



Town of Framingham Massachusetts

FY2016 – FY2020 Consolidate Plan FF2015-FFY2019 CDBG & HOME Programs

April 2015

Community Development Department
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Executive Summary

The Consolidated Plan contains three parts:

Part I – Details of the needs of residents in the Town of Framingham based upon comprehensive data, market analysis and detailed demographic information.

Part II – the Strategic plan, derived from the information in Part I, this section provides broad goals and objectives to be achieved through funded programs and actions over the next five years (2016-2020).

Part III – is the 1 Year Annual Action Plan, this portion details the specific details, goals and outcomes for the Program Year FY2016 (FFY15). Each year the Community Development Department will publish a one year action plan reflecting the goals and objectives consistent with Part I and II of this Consolidated Plan.

Through a Citizen Participation process, the Town of Framingham Consolidated Plan presents a road map for the future. The Consolidated Plan was developed under specific guidelines developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and serves as an application for administering the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Grant.

Over the course of the FY2015, the Town of Framingham gathered information from the community and stakeholders along with ongoing and existing studies and policies to determine and prioritize the most important needs of the Town's low and moderate income. Coupled with the information gathered, members of the Community Development Department analyzed the census data and market trends to determine the focus of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The following goals were identified to serve the low and moderate income populations:

Housing –

- Improve, preserve, and develop dwellings for low and moderate income (Homeowners & Renters),
- Supports programs that develop and maintain affordable units,
- Provide decent, affordable housing for residents in South Framingham;

Public/Neighborhood Improvement –

- Improve public infrastructures that serves low and moderate income neighborhoods in South Framingham,
- Improve community appearance and livability in South Framingham;

Public Services –

- Improve the quality of life for the Town's low and moderate-income residents by providing quality public services, and

- support workforce development programs which expands the economic opportunities in South Framingham

Economic Development –

- Improve the economic conditions for small businesses in the Downtown Commercial Area,
- Improve the Downtown Commercial Area to attract more business and job opportunities for the businesses and South Framingham residents

Evaluation of Past Performance

Between FY2010-2015, the Framingham Community Development Program was engaged in projects prioritized in the FY2010-2015 Consolidate Plan and 2013-2015 Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area. The following accomplishments were achieved:

- 54 homes were improved through the Housing Rehabilitation Program;
- 7 first time homebuyers were assisted;
- 11 public facilities were improved,
- 2079 code enforcement/neighborhood stabilization visits were conducted with over 80% cases resolved,
- 4584 low and moderate income individuals participated in public services,
- 4 Public Housing Authority properties were improved,
- 6 Downtown small businesses facades and signs were improved, and
- 140 small businesses received technical assistance.

Description to efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan

In addition to the Citizen Participation Plan process, during FY2015 the Town and other stakeholders undertook a variety of public hearings and surveys to gather input from the same target community engaged for the Consolidated Plan. Rather than duplicate efforts, these public engagements and resulting studies provided valuable information included in our CP which broaden our understanding of the community and their needs. Those studies, which all had a robust public participation, were the Downtown Transportation Oriented Development Process <http://www.framinghamma.gov/1811/Transit-Oriented-Development> , a re- envisioning the Downtown Commercial Area study, conducted by MAPC; the South East Framingham Study Area <http://www.framinghamma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/15569> a land use study conducted by the Planning Board; the Community Connections Community Services Survey, a survey a social/recreational neighborhood priorities; and the recodification of the Zoning By-Law which has many implications to expanding affordable and diverse housing opportunities in Framingham.

Lead and Responsible Agencies

The Framingham Community Development Office is responsible for preparing and submitting the Consolidated Plan to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on behalf of the Town of Framingham's Board of Selectmen who have been authorized by Town Meeting to submit this document. The Community Development Office, part of the Community and Economic Development Division, administers the CDBG program.

Consultation

The Community Development Department consulted with the following public agencies in the development of the Consolidated Plan: Framingham Housing Authority, local housing groups, non-profit agencies, Balance of State Continuum of Care (DHCD) and social services agencies and other jurisdictions possessing information on needs and services for special population groups. The Community Development Department consulted various City entities such as Town Manager's Office, Board of Selectmen, Community Development Advisory Committee, Ways and Means Standing Committee, Community Services Standing Committee, Planning Board, DPW, Parks and Recreation, Historical Commission, Conservation Commission, Council on Aging, Council on Disabilities, EDIC, Framingham Downtown Renaissance, Libraries, School Department, Building Department, Police Department, Board of Health, and Town Meeting.

Though the Community Development Office administers the CDBG program, other Town Departments are involved throughout the year in the implementation phase of the program – Framingham Housing Authority, Parks and Recreation, DPW, Procurement, Town Counsel, Conservation Commission, Assessing – to insure projects evolve in a timely and effective manner.

The Town of Framingham is a member of the Balance of State Continuum of Care (BoSCoC), comprised of 76 member communities. Representatives from area providers meet monthly at DHCD in Boston to coordinate local homeless needs. Though the BoSCoC regional area is large, the region's homeless services providers and housing facilities and services are located primarily in Framingham. The Homeless are served by SMOC, Framingham Housing Authority, Advocates, Framingham's Office of Veteran's Affairs, Advocates, Framingham Legal Services, Wayside providing emergency, transitional and permanent housing and services. Homeless funding is allocated through an annual RFP process managed by DHCD.

FY2016 Annual Action Plan

The FY2015 Action Plan represents the 5th and final year implementing the goals and strategies established in the *FY2011-2015 Framingham Consolidated Plan* and 3rd and final year of the *FY2013-2015 Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan*.

The FY2016 Action:

Expected Resources

Sources of Funds	Amount
CDBG Entitlement	\$486,335
Program Income	\$ 25,000
Total	\$511,335

The Community Development program has allocated its CDBG into the following general categories:

Housing - \$220,268 - 43% of allocation

Public Facilities ADA - \$11,000 – 2% of allocation

Public Services (Subject to a 15% Cap) - \$76,700 -15% of allocation

Downtown Improvement - \$101,000 – 19% of allocation

Administration (Subject to a 20% Cap) - \$102,267 – 20% of allocation

Th1.0	ADMINISTRATION/PLANNING	\$102,267*
2.0	HOUSING REHABILITATION	\$220,368
2.1	Housing Rehabilitation	\$158,868
	<i>Sponsor: Community and Economic Development</i>	
2.2	Code Enforcement	\$61,500
	<i>Sponsor: Building & Inspectional Services</i>	
3.0	PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS	\$11,000
3.1	Butterworth Park Bleacher Removal/ADA Replacement	\$11,000
	<i>Sponsor: Framingham Parks and Recreation</i>	
4.0	PUBLIC SERVICES	\$76,700**

4.1	Literacy Unlimited	\$12,000
	<i>Sponsor: Framingham Public Library</i>	
4.2	Framingham Adult ESL Plus	\$20,466
	<i>Sponsor: Framingham Adult ESL Program</i>	
4.3	Community Connections Summer Work Program	\$24,484
	<i>Sponsor: Framingham Coalition Community Connections</i>	
4.4	Resiliency for Life Summer Program	\$5,750
	<i>Sponsor: Resiliency for Life Advisory Board</i>	
	<i>Sponsor: Hoops & Homework</i>	
4.5	Healthy Options for Progress through Education (H.O.P.E.)	\$9,000
	<i>Sponsor: Pelham Apartments Residential Services</i>	
4.6	Hoops & Homework	\$5,000
5.0 DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS		\$101,000
5.1	South Framingham Main Streets Program	\$51,000
	<i>Sponsor: Framingham Downtown Renaissance</i>	
5.2	Downtown Wayfinding Sign Program	\$25,000
	<i>Sponsor: CED & DPW</i>	
5.3	Downtown Commercial Sign & Façade Program	\$25,000
	<i>Sponsor: Framingham Downtown Renaissance</i>	

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program will provide lead evaluations for participating rehabilitation and First-time Home buyer cases for properties constructed prior to 1978. Where lead is identified, funds will be available for lead abatement.

The Framingham Board of Health tests rental units for lead upon the request of parents of children under six for units build prior to 1978. The property will be required to remediate and comply with the law.