

# Executive Summary

## AP-05 Executive Summary - 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

### 1. Introduction

The Village of Oak Park Community Services Division is pleased to present its Program Year (PY) 2026 Annual Action Plan, representing the second year of implementation under the Village's 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan. Through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Village continues its commitment to improving the quality of life for Oak Park residents, particularly low- and moderate-income households, by advancing the federal goals of providing decent housing, creating a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities.

The PY26 Annual Action Plan outlines how the Village will utilize its annual CDBG allocation of \$1,576,219. These resources will support a range of activities designed to address priority community needs identified through the 2025–2029 Consolidated Planning process. Planned investments include \$36,433 for public services, \$200,000 for homelessness response and housing stability initiatives, \$381,193 for affordable housing activities, \$643,350 for infrastructure, and \$315,243 for program administration and planning.

The Village remains committed to addressing housing affordability challenges, preventing and ending homelessness, preserving existing affordable housing opportunities, and supporting neighborhood and community improvements that benefit low- and moderate-income residents. The activities identified in this Action Plan reflect community priorities gathered through stakeholder consultation, resident engagement, and analysis of local housing and community development needs.

As part of its commitment to transparency and public participation, the Village has implemented its Citizen Participation Plan by making the draft PY26 Annual Action Plan available for a 30-day public review and comment period and providing opportunities for residents and stakeholders to offer feedback. This process helps ensure that the Plan reflects community needs and priorities while promoting access to federal resources.

The PY26 Annual Action Plan identifies activities that the Village of Oak Park will undertake directly or through partnerships with nonprofit organizations, community agencies, and other stakeholders. These activities are closely aligned with the goals and strategies established in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and are intended to strengthen housing stability, improve community infrastructure, support vulnerable populations, and enhance overall quality of life throughout the community.

The Community Services Division serves as the lead agency responsible for administering the Village's CDBG Program and coordinating the development and implementation of the Annual Action Plan. Through collaboration with residents, community partners, service providers, and regional stakeholders, the Village remains committed to leveraging federal resources effectively and advancing a more resilient Oak Park.

## 2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

Building upon the goals established in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and aligning with HUD's national objectives of providing decent housing, creating a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, the PY26 Annual Action Plan identifies a range of activities designed to address Oak Park's most pressing housing and community development needs. These activities include public services, homelessness response and housing stability initiatives, affordable housing preservation and rehabilitation, public infrastructure improvements, and planning and administration.

Through community engagement, stakeholder consultation, data analysis, and the citizen participation process conducted as part of the Consolidated Plan, the Village identified the following priority areas for investment of CDBG funds:

- **Public Services:** Support programs that improve quality of life and increase self-sufficiency for low- and moderate-income residents. Priority activities include mental health services, case management, food security programs, youth and family support services, senior services, and other programs that address the needs of vulnerable populations.
- **Homelessness Response and Housing Stability:** Strengthen the local homelessness response system through investments in homelessness prevention, shelter diversion, rapid rehousing assistance, coordinated entry, housing navigation, and supportive services designed to help residents maintain or obtain stable housing.
- **Affordable Housing:** Preserve and expand access to safe, decent, and affordable housing through rehabilitation programs, housing preservation initiatives, code enforcement activities, lead hazard reduction, accessibility improvements, energy efficiency upgrades, and programs that support both homeowners and renters.
- **Infrastructure and Public Facility Improvements:** Improve the quality, accessibility, and safety of public infrastructure and facilities serving low- and moderate-income residents. Activities include ADA accessibility improvements, neighborhood infrastructure enhancements, public facility investments, and eligible water and sewer infrastructure improvements.

Expected outcomes of the PY26 Annual Action Plan include increased access to stable and affordable housing, improved housing quality and neighborhood conditions, reduced risk of homelessness through prevention and rapid response services, expanded access to essential supportive services, enhanced accessibility of public spaces and facilities, and strengthened community resources that improve the overall quality of life for Oak Park residents, particularly low- and moderate-income households.

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The Village of Oak Park has continued to effectively utilize CDBG resources to advance the goals and objectives established in its Consolidated Plan. Throughout recent program years, CDBG investments have supported a broad range of activities that strengthen housing stability, expand access to essential services, preserve affordable housing, improve public infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents.

The Village has made significant progress in addressing prior-year project backlogs and expending available funds. Through proactive project management, enhanced coordination with subrecipients and contractors, and strategic allocation of resources, the Village has improved its overall expenditure performance and maintained compliance with HUD timeliness requirements. These efforts have enabled the Village to more effectively deploy federal resources to address emerging community needs while advancing long-term community development goals.

CDBG-funded programs have contributed to homelessness prevention and housing stability, expanded access to behavioral health and supportive services, addressed food insecurity, supported survivors of domestic violence, assisted older adults, preserved affordable housing opportunities, and funded infrastructure improvements that benefit low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. The Village has also strengthened partnerships with local service providers and regional stakeholders to maximize the impact of federal investments and improve service delivery outcomes.

Performance data, program outcomes, community feedback, and ongoing needs assessments were used to inform the development of the PY26 Annual Action Plan. Funding recommendations prioritize activities that demonstrate measurable outcomes, respond to documented community needs, leverage additional resources, and align with the goals and strategies identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan. The Village remains committed to continuous improvement, effective stewardship of federal funds, and achieving meaningful outcomes for residents.

### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The Village engaged residents, service providers, and community stakeholders through a citizen participation process to inform the development of the PY26 Annual Action Plan. Engagement efforts included public notices and comment periods, community meetings, direct consultation with service providers and partner agencies, and coordination with regional planning bodies and Continuum of Care partners. The Village prioritized outreach to low- and moderate-income residents and historically underserved populations to ensure participation.

## **5. Summary of public comments**

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

Public input emphasized the need for increased housing affordability and rental assistance, expanded mental health and crisis response services, continued investment in homelessness prevention and outreach, and support for community-based organizations providing essential services

These priorities directly informed funding recommendations and program design for PY26.

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

No comments were received in the development of the plan.

## **7. Summary**

**PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies - 91.200(b)**

**1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan**

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
Lead Agency	OAK PARK	
CDBG Administrator	OAK PARK	Neighborhood Services/Village of Oak Park
HOME Administrator		
ESG Administrator		NA

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative**

The lead agency for the Action Plan is the Community Services Division of the Neighborhood Services Department of the Village of Oak Park, a general-purpose unit of municipal government. The division initiated the administration, organization and preparation of the Action Plan and will coordinate with the public and nonprofit entities through which it will be carried out. All of this will be done in conjunction with Cook County, the lead agency for the HOME Consortium to which Oak Park belongs.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

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## **AP-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)**

### **1. Introduction**

The Community Services Division of the Village of Oak Park engages in ongoing consultation with a broad range of public agencies, housing providers, nonprofit organizations, service providers, regional partners, and community stakeholders throughout the year to identify community needs and inform housing and community development priorities. These collaborative efforts help ensure that CDBG resources are strategically invested to address local challenges and align with regional planning efforts.

The Village works closely with internal departments, including Public Works, Development Services, Public Health, and other municipal divisions, to coordinate investments in housing, infrastructure, accessibility, and neighborhood improvement initiatives. In addition, the Village maintains strong partnerships with nonprofit service providers, affordable housing organizations, behavioral health agencies, and organizations serving older adults, youth, families, individuals experiencing homelessness, and other vulnerable populations.

A key component of the Village's consultation process is its collaboration with Continuum of Care members and regional homelessness response partners. Through participation in regional planning efforts and ongoing engagement with housing and service providers, the Village works to align local investments with coordinated entry practices, homelessness prevention strategies, outreach efforts, supportive housing initiatives, and other evidence-based approaches designed to improve housing stability and reduce homelessness.

Input received through stakeholder consultations, community engagement activities, funding application processes, and public participation opportunities informed the development of the PY26 Annual Action Plan. In accordance with the Village's Citizen Participation Plan, residents, community organizations, and other interested parties were provided opportunities to review and comment on the draft Action Plan, helping to ensure that funding priorities reflect the needs and perspectives of the Oak Park community.

### **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(l)).**

The Village of Oak Park works collaboratively with public housing providers, affordable housing organizations, healthcare providers, behavioral health agencies, social service organizations, and regional partners to strengthen the coordination of housing and supportive services for low- and moderate-income residents. Through ongoing partnerships and strategic investments, the Village seeks

to improve access to housing, healthcare, behavioral health services, homelessness response resources, and other essential community supports.

The Village participates in regional and local collaborative efforts to align funding priorities, reduce duplication of services, identify service gaps, and maximize the impact of limited resources. These partnerships include coordination with housing providers, nonprofit organizations, healthcare and mental health agencies, municipalities, and other funders to support a comprehensive approach to addressing housing instability, homelessness, and community development needs.

A significant focus of the Village's coordination efforts is its work with homelessness response partners, including the local Continuum of Care, homeless service providers, outreach teams, housing navigators, and supportive service agencies. The Village collaborates with these partners to strengthen coordinated entry processes, homelessness prevention strategies, outreach efforts, shelter diversion programs, rapid rehousing initiatives, and permanent housing solutions for individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Particular attention is given to serving vulnerable populations, including chronically homeless individuals, families with children, older adults, veterans, survivors of domestic violence, individuals with disabilities, and persons experiencing behavioral health challenges.

The Village also works closely with local service providers to improve coordination between housing and health systems, recognizing the important relationship between housing stability, physical health, mental health, and overall well-being. Through funding, partnership development, and ongoing stakeholder engagement, the Village supports integrated service delivery models that connect residents to housing assistance, case management, healthcare services, behavioral health treatment, food security resources, and other supportive services.

The Village's funding, monitoring, and reporting processes are designed to promote accountability, encourage collaboration among service providers, and ensure investments align with the priorities identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan. These priorities include Public Services, Homelessness Response and Housing Stability, Affordable Housing, Infrastructure Improvements, and Administration and Planning. Through these coordinated efforts, the Village seeks to create a more efficient, responsive system of housing and community services that improves outcomes for Oak Park residents.

**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 Village of Oak Park maintains an active partnership with the Continuum of Care (CoC), led by the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County, to coordinate efforts aimed at preventing and ending homelessness. Through participation in regional planning efforts, stakeholder meetings, and ongoing collaboration with housing and service providers, the Village works to align local investments

with regional strategies that promote housing stability and improve outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The Village collaborates closely with homeless service providers, outreach teams, housing navigators, emergency shelter operators, and supportive housing organizations to strengthen the local homelessness response system. These partnerships support coordinated entry, housing assessments, outreach and engagement activities, homelessness prevention programs, shelter diversion efforts, rapid rehousing services, and connections to permanent housing opportunities.

The Village also works closely with local partners, including Housing Forward, behavioral health providers, social service agencies, and members of the Oak Park Homelessness Coalition, to address the complex needs of vulnerable populations. Particular attention is given to chronically homeless individuals, families with children, veterans, unaccompanied youth, survivors of domestic violence, older adults, and individuals living with mental health or substance use challenges. Through coordinated case management and supportive services, these partnerships seek to reduce barriers to housing and improve long-term housing stability.

PY26 funding priorities continue to support homelessness prevention and housing stabilization efforts that assist households before they enter homelessness and rapidly connect those experiencing homelessness to appropriate housing resources. Investments are designed to complement Continuum of Care programs and leverage regional resources while addressing local needs identified through community engagement, service provider consultation, and data collected through the regional homelessness response system.

Through ongoing coordination with the Continuum of Care and community partners, the Village remains committed to implementing evidence-based practices, expanding access to housing resources, improving service coordination, and reducing the incidence and duration of homelessness in Oak Park and the surrounding region.

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

Although the Village of Oak Park is not currently a direct recipient of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds, the Village maintains ongoing coordination with the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County, the Continuum of Care (CoC) serving the region, to ensure local homelessness response efforts are aligned with regional priorities, performance measures, and best practices.

The Village regularly consults with the CoC, Housing Forward, local service providers, funders, and regional stakeholders to assess homelessness trends, identify service gaps, evaluate housing and

supportive service needs, and coordinate investments that support individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness. These discussions help inform local funding decisions and ensure that CDBG-funded homelessness activities complement broader regional efforts.

The Village relies on the expertise of the CoC and its partner agencies regarding the development and implementation of performance standards, outcome measurement, coordinated entry practices, and the administration of the regional Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Through ongoing participation in regional planning discussions, the Village remains informed of system performance metrics, emerging needs, and evidence-based strategies that improve housing outcomes for vulnerable populations.

The Village supports and promotes the use of the Coordinated Entry System as the primary access point for individuals and families seeking homeless assistance. Through collaboration with Housing Forward and other CoC partners, the Village helps connect residents to housing assessments, shelter resources, homelessness prevention services, rapid rehousing programs, and permanent supportive housing opportunities. This coordinated approach improves system efficiency, reduces duplication of services, and prioritizes assistance for households with the greatest needs.

Consultation with the Continuum of Care and regional partners continues to inform the Village's homelessness response strategies and funding priorities, ensuring local investments align with regional goals to prevent and end homelessness while improving housing stability for Oak Park residents.

## **2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations**

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Housing Forward
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Employment
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Regional organization Planning organization Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Village followed the Alliance Strategic Plan and attended meetings and special sessions all throughout the year. The Alliance was interviewed for the Con Plan and played an important leadership role as the CoC.

3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	COOK COUNTY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - County Regional organization Planning organization Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cook County government is the lead agency for the HOME Consortium to which the Village belongs.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Oak Park Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Housing Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Village works with the Oak Park Housing Authority (OPHA) to ensure proper housing for LMI persons, seniors, persons experiencing homelessness and persons with disabilities.

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

**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	Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County	Our goals overlap with the Alliance's plan.

**Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative**

## **AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

The Village of Oak Park started developing its PY 2026 Action Plan with the aim of identifying priority needs, and engaging citizens, public agencies and non-profit organizations. The process began in April 2026 with the publication of a Notice of Federal Funding Availability in a newspaper and on social media. One ad was placed in the *Wednesday Journal* to advertise the mandatory Grants Workshop and encourage new non-profits to participate in the CDBG funding opportunities. Over 20 participants attended the workshop, including three new organizations that have not previously received CDBG funds. The Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC) held two hearings and conducted an in-depth review of each application. After the commissioners collectively worked to determine funding recommendations, the Chair presented funding recommendations to the Village Board of Trustees. This Draft Action Plan was previously subject to a public notice and related public hearing and comment period, as published on June 24, 2026. As of June 20, 2026, the Village of Oak Park Program Year (PY) 2026 Draft Annual Action Plan is available for public review and comment. The plan can be reviewed during business hours, Monday-Friday, June 20, 2026 – July 27, 2026, at the Oak Park Village Hall, Neighborhood Services Department, 123 Madison Street; on the Village Housing-Grants webpage <https://www.oak-park.us/village-services/housing-programs/community-development-shelter-grants> and at the Public Library, Main Branch, 834 Lake Street. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking persons as needed.

### 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	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	The Wednesday Journal newspaper ad ran on June 24, 2026. The comment period ran from June 25, 2026 to 5:00pm on July 27, 2026.	None	N/A	
2	Internet Outreach	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Draft PY 2026 Action Plan sent out to multiple agencies per the Oak Park Citizen's Participation Plan. The draft document was also made available on the Village of Oak Park's website.	None	NA	<a href="https://www.oak-park.us/Community/Community-Services/Community-Development-Block-Grant-CDBG-Program">https://www.oak-park.us/Community/Community-Services/Community-Development-Block-Grant-CDBG-Program</a>

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)
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	The public meeting for the draft Action Plan was held on July 13, 2026.	None	NA	
4	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The public hearing for the Draft Acton Plan was held on July 13, 2026 at 1:00pm	None	NA	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

### AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The Anticipated Resources section describes the financial resources available to the Village of Oak Park for Program Year (PY) 2026 and how those resources will be utilized to advance the goals identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan. While the resources identified are not exhaustive of all federal and state occurring throughout the community, they demonstrate the Village's commitment to leveraging available funding to address housing, homelessness, infrastructure, and community development needs.

For PY26, the Village anticipates receiving a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation of \$1,576,219 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These resources will be administered by the Community Services Division and invested through Village programs, community partnerships, and nonprofit service providers that serve Oak Park residents.

Consistent with the priorities established in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan, PY26 resources will be allocated among the following goal areas:

#### **Administration and Planning – \$315,243**

Funds will support the general administration, oversight, coordination, monitoring, compliance, environmental review, citizen participation, reporting, and financial management activities necessary to administer the Village's CDBG Program in accordance with HUD regulations.

#### **Affordable Housing – \$381,193**

Funds will support housing rehabilitation, housing preservation, lead hazard reduction, accessibility improvements, energy efficiency enhancements, code compliance activities, and other eligible initiatives designed to preserve and improve the supply of safe, decent, and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households.

#### **Public Services – \$36,433**

Funds will support eligible public service activities that address priority community needs, including housing stability, behavioral health, food security, case management, youth and family services, senior services, and other programs serving low- and moderate-income residents and

vulnerable populations.

**Homelessness Response and Housing Stability – \$200,000**

Funds will support activities that prevent and reduce homelessness, including outreach, shelter diversion, housing navigation, rapid rehousing assistance, coordinated entry support, case management, and other services that promote housing stability and assist households experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

**Infrastructure Improvements – \$643,350**

Funds will support public infrastructure and accessibility improvements that benefit low- and moderate-income residents, including eligible street, sidewalk, ADA accessibility, utility, and neighborhood improvement projects that enhance the safety, accessibility, and quality of life within the community.

The Village will continue to leverage CDBG funds alongside other federal, state, and local resources to maximize impact and advance the goals of the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan. Through strategic investment and community partnerships, these resources will support efforts to increase

housing stability, address homelessness, improve public infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for Oak Park residents.

**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	1,576,219.00	0.00	0.00	1,576,219.00	0.00	Allocated for public services infrastructure, Affordable Housing, and Administration planning.
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	The Village does not receive ESG funds and has not since 2019.

**Table 5 - 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**

Federal funding will leverage private, state and local funds by enabling the Village of Oak Park to serve those with the greatest need at the highest capacity. Additionally, federal funds will serve as funding for Village programs or service provider applications that require additional funding in order to have their program, project or service meet the need of the community. The grant money provided by HUD will allow organizations and the Village to successfully meet the needs of the community’s most vulnerable members. In addition, the Village does receive ESG funds for PY 2026.

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

The Village of Oak Park does not currently utilize or plan to utilize publicly owned land or property to address the needs identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and Program Year 2026 Annual Action Plan.

**Discussion**

Block Grant (CDBG) funds to support activities identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and the Program Year 2026 Annual Action Plan. In addition to CDBG funding, the Village leverages resources from nonprofit service providers, private investment, local government resources, and other public and private funding sources to maximize the impact of federally funded activities.

The Village coordinates with community-based organizations, housing providers, and other stakeholders to address housing, public service, and infrastructure needs throughout the community. While these partnerships expand the availability of resources, available funding remains insufficient to address all identified needs. As a result, the Village prioritizes investments that provide the greatest benefit to low- and moderate-income residents and support the goals and objectives established in the Consolidated Plan.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Services	2025	2029	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Entire Jurisdiction CDBG Target Area	Public Services	CDBG: \$36,433.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted
2	Affordable & Safe Housing	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Entire Jurisdiction	Supply of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$381,193.00	Rental units rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 750 Household Housing Unit
3	Public Infrastructure	2025	2029	Public Infrastructure	Entire Jurisdiction CDBG Target Area	Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$643,350.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted
4	Homelessness Assistance	2025	2029	Homeless	Entire Jurisdiction	Homelessness Assistance	CDBG: \$200,000.00	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 45 Persons Assisted
5	Planning & Administration	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Entire Jurisdiction	Administration & Planning	CDBG: \$315,243.00	Other: 1 Other

**Table 6 – Goals Summary**

Annual Action Plan  
2026

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5,000 Persons Assisted
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Rental units rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 750 Household Housing Unit
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Infrastructure
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1,000 Persons Assisted
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Homelessness Assistance
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 40 Persons Assisted
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Planning & Administration
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Admin does not report.



## AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

### Introduction

In order to achieve the priorities, strategies and goals listed in the Consolidated Plan, the Village has identified four projects that will be implemented in PY 2026: public services, infrastructure, affordable housing, and administration/planning. This includes activities funded from previous program year allocations that will be completed and/or disbursed in PY 2026. The disbursement for the four projects is as follows: Public Services - \$36,433; Infrastructure - \$643,350; Affordable Housing - \$381,193, Homelessness - \$200,000, and Administration - \$315,243. Similar to last year, the Village did not receive Emergency Solutions Grant funding for PY 2026.

#	Project Name
1	Public Services
2	Homelessness
3	CDBG Admin
4	Infrastructure
5	Housing

Table 7 – Project Information

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

The Village of Oak Park's allocation priorities are guided by the needs and priorities identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan, public input received through the citizen participation process, and ongoing coordination with local service providers, housing organizations, and community stakeholders. Program Year 2026 funding is focused on activities that provide direct benefits to low- and moderate-income residents through public services, housing assistance, infrastructure improvements, and program administration.

Priority is given to public service activities that address food insecurity, homelessness and housing instability, mental health needs, services for seniors and persons with disabilities, and programs that support vulnerable populations. Housing funds are prioritized to preserve the existing housing stock, improve housing quality, increase accessibility, and support long-term housing affordability for low- and moderate-income households. Infrastructure investments are directed toward improving accessibility, safety, and neighborhood conditions in eligible service areas. Administrative funds support the oversight, monitoring, citizen participation, environmental review, and compliance activities necessary to ensure the effective and compliant delivery of CDBG-funded programs.

Several obstacles continue to affect the Village's ability to fully address underserved needs. Limited federal resources relative to community demand require difficult funding decisions among competing priorities. Rising construction and rehabilitation costs reduce the number of housing and infrastructure projects that can be completed with available funding. Increasing housing costs and affordability

challenges place additional pressure on households with limited incomes. Nonprofit service providers continue to experience capacity and funding constraints while facing growing demand for services. Despite these challenges, the Village remains committed to leveraging partnerships, coordinating resources, and strategically investing CDBG funds to maximize benefits for low- and moderate-income residents.

**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

<b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$36,433.00
	<b>Description</b>	Public service activities will include individuals and families experiencing food insecurity, seniors seeking to age in place, youth and young adults, persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, individuals experiencing mental health challenges, and persons recovering from substance use disorders. Services will be provided through nonprofit partners and will include emergency food assistance, case management, behavioral health services, youth development programming, disability services, recovery support services, and senior assistance programs.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	50000
	<b>Location Description</b>	Village of Oak Park
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Program Year 2026 Public Service funds will support activities that address the needs of low- and moderate-income Oak Park residents. Funded services are expected to include emergency food assistance, youth development and workforce readiness programming, mental health services, substance use recovery services, disability services, case management, benefits navigation, and minor home repair services that assist seniors with aging in place.
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Homelessness
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Homelessness Assistance
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homelessness Assistance
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$200,000.00

	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds are proposed to support operations of the Anderson Emergency Shelter, which provides emergency shelter, meals, case management, and supportive services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Shelter participants are connected to coordinated entry, interim housing, permanent housing opportunities, benefits enrollment assistance, employment services, and behavioral health resources to address barriers to housing stability.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	40
	<b>Location Description</b>	112 S. Humphrey Avenue in Oak Park, Illinois
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	CDBG funds will support the operation of the Anderson Emergency Shelter, including staffing, case management, shelter operations, and supportive services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Services will include emergency shelter, meals, hygiene facilities, housing navigation, benefits enrollment assistance, employment support, and referrals to behavioral health and other community resources. The activity is intended to provide immediate housing stabilization and help participants transition to more stable housing situations.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	CDBG Admin
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning & Administration
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Administration & Planning
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$315,243.00
	<b>Description</b>	
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	

4	<b>Project Name</b>	Infrastructure
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Infrastructure
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$643,350.00
	<b>Description</b>	Infrastructure activities will consist of the rehabilitation and replacement of public improvements within eligible low- and moderate-income service areas. Planned activities include the replacement of deteriorated and non-compliant sidewalk segments and reconstruction and rehabilitation of eligible alleyways to address deteriorated conditions.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	2000 families
	<b>Location Description</b>	ADA sidewalks will take place throughout Oak Park where there are sidewalk squares out of compliance with ADA standards, and Alleys will be selected in Low/mod census tracts that are adjacent to multi-family housing.
<b>Planned Activities</b>	ADA Sidewalks and select alleys	
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Supply of Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$381,193.00
	<b>Description</b>	Housing activities will support the preservation, safety, affordability, and sustainability of Oak Park's housing stock through a variety of rehabilitation and housing improvement programs. Eligible activities may include owner-occupied housing rehabilitation, small rental rehabilitation, lead hazard reduction and safety improvements, energy efficiency upgrades for income-qualified households, and code compliance activities that address housing conditions affecting the health, safety, and welfare of residents.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027

<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	650 households will benefit from code compliance; 50 households will benefit from rehab projects.
<b>Location Description</b>	Housing activities will take place at eligible households throughout Oak Park.
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Housing activities include owner-occupied and small rental rehabilitation, lead hazard reduction, energy efficiency improvements, and code compliance activities to preserve safe, decent, and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents.

## **AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 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 Village of Oak Park directs Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) investments to areas and populations with the greatest identified need, with particular emphasis on benefiting low- and moderate-income (LMI) residents. An LMI census block group is defined as an area where at least 34 percent of residents have incomes at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income. Based on HUD data, fourteen of the Village's census block groups meet this criterion and are considered eligible LMI areas.

Infrastructure and neighborhood improvement activities funded through the CDBG Program are prioritized in eligible LMI areas and other locations where investments will primarily benefit low- and moderate-income residents. These improvements may include accessibility enhancements, sidewalk and pedestrian improvements, utility-related infrastructure, and other public improvements that support neighborhood stability and quality of life.

Affordable housing activities are available throughout the Village and are targeted to income-eligible households. These investments are intended to preserve existing affordable housing, improve housing quality and accessibility, and support long-term housing stability for low- and moderate-income residents. Housing rehabilitation and preservation activities may occur in any neighborhood where eligible households reside.

Public service and homelessness response activities are generally not limited to a specific geographic area but are designed to serve eligible Oak Park residents regardless of where they live within the community. These programs prioritize individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness, low-income households, older adults, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations identified through the Consolidated Plan process.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
Entire Jurisdiction	60
CDBG Target Area	40

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**

### **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

All activities funded will primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons or households, either as a direct service or by making improvements in areas benefiting primarily low- and moderate-income

persons.

- Code Enforcement – Code enforcement inspectors perform inspections throughout the Village. The CDBG-funded portion of code enforcement will be within the CDBG target area which will be paired with other community development activities to address deterioration, maintaining code enforcement and property standards of dwelling units in the area.
- Public Infrastructure Improvements: Public Infrastructure activities funded will primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons or households through four projects:
  1. ADA Sidewalks: repair and replace sidewalk squares that are deemed non-compliant with ADA standards
  2. Alleys: repairing deteriorating alleys in low/mod areas

## **Discussion**

## **AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.420, 91.220(i)**

### **Introduction**

Homelessness continues to be a significant challenge throughout suburban Cook County and the Village of Oak Park. Although the Village of Oak Park does not receive Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding, the Village remains committed to addressing homelessness through strategic partnerships, regional collaboration, local investments, and implementation of the goals outlined in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan.

Housing Forward, the region's primary homeless services provider, continues to operate emergency shelter, outreach, prevention, rapid rehousing, and supportive housing programs serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness throughout western Cook County. Housing Forward's shelter system includes the Anderson Emergency Overnight Shelter in Oak Park, which provides year-round emergency overnight accommodations and serves as a critical access point for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The shelter provides safe overnight refuge, connection to housing resources, case management, and coordinated entry services designed to help individuals move toward stable housing.

Housing Forward also continues to utilize the former Write Inn property at 211 N. Oak Park Avenue as part of its broader housing and service delivery system. The facility provides interim and supportive housing opportunities and houses programs that help individuals transition from homelessness to permanent housing. The site also supports specialized programming, including medical respite and recovery services for individuals experiencing homelessness who require a stable environment to recuperate following hospitalization or medical treatment.

In addition to shelter and housing services, Housing Forward provides comprehensive wraparound supports including case management, employment and income assistance, behavioral health services, benefits enrollment, and housing navigation. These services are designed to address the underlying causes of homelessness and support long-term housing stability.

The Village of Oak Park remains an active participant in the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County Continuum of Care (CoC), including participation in committee meetings, planning activities, and regional efforts to strengthen the homeless response system. Through continued collaboration with Housing Forward, the Continuum of Care, and community partners, the Village seeks to increase access to shelter, expand pathways to permanent housing, and improve outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The Village recognizes that homelessness is a regional issue requiring coordinated solutions and remains committed to supporting programs and initiatives that prevent homelessness, reduce the length of time

individuals experience homelessness, and promote housing stability for all residents.

During Program Year 2026, the Village of Oak Park will continue to implement strategies identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan to prevent and reduce homelessness through regional collaboration, support of homeless service providers, and investment in housing stability initiatives.

**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**

Although no CDBG funds are allocated specifically for street outreach activities, the Village of Oak Park leverages local funding and regional partnerships to identify, engage, and assess the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness, particularly those who are unsheltered.

The Village's E.C.H.O. (Engaging Communities for Healthy Outcomes) team works closely with the Village's Public Health Nurse and Housing Forward's Street Outreach Team to conduct outreach, respond to community referrals, and engage individuals experiencing homelessness throughout the community. Through regular coordination and case conferencing, these partners assess immediate needs related to shelter, housing, behavioral health, physical health, income, transportation, and other supportive services.

The E.C.H.O. team frequently serves as a point of contact when residents, businesses, first responders, and community organizations identify individuals who may be experiencing homelessness or housing instability. When appropriate, individuals are connected to Housing Forward's outreach staff for enrollment in the Coordinated Entry System, housing assessments, emergency shelter placement, case management, and other available resources.

The Village also collaborates with local service providers, healthcare partners, law enforcement, and community organizations to ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness are connected to appropriate services and supports. This coordinated approach helps build trust with unsheltered individuals, improves access to housing and supportive services, and promotes long-term housing stability.

These efforts are funded through Village resources and leveraged partnerships rather than CDBG funding but significantly contribute to the community's overall strategy to prevent and end

homelessness.

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

The Village of Oak Park addresses the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons through direct local investments, regional partnerships, and participation in the broader homeless response system serving western Cook County. While the Village does not directly operate emergency shelter or transitional housing facilities, it works closely with Housing Forward and other community partners to ensure individuals experiencing homelessness have access to safe shelter, housing resources, and supportive services.

Housing Forward operates the Anderson Emergency Overnight Shelter, which provides year-round emergency shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness, as well as additional housing programs designed to support individuals and families as they transition toward permanent housing. The Village demonstrates its commitment to addressing homelessness by providing annual General Fund support for the operation of the Anderson Emergency Overnight Shelter. This local investment helps ensure the continued availability of emergency shelter services for vulnerable residents throughout the region.

In addition, the Village supports public service programs through CDBG funding that assist low- and moderate-income residents with housing stability, supportive services, and connections to community resources, helping prevent homelessness and reduce the need for emergency shelter. The Village also participates in the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County Continuum of Care and the Oak Park Coalition to End Homelessness to strengthen regional coordination and expand access to housing solutions.

Through these investments, partnerships, and coordinated efforts, the Village seeks to ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness have access to emergency shelter, interim and transitional housing opportunities, supportive services, and pathways to permanent housing.

**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**

The Village of Oak Park supports efforts to help homeless persons transition to permanent housing and independent living through a coordinated system of housing, supportive services, outreach, and regional

partnerships. The Village works closely with Housing Forward, the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County Continuum of Care (CoC), and the Oak Park Coalition to End Homelessness to ensure that individuals and families experiencing homelessness are connected to appropriate housing resources and supportive services as quickly as possible.

Housing Forward provides a continuum of services designed to reduce the length of time individuals and families experience homelessness and increase access to permanent housing. Through Coordinated Entry, case management, housing navigation, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and homelessness prevention programs, Housing Forward assists chronically homeless individuals, families with children, veterans, unaccompanied youth, and other vulnerable populations in securing and maintaining stable housing.

The Village also supports affordable housing development and preservation efforts that expand housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income households. Through CDBG-funded programs, partnerships with affordable housing providers, and implementation of local housing initiatives, the Village seeks to increase access to safe, affordable housing options that can serve as pathways out of homelessness.

To prevent returns to homelessness, service providers throughout the community offer ongoing case management, housing stabilization services, financial assistance, employment support, healthcare referrals, and connections to community-based resources. The Village's participation in regional planning efforts and coordinated service delivery helps ensure that households exiting homelessness receive the support necessary to maintain stable housing and avoid future housing crises.

Through these collaborative efforts, the Village seeks to shorten the duration of homelessness, increase successful placements into permanent housing, improve housing stability, and prevent future episodes of homelessness among vulnerable residents.

**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.**

The Village of Oak Park seeks to prevent homelessness among low-income and extremely low-income individuals and families through coordinated intervention, housing stabilization services, financial assistance, and partnerships with organizations that provide housing, healthcare, behavioral health, employment, education, and social services. The Village recognizes that preventing homelessness is

often more effective and less costly than responding after a housing crisis has occurred.

The Village supports homelessness prevention efforts through collaboration with Housing Forward, community-based service providers, healthcare partners, educational institutions, and regional systems of care. Individuals and families identified as being at risk of homelessness are connected to available resources including rental assistance, housing navigation, case management, behavioral health services, employment supports, benefits enrollment, and other stabilization services designed to maintain housing and prevent displacement.

The Village's E.C.H.O. (Engaging Communities for Healthy Outcomes) team and Public Health Nurse work closely with residents, service providers, healthcare systems, first responders, and Housing Forward to identify households experiencing housing instability and connect them to appropriate resources before homelessness occurs. Through proactive engagement, referrals, and case coordination, vulnerable individuals receive assistance tailored to their specific needs and circumstances.

The Village also supports the Flexible Rent Assistance Program (FRAP), which provides financial assistance to eligible households facing housing instability and at risk of eviction or homelessness. FRAP serves as an important prevention tool by helping residents address temporary financial hardships and remain stably housed.

Particular attention is given to individuals being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care, including hospitals, behavioral health facilities, correctional institutions, and youth-serving systems. Through partnerships with Housing Forward, healthcare providers, and other community organizations, the Village supports efforts to connect individuals leaving institutional settings to housing resources, supportive services, and case management that reduce the likelihood of homelessness upon discharge.

The Village also participates in regional planning efforts through the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County Continuum of Care and the Oak Park Coalition to End Homelessness, which promote coordinated discharge planning, cross-system collaboration, and the development of strategies to address the needs of individuals at risk of homelessness.

Through these prevention-focused efforts, the Village seeks to reduce housing instability, prevent episodes of homelessness, improve coordination among service systems, and ensure that vulnerable individuals and families have access to the resources necessary to achieve and maintain long-term housing stability.

## **Discussion**



## **AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing -91.420, 91.220(j)**

### **Introduction**

Access to affordable housing remains one of the most significant challenges facing Oak Park residents. Rising housing costs, limited housing supply, increasing development costs, and the aging housing stock continue to create barriers for low- and moderate-income households, seniors, persons with disabilities, families with children, and individuals transitioning from homelessness. As identified in the Village's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, preserving existing affordable housing, increasing housing choice, and expanding access to stable and affordable housing opportunities remain critical community priorities.

The Village of Oak Park utilizes CDBG funds, local resources, and regional partnerships to address barriers to affordable housing and support housing stability. Through investments in housing rehabilitation, public services, homelessness prevention, and community development activities, the Village seeks to preserve existing housing, improve housing conditions, and assist residents in maintaining stable housing.

In addition, the Village continues to collaborate with affordable housing developers, service providers, Housing Forward, and regional partners, including the Cook County HOME Consortium, to identify opportunities to expand the supply of affordable housing and create pathways to housing for vulnerable populations. The Village also supports initiatives that address the housing needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness or housing instability, recognizing that affordable housing is a critical component of preventing and ending homelessness.

### **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**

The Village of Oak Park recognizes that a variety of public policies, market conditions, and regulatory requirements can impact the availability and affordability of housing. As identified in the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, increasing housing affordability and expanding housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income households remain key priorities. During Program Year 2026, the Village will continue to evaluate and implement strategies that reduce barriers to affordable housing while balancing community development, neighborhood preservation, and housing choice.

The Village will continue to invest CDBG funds in housing rehabilitation programs that preserve existing affordable housing stock and improve

housing conditions for low- and moderate-income residents. Programs such as the Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation Program and Small Rental Rehabilitation Program assist property owners in addressing deferred maintenance, code deficiencies, accessibility improvements, and other housing needs that help maintain the long-term affordability and viability of the housing stock.

The Village will also continue to support the development and preservation of affordable housing through partnerships with nonprofit developers, housing providers, and regional agencies. As a member of the Cook County HOME Consortium, Oak Park works collaboratively to leverage federal, state, local resources to expand affordable housing opportunities throughout the community.

In addition, the Village continues to evaluate zoning policies and development practices to identify opportunities that may encourage a broader range of housing options and increase housing supply. Recent housing initiatives, including efforts to explore Missing Middle Housing strategies and other housing policy recommendations, are intended to support a diverse housing stock that can meet the needs of households across a range of income levels, ages, and household types.

The Village also seeks to reduce barriers to housing through its commitment to fair housing and equal housing opportunity. Through partnerships with housing organizations, advocacy groups, and service providers, the Village supports education, outreach, and enforcement activities designed to affirmatively further fair housing and ensure that all residents have access to housing.

Furthermore, the Village continues to support housing stability initiatives that help prevent displacement and homelessness, including investments in affordable housing development, homelessness prevention services, emergency shelter operations, and housing navigation programs. The Village's support of Housing Forward's shelter and housing programs, the renovation of the Write Inn facility, and participation in regional housing and homelessness planning efforts help create a more comprehensive housing continuum for residents facing housing challenges.

Through these actions, Oak Park seeks to preserve existing affordable housing, encourage the creation of new affordable housing opportunities, remove barriers to housing access, and promote a diverse and inclusive community where residents of all income levels can obtain and maintain

safe, decent, and affordable housing.

**Discussion**

## **AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction**

#### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

The Village of Oak Park continues to face challenges in meeting the needs of underserved populations due to limited federal, state, and local resources, increasing housing costs, growing demand for homelessness prevention services, and a limited supply of affordable housing. These challenges are further compounded by rising construction costs, aging housing stock, and economic pressures affecting low- and moderate-income households.

To address these barriers, the Village will continue leveraging CDBG resources alongside local, regional, county, and state funding sources to maximize community impact. The Village will strengthen partnerships with nonprofit service providers, affordable housing developers, Cook County, and other stakeholders to coordinate services, reduce duplication of efforts, and improve access to housing and supportive services.

Through implementation of the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan, the Village will prioritize investments that expand housing stability, prevent homelessness, improve accessibility, support vulnerable populations, and increase access to community resources.

#### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

The Village of Oak Park remains committed to preserving, rehabilitating, and expanding affordable housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents. During Program Year 2026, CDBG funds will continue to support housing rehabilitation activities that improve housing quality, address health and safety concerns, increase accessibility, and preserve the existing affordable housing inventory.

The Village will continue administering its Single-Family Rehabilitation Program, which provides financial assistance to income-qualified homeowners to address code deficiencies, improve energy efficiency, eliminate health and safety hazards, and support aging-in-place initiatives. Housing rehabilitation activities will also incorporate accessibility improvements to ensure residents with disabilities can remain safely housed.

The Village will continue efforts to preserve affordable rental housing through rehabilitation programs and partnerships with property owners and affordable housing providers. In addition, the Village will support implementation of housing strategies identified in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan, including encouraging the development of new affordable housing units, preserving naturally occurring affordable housing, supporting permanent supportive housing opportunities, and advancing policies that increase

housing choice and affordability throughout the community.

The Village will also continue coordinating with regional housing partners, developers, and funding agencies to identify opportunities to leverage resources and expand the availability of affordable housing for households with the greatest needs.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

The Village of Oak Park will continue efforts to reduce lead-based paint hazards and protect residents from exposure to environmental health risks. Given the age of Oak Park's housing stock and the designation of local ZIP codes as high-risk areas for pediatric blood lead poisoning, lead hazard reduction remains a priority.

The Village will continue to incorporate lead-safe work practices, lead inspections, risk assessments, and hazard reduction activities into all applicable housing rehabilitation projects funded through CDBG. The Single-Family Rehabilitation Program will continue to address lead hazards in owner-occupied housing while ensuring compliance with all applicable HUD Lead Safe Housing Rule requirements.

The Village will also continue efforts to replace lead service lines and improve environmental health conditions through infrastructure investments and public education initiatives.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

The Village of Oak Park is committed to reducing poverty by supporting housing stability, improving access to supportive services, and addressing the root causes of housing insecurity and homelessness.

Through partnerships with nonprofit service providers and community organizations, CDBG-funded activities will support homelessness prevention, housing stabilization, food security, mental health services, workforce development, and case management programs that help individuals and families achieve long-term self-sufficiency.

The Village will continue to support coordinated efforts to connect residents to housing resources, emergency assistance, supportive services, and employment opportunities. Investments in affordable housing preservation and rehabilitation will further help reduce housing cost burdens among low- and moderate-income households.

The Village will also continue supporting public health initiatives, educational opportunities, accessibility improvements, and community-based services that strengthen household stability and improve quality of life for vulnerable residents. These efforts align with the goals and priorities established in the 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and are intended to create pathways toward economic mobility and long-term

housing stability.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The Village of Oak Park will continue to strengthen its institutional capacity through collaboration, strategic planning, technical assistance, and active engagement with community partners. The Village recognizes that addressing housing, homelessness, and community development challenges requires coordinated action among local governments, nonprofit organizations, service providers, housing agencies, and regional stakeholders.

Village staff will continue participating in initiatives that support housing and community development best practices. These partnerships enhance coordination, improve service delivery, and strengthen the community's ability to respond to emerging needs.

The Community Services Division will continue providing oversight and monitoring of CDBG-funded activities, ensuring compliance with federal requirements and effective use of public resources. Through regular communication, technical assistance, and performance monitoring, the Village will support partner agencies in achieving program outcomes and serving residents effectively.

The Village will also continue to collaborate with Cook County and regional partners on fair housing initiatives and implementation of strategies that affirmatively further fair housing, reduce barriers to opportunity, and promote access to housing and community resources.

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

The Village of Oak Park recognizes that effective coordination among public agencies, nonprofit organizations, housing providers, healthcare systems, educational institutions, and community stakeholders is essential to addressing housing instability, homelessness, and community development needs.

During Program Year 2026, the Village will continue to strengthen partnerships with affordable housing providers, social service agencies, public health organizations, school districts, faith-based organizations, and regional stakeholders to improve service coordination and expand access to housing and supportive services.

The Village will continue requiring CDBG-funded public service providers to demonstrate collaboration with other community organizations and participation in coordinated service delivery efforts. Through regular meetings, referral networks, coalition activities, and shared planning initiatives, service providers

will work together to address gaps in services and improve outcomes for residents.

## **Discussion**

## **Program Specific Requirements**

### **AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(I)(1,2,4)**

#### **Introduction**

#### **Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)**

##### **Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(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
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

#### **Other CDBG Requirements**

1. The amount of urgent need activities

#### **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)**

##### **Reference 91.220(I)(4)**

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)
2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.
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).
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.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

**Discussion**

