless Housing Plan continues to be a community-wide, multi-agency effort that requires continual collaboration between public and private sectors and service providers. The plan will be updated in 2020.
- Reorganization of the local Continuum of Care (CoC), the body that oversees implementation of the County's Homeless Housing Plan, was done in 2018 with the hopes of being a more inclusive body with active working committees focused on the work of ending homelessness for certain sub-populations. That group has continued to meet in 2019 and is currently in the process of updating the Homeless Housing Plan.
- Increased economic development activities continue to be a priority and further exploration of partnerships with the business community and local non-profit lenders is on-going.
- The Anchor Community Initiative has created jobs, brought in additional legal and housing service agencies, and increased supports to recovery and health care services already in town. Their work is being monitored and guided by A Way Home Washington and the Office of Homeless Youth. There are seven agencies in the Core Team and a broad community team involved in oversight of the initiative.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

Many of the impediments to fair housing choice identified lack of awareness and information around issues related to fair housing, how to access affordable housing, and what to do if they encounter discrimination in housing. Much of this work is centered on a strengthened network of information sharing, community education, and access to housing and social services.

In regard to the rental market, local realtors receive continued education on fair housing practices and accommodations for disabled renters. The City Police Department runs a Crime Free Rental Housing program that offers annual training opportunities for tenants and landlords to provide them with information about their rights and includes a section on Fair Housing law. The Walla Walla Housing

Authority also hosts an annual Fair Housing workshop aimed at educating private landlords and the public in general on Fair Housing laws and what their rights and responsibilities are as landlords and tenants.

Continued outreach to private landlords is needed to further develop an understanding of how a tight rental market adversely affects low-income renters and the important role they can play to help people stay housed. Notably, Source of Income Discrimination legislation was passed in Washington State in 2018, which now makes it illegal for landlords to opt out of renting units to people that receive public assistance, such as Housing Choice Vouchers, to help pay for rent. This is a big change in Washington State and our community housing providers are working with landlords to educate and mitigate consequences, such as raised income levels to qualify for a unit or increases in required security deposits.

Mercy Corps Northwest worked with individuals and bank employees to provide annual Understanding Your Credit training and ongoing financial education classes. The Asset Building Coalition also coordinates Money Smart classes held in both English and Spanish on an as available basis.

Since Academy Mortgage Company, Banner Bank, and several local realtors began offering classes for potential homebuyers, there has been a surge of interest and offerings of these types of classes. They include tips to improve credit, provide information about fair lending practices, and education on the different types of home loans that are currently available.

Northwest Justice Project has started to work more locally with other social service and housing agencies since many of the clients they see have experienced housing instability. They are also represented on the Council on Housing and have become more active as a local housing advocate and expert.

Other fair housing trainings that have been offered locally include the Civil Rights office of the Attorney General and Veteran's Affairs office for all of their case managers that work directly with clients. Biggest topics of discussion were service animals and reasonable accommodation. Because of these trainings on Fair Housing, there has been a heightened awareness and ability to identify housing discrimination and many of the housing providers now have the knowledge on how to file a complaint and have done so successfully.

Ongoing conversations between local government and private agencies, foundations, non-profits, universities, and other stakeholders, will continue to strengthen the community's ability to respond to these needs and direct resources to areas and persons that are underserved. Unfortunately, there are many underserved needs and funding is limited.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

The jurisdiction has developed a subrecipient monitoring plan with a checklist to measure compliance. Subrecipients will be monitored as needed or once every two years and receive technical assistance regularly, typically on a monthly or quarterly basis.

All CDBG projects that go out for bid are published on the Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises site.

Searches are conducted on HUD's Section 3 website to identify businesses that qualify under Section 3 in the area. Recent searches show there are no registered Section 3 businesses in the area.

The CDBG Advisory Group meets to review the Annual CAPER and Action Plan and assure they are in line with the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan and make recommendations to accomplish goals identified in the strategic plan and the action plan.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report was posted on the City's website, at City Hall, and at the Library, with a summary provided in Spanish. A legal notice was placed in the local newspaper on March 6, 2020 advising readers of its availability and establishing a 15-day comment period and inviting comments on the performance evaluation. The public comment period was closed on March 27, 2020 and any comments received will be included in this section of the report prior to submission to HUD. A public hearing is also scheduled for March 25, 2020 to receive comments on the CAPER. Any comments received at the public hearing will be included in this section. One meeting was held with a group of Spanish-speaking community members on March 2, 2020 to discuss the report. Comments received during the community meeting included further interest in the Micro-Business Assistance Program, lighting project, and supporting neighborhood clean-up efforts connected to the home repair and public service programs. Thus far, no other public comments have been received during the public comment period.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

No changes are planned at this time.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No