

CITY OF PAWTUCKET



DRAFT

Annual Action Plan

FY 2024-2025

(July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

for the

Community Development Block Grant Program

HOME Investment Partnership Program

Emergency Solutions Grant Program

TO BE PRESENTED TO THE PAWTUCKET
CITY COUNCIL ON
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.

FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

Citizen Comments on the Plan will be
accepted until June 14, 2024.

Comments may be mailed to: Mark E. Goudreau, Community Development Program Manager,
Pawtucket Dept. of Planning and Redevelopment, City Hall, 137 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860
or email – MGOUDREAU@PAWTUCKETRI.GOV
(401) 728-0500, Ext. 430

May 10, 2024

Bianca M. Policastro, Director

Donald R. Grebien, Mayor

2024-2025 Annual Action Plan Executive Summary

1. Introduction

The City of Pawtucket is an Entitlement Community that expects to receive funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to invest in local solutions to address housing and community development needs. The funds include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

The primary objective of the CDBG program is to develop viable communities through the provision of decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities. HOME funds are dedicated to preserving and creating affordable housing. ESG supports outreach and shelters for homeless persons as well as programs that prevent or rapidly rehouse homeless individuals and families.

The City of Pawtucket is pleased to present an Executive Summary of its Annual Action Plan for Plan Year 2024 from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. The Annual Action Plan serves several functions:

1. Utilizing data and community input, it prioritizes housing and community development needs, delineates a one-year strategy for addressing those needs and establishes performance measures by which progress can be assessed in response to the City of Pawtucket’s Consolidated Plan 2020-2024.
2. It describes recommendations for specific projects and services to address housing, community development, emergency shelter and homeless needs which were identified through public meetings, needs assessments, coalition meetings, consultations with community groups (e.g., neighborhood associations, linguistic minority organizations, etc.) and proposals solicited through both public meetings and the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.
3. It outlines activities that will be funded utilizing Federal Block Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in accordance with 24 CFR Part 91.220 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

The City’s Annual Action Plan has been prepared in accordance with guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment
Overview

The 2024 Annual Action Plan includes the goals and objectives outlined below, all targeting community needs related to affordable housing, economic development and employment, and strengthening neighborhoods.

- Provide essential Public Services
- Improve Public Infrastructure
- Expand Economic Development opportunities through Business Assistance
- Improve availability and access to Public Facilities and Parks
- Increase Affordable Housing through Rehabilitation and New Construction
- Increase the quality of life through Neighborhood Stabilization efforts
- Decrease the incidence of Homelessness and provide services to the homeless
- Planning and Administration

Funding Disbursement. The 2024 Annual Action Plan represents a single application for federal funding that incorporates three (3) HUD formula programs plus program income, for a total allocation of \$_____ in FY 2024-2025 funds. The three (3) HUD programs are as follows:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): \$1,754,625
- HOME Investment Partnership (HOME): \$ 615,933
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG): \$ 158,117

- Anticipated program income (loan repayment): \$ 150,000

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Pawtucket has demonstrated reasonable progress in meeting the goals and objectives identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the most recently completed year of the five-year Consolidated Plan cycle. The City’s successful efforts focused on activities that have positively impacted the quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents. These efforts have included increasing the amount of decent, safe and affordable housing; expanding homeownership opportunities; investment in public infrastructure, facilities and parks and providing essential public services.

An inclusive public process, community input, careful planning and a significant commitment of financial resources enabled the City to achieve satisfactory performance across all programs and objectives despite the funding constraints of HUD grants.

The City of Pawtucket remains confident that its demonstrated level of performance will be replicated during the period covered by this Action Plan.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

In order to ensure maximum participation from the citizens of Pawtucket, the Consolidated Planning process included public meetings and consultations with key sub-populations. In addition to consultations the City held public meetings. An additional public meeting will be held before the City Council on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, where the public could comment on the Plan. The City also offered various applicants with technical assistance in preparing applications for funding requests.

This year’s process:

Friday, January 12, 2024	General Newspaper Notice/Email Meeting Invitation to non-profits, community groups and City Councilors to apply for CDBG funds
Tuesday, January 16, 2024	Prepare presentation, stats review 2022-2023 grant year. Review funding expectation 2023-2024
Wednesday, January 24, 2024	Review 2020-2024 ConPlan Needs, restate needs
Tuesday, January 30, 2024	CDBG Public Meeting to Explain Grant Process <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of 1 yr. Con-Plan Needs/Explanation CDBG/ESG/HOME Programs Public Meeting – 6:00 p.m. City Council Chambers
Friday, February 2, 2024	General Newspaper Notice/Applications Available/ Applications emailed to City Council members
January 30 - February 21, 2024	On-call meetings with applicants to assist with grant eligibility and preparation
Wednesday, February 21, 2024	Applications Due Date 12:00 P.M.
February 21 – March 6, 2024	Review of all submitted applications for eligibility/status of current CDBG grant if previously funded.
Monday, February 26, 2024	Email list of all applications received send to Mayor and City Council in advance of public hearings
Wednesday, March 6, 2024	Public Meeting CDBG Public Service Application Public Hearing Pawtucket Public Library Campbell Auditorium, 13 Summer Street, Pawtucket, RI – 5 p.m.
Thursday, March 7, 2024	Public Meeting CDBG Activities/HOME Housing Applications Public Hearing

Pawtucket Public Library Campbell Auditorium,
13 Summer Street, Pawtucket, RI – 5 p.m.

March 7 – March 29, 2024	Internal review of all submitted CDBG/HOME/ESG applications against City’s Consolidated Plan Priorities, Initial Environmental Reviews.
May 6 - May 13, 2024	Finalize funding application to HUD
Tuesday, May 14, 2024	HUD required newspaper advertisement announcing availability of final application for 30-day required public comment period. You can review the city’s proposal on the website.
May 13 – June 12, 2024	Input finalized funding plan into HUD prescribed format, complete Environmental Reviews.
Wednesday, June 5, 2024	City Council Meeting 7:00 pm. Present Resolution for authorization. Public Meeting – Open for Citizen comment
Friday, June 14, 2024	Submit plan officially to HUD for 45-day review period
Wednesday July 31, 2024	Anticipated approval date from HUD to begin 2024 Program Year funding.

All meeting locations were accessible to persons with disabilities, and all meeting notices included information about how to request accommodations, such as a translator or other assistance.

5. Summary of public comments

The Draft Annual Action Plan will be available for review and public comments between May 14 and June 14, 2024. Any comments received during that time period will be included here along with the City’s response for the Final Action Plan.

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

All comments will be incorporated into the Plan.

7. Summary

The 2020-2024 City of Pawtucket Five-Year Consolidated Plan reflects the community input received from various individuals and organizations as well as City departments. It is hoped that the priorities chosen

will have the effect of improving the lives of Pawtucket’s low- and moderate-income residents, thereby enhancing the quality of life for all Pawtucket citizens.

The following activities listed in the Draft Annual Action Plan have been proposed to receive Annual Action Plan program funds during the 2024-2025 program year.

During Program Year 2024-2025, the City of Pawtucket will continue to make progress in implementing its Housing and Community Development goals and priorities as set forth in its Consolidated Plan 2020-2024 and the 2024 Annual Action Plan. Many of these activities stand out as having the potential for positively impacting the quality of life for the City’s low- and moderate-income residents. All of these activities have come to fruition as the result of an active public process, community input, careful planning and a significant commitment of financial resources while providing tremendous opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and families, both young and old, throughout the City of Pawtucket.

The three (3) entitlement programs are described as:

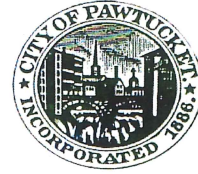
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): The CDBG Program is used to assist Pawtucket residents in a number of ways including: installing or improving streets, sidewalks and parks, making loans to local businesses, providing low-cost loans to repair and improve single- and multi-family homes, funding for neighborhood and senior centers, assisting families with child care and many other activities directed at improving the lives of Pawtucket residents.

HOME Housing Investment Partnership (HOME): The HOME Program is used to assist Pawtucket residents with their housing needs. Programs funded with HOME dollars include: the nonprofit development of affordable housing and affordable rental residential units, a first-time homebuyers’ program and rental assistance to tenants.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG): The ESG Program assists emergency shelters and homeless prevention activities, emphasizes rapid re-housing and assists people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis.

Pawtucket’s funding allocations for plan year 2024 can be viewed on the following charts.

City of Pawtucket, Rhode Island



July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

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Accepted until June 14, 2024

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or Email - MGOUDREAU@PAWTUCKETRI.GOV

BASED ON ANTICIPATED 2024 - 2025 FEDERAL FUNDING

City of Pawtucket, RI 2024-2025 Housing and Community Development Action Plan
for Program Year 50 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

I. Community Development Block Grant Program		
Anticipated 2024-2025 Federal CDBG Allocation Amount		\$1,773,127
Anticipated Program Income for Upcoming 2024-2025 Year*		\$150,000
TOTAL CDBG ALLOCATION		\$1,923,127
II. HOME Housing Investment Partnership Program		
Anticipated 2024-2025 Federal HOME Allocation Amount		\$505,243
III. Emergency Solutions Grant Program		
Anticipated 2024-2025 Federal ESG Allocation		\$147,208
TOTAL EST. FED. FUNDING BUDGET FOR 2024-2025		\$2,575,578

2024-2025 Community Development Block Grant Summary

Anticipated 2024-2025 Federal CDBG Allocation	\$1,773,127
Anticipated CDBG Program Income for 2024-2025*	\$150,000
Anticipated 2024-2025 CDBG Total Budget	\$1,923,127

*This figure is a projection based upon anticipated loan repayments in the upcoming 2024-2025 program year (see accompanying detail).

2024-2025 CDBG BUDGET BREAKDOWN BY PROGRAM AREA

Anticipated 2024-2025 CDBG BUDGET	\$1,923,127
1. Public Service Allocation	\$377,125
2. Community Development Activities Allocation	\$1,161,377
3. Administrative and Planning Allocation (20%)	\$384,625

2024-2025 Community Development Block Grant Detail Notes

Anticipated CDBG Program Income for 2024-2025 Program Year:	
Pawt. Redev. Agency Residential Rehab Loan Payments	\$55,000
Pawt. Bus. Dev. Corp. Business Loan Payments	\$95,000
TOTAL PROGRAM INCOME ANTICIPATED	\$150,000

2024-2025 Proposed CDBG Budget Allocations

PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

DESCRIPTION

I. Senior ServicesBUDGET

Pawt. Senior Services/Senior Transportation	\$186,625	Operation and Programming of the Leon Mathieu Senior Center
New Horizons Adult Day Care	\$30,000	Adult Day Care for Low/Moderate Income Pawtucket Seniors

II. Counseling Services

Day One	\$8,000	Services to Victims/Families of Sexual Assault
Family Service of Rhode Island	\$12,000	Police Go Team - Counseling for Crime Victims

III. Youth Initiatives

B.V. Tourism Council River Classroom	\$5,000	Educational Outings on the Blackstone River Explorer Boat
Pawtucket School Department	\$12,000	School Robotics Program to focus on STEM
Clothes to Kids Rhode Island	\$7,000	Support Youth with Free Clothing

IV. Assistance To The Hungry

Pawtucket Soup Kitchen	\$47,000	Operation of the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen
Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Center	\$20,000	Operations of a Food Pantry

V. Assistance to Disabled/Homeless

Pawtucket Housing Authority	\$6,000	Wellness Resource Center
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VI. Neighborhood Initiatives

Blackstone Valley Community Action Program, Inc.	\$6,000	Fair Housing Advocate
Blackstone Valley Community Action Program, Inc.	\$37,500	Woodlawn Community Center Programing

TOTAL CDBG PUBLIC SERVICES\$377,125

2024-2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

I. Facility Improvement Projects:

Varieur School Playground	\$125,000
Slater Middle School	\$325,000
Pawtucket Public Library	\$41,200
Tides Family Services	\$100,000

II. DPR Sponsored Improvement Projects:

Outdoor Greenspace and Parks	\$200,000
City Streetscape Improvements	\$195,177
City Art Installations	\$5,000

III. Economic Development:

SER Jobs for Progress, Inc	\$20,000
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DESCRIPTION

Stormwater Mitigation and Playground Improvements
Turf Installation and Playground Improvements
Design Work to Replace/Repair Roof Drainage System
Parking Lot Renovation and Stormwater Remediation

Improvements to Parks City-Wide
Sidewalk, Travel Lane and Pedestrian Improvements City-Wide
Paint Box Program and Art Enhancement

Business Incubator for Female Entrepreneurs

TOTAL CDBG ACTIVITIES \$1,011,377

2024-2025 CDBG ADMINISTRATION/PLANNING

I. Dept. of Planning and Redevelopment Administration	\$306,625
II. Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency Administration	\$50,000
III. Pawtucket Business Development Corp. Administration	\$28,000

TOTAL CDBG ADMINISTRATION \$384,625

TOTAL ALL CDBG CATEGORIES \$1,773,127

DESCRIPTION

Administration Costs for CDBG Grant Management
Administration Costs for Agency Programs
Administration Costs for Small Business Loan Programs

<u>2024-2025 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)</u>		<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
I. Emergency Shelter Operations	\$35,000	Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center - Emergency Shelter Operations	
II. Pawtucket Housing Authority Emergency Shelter Operations	\$50,000	Operating Funds Emergency Homeless Shelter	
III. Homeless Prevention Programs	\$51,208	Renter Assistance Programs	
IV. Dept. of Planning Admin. Set-Aside (7.5%)	\$11,000	Administration costs for ESG Grant management	
TOTAL ESG	\$147,208		
<u>2024-2025 HOME HOUSING PROGRAM</u>		<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
I. HOME Administration Set-Aside (10% cap)			
City Administrative Reimbursement	\$50,500	Administration costs for HOME Grant management	
II. Administration for Housing Non-Profits (5% cap)			
Pawtucket Central Falls Development Administration	\$20,000	Administrative funds to carry-out HOME projects	
III. Available for Projects			
Pawtucket Central Falls Development - 125 Young Street	\$175,000	New One (1) Family Dwelling	
Pawtucket Central Falls Development - 160 Beechwood Avenue	\$200,000	Nine (9) New Rental Units	
Held in Reserve for PRA/City Projects	\$59,743	Affordable Housing projects	
TOTAL HOME HOUSING GRANT	\$505,243		