

Meridian CDBG PY26 Action Plan

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Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary

24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction:

The city of Meridian is an Entitlement Community receiving annual funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program since 2007. The city is currently operating under the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) for program years 2022-2026. The Con Plan outlines strategies, goals, and community development needs identified through collaboration with community members and local entities.

This Action Plan is for the third year of the 2022-2026 Con Plan, providing guidance to the city's CDBG Program for Program Year 2026 (PY26), covering October 1, 2026, to September 30, 2027. The PY26 Action Plan summarizes the actions, activities, and resources to be utilized during PY26 to address the goals and priority needs identified in the 2022-2026 Con Plan.

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

Meridian's 2022-2026 Con Plan is a five-year strategic plan that provides an outline of actions for the community as it works toward meeting the housing and community development needs of its low and moderate-income and special needs households. The plan's development includes a profile of the community and its economy, an assessment of housing and community development needs, and the development of long-range strategies to meet those needs.

The Con Plan serves the following functions:

- A planning document for the city, which builds on a participatory process among citizens, organizations, businesses, and other stakeholders;
- A submission for federal funds under HUD's formula grant program for jurisdictions;
- A strategy to be followed in carrying out HUD programs; and
- A management tool for assessing performance, tracking success, and determining the course of future Con Plans.

The 2022-2026 Con Plan was prepared in accordance with Sections 91.100 through 91.230 of HUD's Consolidated Plan Final Rule.

Below are HUD's objectives and the city's projected outcomes over the course of the 2022-2026 Con Plan:

1. **Provide decent housing** by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing.

2. **Provide a suitable living environment** through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of LMI residents throughout Meridian, increased housing opportunities, and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods.
3. **Expand economic opportunities** through homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low- and moderate-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

3. Evaluation of past performance:

At the end of its program year, Meridian is required to provide an annual report to HUD that summarizes its performance for the program year. This report is called the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The CAPER must include a description of the resources made available, the investment of available resources, the geographic distribution and location of investments, the families and persons assisted (including the racial and ethnic distribution of persons assisted), the actions taken to affirmatively further fair housing, and other actions indicated in the Strategic Plan and the Action Plan.

Performance reporting meets three basic purposes:

1. Provides HUD with the necessary information to meet its statutory requirement to assess each grantee's ability to carry out relevant CPD programs in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations;
2. Provides information necessary for HUD's Annual Report to Congress, also statutorily mandated; and,
3. Provides grantees an opportunity to describe to citizens their successes in meeting objectives stipulated in their Con Plan.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process:

Citizen participation includes actively encouraging citizens, particularly the low and moderate-income population, to participate in the planning process for the five-year Con Plan, the Action Plan, the submission of Substantial Amendments, and the development of the Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER).

The city encouraged and sought broad participation but especially encouraged participation from low- and moderate-income persons, residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, minorities, non-English speaking persons, persons with disabilities, public housing residents, local and regional institutions, businesses, developers, and nonprofit organizations.

All public meetings were held in a location convenient to residents, particularly potential or actual beneficiaries.

Citizen participation played a critical role in the needs assessment, market analysis, and the construction of the goals and priorities featured in the Con Plan. It was also vital in developing this year's Action Plan, ensuring that previously identified goals and priorities continue to meet the community's needs.

5. Summary of public comments:

Meridian acknowledges and documents all comments received during the public participation process. This includes recording and analyzing feedback from the online survey. The comments and survey results played a critical role in shaping the specific priorities and goals outlined in the Con Plan and subsequently addressed in the current Action Plan. By incorporating public input, Meridian ensures that the Action Plan continues to align with the identified needs and goals of the community.

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

Meridian accepts and records all comments.

7. Summary:

Meridian has implemented and adopted a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) in conjunction with the 2022-2026 Con Plan. This CPP serves as a framework for facilitating public input and engagement in the allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds granted to the city. The CPP outlines the methods and procedures for providing notice and conducting outreach to residents regarding public hearings related to all aspects of the CDBG process. The CPP ensures that the community has opportunities to participate and provide input in the decision-making processes related to CDBG funding.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies

24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

| Agency Role | Name | Department/Agency |
|--------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| CDBG Administrator | MERIDIAN | Economic Development, Mayor's Office |

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative:

The Meridian CDBG Program is overseen by the Mayor's Office. The Program collaborates closely with various departments within the city, including the Community Development Department, Planning Division staff, Economic Development Division staff, as well as other departments like Public Works, Finance, and Parks and Recreation. This collaborative approach ensures coordination and integration of efforts across different departments to effectively implement CDBG-funded projects and initiatives in Meridian.

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AP-10 Consultation

24 CFR 91.100, 24 CFR 91.200(b), 24 CFR 91.215(l)

1. Introduction:

The city of Meridian values agency consultation to identify and address priority needs within the community. This inclusive process involves active participation from non-profit organizations, private citizens, and public agencies, fostering a collaborative effort. Through extensive outreach and consultation, the city engaged with citizens, local municipal officials, non-profit agencies, public housing agencies, governmental agencies, private organizations, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) in the development of the Plan. By involving a diverse range of stakeholders, the city ensures that the Con Plan and subsequent Action Plans accurately reflects the needs and aspirations of the 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)):

While there are no public housing units in Meridian, an estimated 9 percent of the housing authority's total voucher supply are used within Meridian city limits. The city collaborated with the Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA), the local public housing authority, to assist the city in better understanding ACHA's resources and needs. ACHA and the city are both involved with the CoC. The CoC meetings provide an opportunity to collaborate with regional and local housing providers (public, non-profit, and private) and health and social service agencies (including private and non-profit mental health, emergency, and healthcare providers).

Additionally, the city has developed a socioeconomic profile of Meridian to identify gaps in service, likely partnerships, and needs of the community. The city is dedicated to extending further support to organizations that help meet the community's identified needs.

One need that is readily apparent is the need for housing affordability and rental support. Meridian is dedicated to increasing its affordable housing inventory to ensure residents of all income levels can find housing in Meridian and provide necessary supportive services. city staff will continue to stay engaged with the housing affordability and supportive service community so the city can better provide important tools and resources to housing developers and supportive service providers.

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 city of Meridian actively coordinates with the Continuum of Care (CoC), known locally as Our Path Home Connect, to address the needs of homeless individuals and families, particularly those who are chronically homeless, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth. The CoC consists of representatives from various organizations that provide services related to housing, health, social services, victim support, employment, and education for low-income individuals and families, as well as those experiencing homelessness.

The city's collaboration with the CoC involves engaging staff members from neighboring communities, along with representatives from public and private entities. These entities include housing providers,

healthcare facilities, mental health service providers, foster care and youth programs, corrections programs and institutions, victim services, law enforcement agencies in Ada County, nonprofit organizations, state departments, and school districts, among others.

By bringing together these diverse stakeholders, the city aims to develop comprehensive strategies and initiatives to prevent homelessness, provide support and resources to homeless individuals and families, and address the underlying causes of homelessness. This collaborative effort ensures that the city works closely with publicly funded institutions and systems of care that may discharge individuals into homelessness, such as health-care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions.

Through the coordinated efforts of the CoC, the city of Meridian strives to enhance services, improve access to affordable housing, provide necessary healthcare and mental health support, and create a supportive environment for individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

In 2017, Our Path Home Connect launched coordinated entry, which provides a single point of entry for households experiencing homelessness. Due to the data collected through coordinated entry, Our Path Home Connect has identified four strategic initiatives:

1. End family homelessness,
2. Prevent first-time homelessness,
3. Expand supportive housing opportunities, and
4. Evolve the partnership.

The involvement of foster care and other youth programs has encouraged the city to further evaluate the non-traditional homelessness experienced by youth and their families in Meridian.

The city of Meridian has strengthened its partnership with Our Path Home Connect by incorporating feedback from the Continuum of Care (CoC) into the materials provided to the CDBG Scoring Committee during the project evaluation process. This input serves in an advisory role, ensuring that CoC insights are considered when reviewing applications for public service and housing project funding. By integrating the CoC's expertise in addressing homelessness, the city aims to better align CDBG funding decisions with regional priorities and strategies. This collaborative approach supports more informed decision-making and a coordinated effort to address homelessness and related challenges in Meridian.

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:

The city of Meridian does not directly receive ESG funds, as these are administered solely by the state. However, city staff attends CoC meetings where ESG fund allocation is discussed. The city aligns with the CoC's strategy for using ESG funds by funding homeless prevention activities, as Meridian does not have any emergency shelters. Additionally, the city attends executive meetings and participates in subcommittees to identify funding opportunities and streamline homelessness prevention services.

Although Meridian does not directly utilize HMIS, it supports the CoC's efforts in the operation and administration of HMIS.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction’s consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities:

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| 1 | Agency/Group/Organization | Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA) |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing PHA Services - Housing Regional organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The city of Meridian actively consults and engages with the Ada County Housing Authority to understand the public housing needs in the community and improve services. Through phone calls and meetings, they aim to identify opportunities for coordination and cooperation to enhance housing access and stability in Meridian. By collaborating with the housing authority, the city seeks to gain insights into the specific challenges faced by individuals and families in need of housing, including barriers to affordable options. Through ongoing communication, they aim to develop strategies and initiatives such as streamlining processes and expanding affordable housing options to ensure long-term stability. The anticipated outcome is to improve housing access and stability, creating a more inclusive and supportive community for all residents. |
| 2 | Agency/Group/Organization | Boise city/Ada County Continuum of Care |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health |

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| | | <p>Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Other government - State Other government - Local Regional organization Planning organization</p> |
| | <p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p> | <p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy</p> |
| | <p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p> | <p>Our Path Home serves as the Boise city/Ada County Continuum of Care (CoC) and is composed of representatives from various agencies, groups, and organizations involved in addressing housing, homelessness, and fair housing in the community. Through monthly scheduled meetings, subcommittee meetings, and email exchanges, Our Path Home collaborates with the city to provide valuable insights into the needs of the community in these areas. The city actively engages with Our Path Home to gather information and perspectives that inform funding recommendations and strategies to address homelessness, homelessness prevention, and fair housing activities. By working together, the city and Our Path Home aim to develop effective solutions, allocate resources appropriately, and create a community that is inclusive, supportive, and responsive to the housing needs of its residents.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> | <p>Boys and Girls Club of Ada County</p> |
| | <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p> | <p>Services-Children Regional organization</p> |
| | <p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p> | <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy</p> |
| | <p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p> | <p>The city of Meridian regularly consults and engages with the Boys & Girls Club, an organization that focuses on providing support to youth and families in the community. Through meetings and communication via email and phone calls, the city aims to assess the needs of school-age children, particularly those from low- to moderate-income families. By consulting with the Boys & Girls Club, the city seeks to identify specific requirements and provide assistance to these families, allowing them to allocate their income towards maintaining stable housing. The anticipated outcome of these consultations is to improve the overall well-being of youth and families in</p> |

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| | | need within the community by coordinating efforts and providing support through collaborative initiatives. |
| 4 | Agency/Group/Organization | Can/Ada Collaborative |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Other government - Local Regional organization Planning organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The Can/Ada Collaborative is a collaborative group consisting of local entitlement communities in the region, including Boise, Meridian, Nampa, and Caldwell. Through regular meetings and email communication, the collaborative aims to ensure compliance with federal regulations, particularly related to HUD funding. The participating municipalities strive to align their activities and initiatives with regional needs while addressing local needs, maximizing the impact of CDBG funds. The collaborative approach allows representatives to share information, discuss best practices, and identify areas for collaboration, leading to a comprehensive and coordinated response to community development challenges. By working together, the Can/Ada Collaborative enables the participating communities to meet |

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| | | federal regulations, address regional needs, and effectively utilize CDBG funds for community development initiatives. |
| 5 | Agency/Group/Organization | CATCH, Inc. |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Services - Victims |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | CATCH (Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless) is a crucial public-private partnership in Ada County dedicated to ending homelessness. The organization recognizes permanent housing as the fundamental solution to homelessness and views housing as an integral part of healthcare. CATCH's primary focus is on addressing homelessness among children and families in Ada County, and they collaborate actively with local partners to provide pathways to secure permanent housing. This collaboration encompasses various initiatives such as operating warming shelters, developing supportive housing plans, offering resolution assistance, and implementing prevention efforts. The city engages in consultations with CATCH through meetings and email exchanges to ensure effective coordination and communication. These consultations serve as a platform for discussing strategies, sharing information, and identifying opportunities for collaboration and improvement. By consulting with CATCH, the city aims to align its efforts with the organization's expertise and utilize their collaborative network to maximize the impact of homelessness prevention and support programs. The anticipated outcome is to enhance coordination, leading to more effective and comprehensive solutions to end homelessness for children and families in Ada County. |
| 6 | Agency/Group/Organization | city of Meridian |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless |

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| | | <p>Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Local Grantee Department</p> |
| | <p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p> | <p>Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy</p> |
| | <p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p> | <p>The city of Meridian has actively engaged in providing insights and expertise in various areas relevant to the program. This includes sharing knowledge on planning and zoning regulations, building codes, disaster recovery, housing affordability, population growth, and the specific needs of low- to moderate-income residents. To ensure smooth coordination and effective implementation of the program, there is constant communication between CDBG staff and other departments. This communication occurs through various channels, such as in-person discussions, meetings, emails, and phone calls. The regular and daily contact with different departments allows for seamless information sharing and collaboration. The city's plan to streamline access throughout the city demonstrates its commitment to improving the program's efficiency and effectiveness. By streamlining access, the city aims to enhance the ease with which low- to moderate-income residents can access the resources and support provided by the program. This could involve simplifying application processes, improving information dissemination, or implementing measures to remove barriers to access. Overall, the city of Meridian's active involvement in providing insights, maintaining constant communication with other departments, and its plan to streamline access reflects its dedication to optimizing the program's</p> |

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| | | <p>impact and ensuring that low- to moderate-income residents can benefit from the resources available in an efficient and equitable manner.</p> <p>Additionally, the city actively participates in various projects and initiatives to improve connectivity and access to high-speed internet services. One of the ongoing projects is the development of a fiber ring that would interconnect facilities and provide infrastructure for ISPs to offer cost-effective fiber services in Ada County. While funding for this project is pending, the city is working to secure grants to support its implementation. A digital access study has been conducted to gather insights and inform efforts to bridge the digital divide in the community.</p> <p>Meridian has also collaborated with TDS and other providers such as Sparklight and Lumen to bring more competition to the area, resulting in improved pricing for residents. By engaging with these service providers, the city aims to enhance options and affordability for high-speed internet services.</p> <p>Through these initiatives, the city of Meridian demonstrates its commitment to addressing the connectivity needs of its residents and fostering a competitive market for internet service providers. By actively seeking partnerships and exploring innovative solutions, Meridian strives to ensure that its community has access to reliable and affordable internet services.</p> |
| 7 | Agency/Group/Organization | COMPASS |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Other government - Local Regional organization Planning organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Public Transit |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The city of Meridian actively engages in consultations with COMPASS, including involvement in the housing affordability workgroup, and the transportation workgroup to improve access to affordable housing and transportation for its residents. These consultations involve regular meetings and ongoing communication through emails. COMPASS, as a regional planning organization, provides valuable insights into regional planning and development strategies, allowing the city to align its efforts with regional priorities and address housing and transportation challenges effectively. The housing affordability workgroup focuses on understanding the local housing market, identifying barriers to affordability, and exploring solutions to promote access to safe and affordable housing options. The transportation workgroup aims to improve transportation infrastructure, promote sustainable mobility, and ensure accessibility for all residents. Through these consultations, the city of Meridian seeks to foster collaboration, share |

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| | | knowledge, and develop strategies that enhance access to affordable housing and transportation, ultimately improving the quality of life for its residents. |
| 8 | Agency/Group/Organization | FACES of Hope |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The city of Meridian collaborates with Faces of Hope, a local organization dedicated to supporting victims of violence, to enhance services and ensure access for those in need. These consultations involve email communication, workshops, and meetings, facilitating a comprehensive and collaborative approach. Faces of Hope plays a crucial role in providing resources and support to victims, and by consulting with them, the city aims to gain a deeper understanding of the specific needs of victims in Meridian. Through these engagements, they can identify opportunities for collaboration, address service gaps, and develop initiatives that improve access to support services. The ultimate goal is to enhance the availability and accessibility of services for victims of violence, empowering them to heal and rebuild their lives within the community. |
| 9 | Agency/Group/Organization | The Housing Company |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services - Housing Regional organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The Housing Company, a property management agency in Idaho, is consulted through meetings, emails, and phone calls. The purpose of these consultations is to explore strategies to increase the availability of affordable housing units for low-income earners. The city seeks to gain insights into the services and resources provided by The Housing Company to ensure that residents have access to guidance and support throughout the housing process. Additionally, consultations aim to understand the challenges faced by minimum wage earners in finding affordable and suitable housing. The anticipated outcome of the consultation and improved coordination is to explore collaborative approaches that mitigate the impact of rising costs and find creative solutions to make housing more affordable and accessible. |

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| | | Ultimately, this collaboration aims to ensure that underserved communities have access to decent and affordable housing options, promoting stability and well-being within the community. |
| 10 | Agency/Group/Organization | Idaho Fair Housing Forum |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Service-Fair Housing |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Fair Housing |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The city engages in virtual meetings with this group to consult on advancing the fair housing work of the city and the region. These consultations serve as a platform for discussions and exchange of ideas regarding fair housing law and practice. Through these meetings, the group has facilitated fair housing trainings and conferences to educate individuals about fair housing rights and regulations. The consultations also play a crucial role in informing the city's strategies and approaches to affirmatively further fair housing. By collaborating with this group, the city aims to promote awareness, understanding, and implementation of fair housing principles and practices within the community. |
| 11 | Agency/Group/Organization | Idaho Housing and Finance Association |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Other government - State Regional organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy |

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| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | IHFA serves as a financial institution and administrator of affordable housing resources in the state of Idaho. They are responsible for managing HUD's statewide ESG (Emergency Solutions Grants), HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS), and HOME funds. The city engages in consultations with IHFA through in-person meetings, phone calls, and meetings to achieve several expected outcomes. These include gaining a better understanding of the available resources for Meridian residents, ensuring that the city is aware of the programs and funding options that can benefit the community. Additionally, the consultations aim to enhance coordination and collaboration with statewide resources, enabling the city to leverage and align resources effectively to address affordable housing needs across the state. |
| 12 | Agency/Group/Organization | Idaho Legal Aid |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Service-Fair Housing Regional organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Fair Housing |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | Idaho Legal Aid is an organization dedicated to providing legal assistance and advocacy for low-income individuals and vulnerable populations in Idaho. They offer legal services to address a range of civil legal issues, including housing-related matters such as fair housing. In consultations conducted via email, the city sought input and guidance from Idaho Legal Aid to identify fair housing resources, understand the specific housing issues prevalent in the community, and explore potential strategies to address these issues. The anticipated outcomes of the consultation were to gather valuable insights, information, and resources from Idaho Legal Aid to effectively address fair housing concerns and ensure that the city's initiatives align with legal requirements and best practices. |
| 13 | Agency/Group/Organization | Idaho Nonprofit Center |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Regional organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | Idaho Nonprofit is a state association representing over 800 nonprofit organizations, primarily located in the Treasure Valley. The organization plays a vital role in supporting nonprofits by providing training, resources, and advocacy services. They offer training programs in leadership development, financial literacy, and board training, as well as webinars to enhance nonprofit effectiveness. Through their lobbying efforts, they track state legislation affecting nonprofits and ensure that jurisdictions are well- |

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| | | <p>informed at the state and local levels. Idaho Nonprofit also educates policymakers in the sector by analyzing macro-level indicators and advocating for grant funding best practices. Their aim is to facilitate the administrative side of grant funding, providing nonprofits with capacity-building support and guidance, so they can focus on fulfilling their missions. The city has engaged Idaho Nonprofit through email to gain a better understanding of the needs and resources required by nonprofits, ultimately leading to more effective support and collaboration within the sector.</p> |
| 14 | Agency/Group/Organization | Idaho Youth Ranch |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | <p>Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization</p> |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | <p>Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs</p> |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | <p>The Idaho Youth Ranch plays a crucial role in providing accessible programs and services for youth and families facing trauma and crisis. Their comprehensive range of services includes outpatient services, counseling centers, mental tele-health, e-point assisted psychotherapy, adoption services, and residential shelters in the Treasure Valley. To better understand the needs of the community and explore opportunities for collaboration, the city engages in consultations with the Idaho Youth Ranch through email and phone calls. Through these consultations, the city aims to gain insights into the specific needs of youth and families in crisis, identify gaps in services, and explore ways to work together to provide the necessary support and resources. By fostering collaboration, the city and the Idaho Youth Ranch can create a more coordinated and effective response to addressing the needs of youth and families experiencing trauma and crisis in the community.</p> |

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| 15 | Agency/Group/Organization | Intermountain Fair Housing Council |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Service-Fair Housing |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Fair Housing |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The Intermountain Fair Housing Council serves as an important organization focused on promoting fair housing practices and combating housing discrimination. Through email consultations, the city engages with the Intermountain Fair Housing Council to gain a better understanding of fair housing concerns in Meridian. The purpose of these consultations is to gather insights and information regarding the specific fair housing challenges and issues faced by residents in the community. By consulting with the Intermountain Fair Housing Council, the city aims to enhance its understanding of fair housing laws, regulations, and best practices, as well as identify strategies to address any potential fair housing violations or barriers to equal housing opportunities. Ultimately, the goal is to promote fair and equitable housing practices, ensuring that all individuals in Meridian have equal access to housing and are protected from discrimination. |
| 16 | Agency/Group/Organization | Jesse Tree |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services - Housing |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The Jesse Tree is an organization that serves as a vital resource in the community, particularly for individuals and families facing housing instability and the risk of eviction due to rising rents. The city engages in consultations with the Jesse Tree through email, phone calls, and meetings to gain insights and clarity into the need for their program. By consulting with the Jesse Tree, the city hopes to gather information on the specific challenges faced by residents, such as evictions and the increasing cost of housing. These consultations aim to provide a better understanding of the current housing landscape, including the impact of rising rents, and to identify strategies and resources to support individuals and families at risk of homelessness. The collaboration between the city and the Jesse Tree seeks to address the urgent housing needs within the community, mitigate the effects of rising rents, and develop solutions that ensure housing stability for all residents. |
| 17 | Agency/Group/Organization | Meridian - Mayor's Senior Advisory Board |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Civic Leaders Senior Advisory |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The city of Meridian's Mayor's Senior Advisory Board plays a crucial role in advising and providing insights on matters related to the needs of senior citizens and individuals residing in assisted living or low-income senior housing. As part of their involvement, representatives from the board are included on the scoring committee, which indicates their input in assessing and evaluating relevant programs or initiatives. The city aims to gain a better understanding of the specific needs, challenges, and concerns of senior citizens through the consultation with the board. By actively engaging with the Mayor's Senior Advisory Board, the city can gather valuable insights and expertise to inform decision-making processes and develop strategies that address the unique requirements of this population. The collaborative efforts between the city and the advisory board aim to improve the quality of life for senior citizens, enhance the accessibility of services, and ensure the overall well-being of older residents in Meridian. |
| 18 | Agency/Group/Organization | Meridian Development Corporation |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Other government - Local Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Economic Development Market Analysis |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The Meridian Development Corporation (MDC) is dedicated to overseeing the restoration and urban development of historic downtown Meridian, with a focus on enhancing accessibility, supporting local businesses, promoting affordable workforce housing, and fostering community engagement. MDC maintains regular meetings and email communications to collaborate closely with the city and ensure that their efforts align with the overall vision for downtown Meridian. Given that many of the city's low- to moderate-income (LMI) areas are located downtown, the collaboration between the city and MDC directly impacts potential recipients of the CDBG program. By working together, the city and MDC can streamline their efforts, effectively utilize available resources, and create a vibrant and inclusive downtown area that benefits the LMI beneficiaries and contributes to the overall development of Meridian. |
| 19 | Agency/Group/Organization | Meridian Library District |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Education |

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| | | <p>Services-Employment Services - Victims Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide</p> |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | <p>The Meridian Library plays a vital role in the community by providing access to a wide range of resources and services for people of all ages and abilities. Through offerings such as classes, books, materials, mentorship, and collaboration opportunities, the library fosters inclusivity and supports the diverse needs of the community. This includes services tailored to youth, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and other marginalized groups. The library offers various programs such as book clubs, after-school programs, career support, tutoring, and story time to cater to different interests and needs. The library staff is trained to prioritize and meet the needs of diverse populations, including those who are unstably housed, identify as LGBTQIA+, have mental health concerns, or have experienced interpersonal violence. Through meetings and email communications, the city seeks to gain a better understanding of the community's needs and collaborate with the library to provide relevant resources and support.</p> |
| 20 | Agency/Group/Organization | Meridian Police Department |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | <p>Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services - Victims Other government - Local</p> |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | <p>Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs</p> |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | <p>The Meridian Police Department (MPD) plays a critical role in law enforcement and providing assistance to victims within the criminal justice system. They have implemented various programs and initiatives to serve the community effectively. The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program focuses on responding to mental health crises, ensuring that individuals in need receive appropriate care and support. The Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition (MADC) addresses substance abuse issues through community-based prevention efforts. The MPD also aims to foster positive relationships between the community and law enforcement by promoting a friendly image of the police. This includes activities such as School Resource Officers (SROs) in schools and neighborhood block parties that encourage interaction between community members and the police. The MPD engages in meetings, emails, and phone calls with CDBG staff to gain a better understanding of the city's issues and provide resources, particularly for officers working directly with community members in challenging situations.</p> |

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| | | The collaboration between the MPD and CDBG staff ensures that resources are available to address community needs and enhance the effectiveness of police services. |
| 21 | Agency/Group/Organization | Meridian Senior Center |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services-Elderly Persons |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The Meridian Senior Center plays a vital role in serving the senior population within the community. The center provides a range of services and programs tailored to meet the unique needs of seniors, promoting their well-being, social engagement, and overall quality of life. To ensure effective communication and coordination, the city engages in meetings, phone calls, and emails with the Meridian Senior Center. These interactions provide an opportunity for the city to gain a better understanding of the needs and concerns of seniors in the community. By actively seeking insights from the Senior Center, the city can identify areas where additional support and resources may be required, enabling them to better address the needs of seniors and enhance their overall experience and quality of life. |
| 22 | Agency/Group/Organization | NeighborWorks Boise |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services – Housing Services-Education |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The NeighborWorks Boise is a nonprofit organization dedicated to community development and addressing housing needs in the community. Their primary focus is on revitalizing neighborhoods and providing affordable housing solutions for low- to moderate-income individuals and families. Through emails, meetings, and phone calls, the city engages with NeighborWorks Boise to collaborate on identifying and addressing housing needs within the community. By working together, the city aims to gain insights and explore strategies to improve access to affordable housing, empower residents, and provide the necessary resources for individuals and families to obtain, retain, and maintain their homes. The collaboration with NeighborWorks Boise helps the city to develop and implement initiatives that effectively address housing needs and contribute to the overall well-being and stability of the community. |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 23 | Agency/Group/Organization | Terry Reilly Health Services |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | <p>Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services - Victims</p> |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | <p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs</p> |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | <p>Terry Reilly is a healthcare organization that offers comprehensive primary care, dental care, and behavioral health care services in the Treasure Valley, including the city of Meridian. The organization conducts outreach efforts to reach individuals and families facing barriers to care, such as farmworkers, the homeless, and very-low to moderate-income individuals. Terry Reilly's services are available to all residents, regardless of insurance status, and fees are based on a sliding scale to ensure affordability.</p> <p>Through email communication, the city engages with Terry Reilly to gain a better understanding of the healthcare needs within the community and to collaborate on resources and strategies to improve access to these services. By working together, the city and Terry Reilly aim to identify gaps in healthcare access, address disparities, and ensure that residents, particularly low-to-moderate-income individuals, have the necessary resources and support to receive the care they need.</p> |
| 24 | Agency/Group/Organization | West Ada School District |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | <p>Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Regional organization</p> |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | <p>Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p> |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | | Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | <p>The West Ada School District plays a crucial role in serving the families and children of Meridian. The district implements McKinney-Vento programs to support homeless and unstably housed youth and families, ensuring they have access to education and essential resources. Additionally, the district provides nutrition services, including the summer nutrition program, which offers meals to school-age children in area parks.</p> <p>Through emails, phone calls, and meetings, the city engages with the West Ada School District to gain a better understanding of the needs of Meridian's youth and families, as well as the specific housing challenges faced by West Ada students. The city aims to identify any gaps in services and collaborate with the school district to develop a comprehensive plan to address those gaps. By working together, the city and the West Ada School District can create a supportive environment that meets the diverse needs of students and families and ensures access to education and vital resources for all.</p> |
| 25 | Agency/Group/Organization | Women's and Children's Alliance |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Non-Homeless Special Needs |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | <p>The WCA (Women's and Children's Alliance) plays a vital role in providing comprehensive services to individuals who have experienced interpersonal violence in the community. The services provided are free and available regardless of the ability to pay for women, children, and men. The range of services includes shelter, hotline support, court advocacy, counseling, case management, and financial empowerment classes. Affordable housing emerges as a critical need for the agency's clients, as it directly affects their ability to escape abusive or violent environments. Through meetings, emails, and phone calls, the city engages with the WCA to gain a better understanding of the community's needs and to coordinate services that address those needs effectively. By collaborating with the WCA, the city aims to provide support, resources, and coordinated efforts to empower survivors and ensure their safety and well-being.</p> |

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

The city continues to consult with all required organizations in helping to formulate a strategy for the efficient use of HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Every agency identified was

offered an opportunity to participate in the development of the plan. While no agencies were left out, the city does not have a citizen's advisory group to consult with.

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 | Our Path Home | The City of Meridian and Our Path Home share aligned goals of expanding access to fair and affordable housing, preventing and reducing homelessness, and improving pathways to homeownership, including access to credit. The City actively participates in coordinated efforts and collaborates with Our Path Home and partner organizations to increase housing options and support services for residents. |

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative:

The views expressed by stakeholders consulted during this process are their own. The city of Meridian will not use grant funds to promote “gender ideology,” as defined in Executive Order (E.O.) 14168, Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government.

Meridian is committed to engaging residents and stakeholders in the planning process, recognizing the value of diverse perspectives and inclusive decision-making. The city sought input from a wide range of entities during the development of the Con Plan, including broadband service providers, to gain a comprehensive understanding of the community's connectivity needs and opportunities. By involving these stakeholders, Meridian gathered valuable insights and identified strategies to enhance broadband access and affordability for residents.

Collaboration between CDBG staff and other departments plays an important role in addressing the community's preparedness and response capabilities. By working closely with these departments, CDBG staff was able to incorporate emergency management considerations into its planning efforts, ensuring the safety and well-being of residents during times of crisis.

Meridian's commitment to stakeholder engagement and consultation extends beyond the Con Plan. The city intends to continue prioritizing this approach in the development of subsequent Action Plans. This iterative process allows for ongoing feedback, adaptability, and addressing emerging needs and priorities within the community. By maintaining an open dialogue with stakeholders, Meridian can ensure that its plans and actions remain responsive to the evolving requirements of its residents.

The City’s resilience efforts are comprehensive, with a focus on flood-prone areas, public lands and water resources, and emergency preparedness. Through partnerships with agencies such as the Ada County Office of Emergency Management, Meridian develops local response plans and implements hazard mitigation strategies to strengthen community resilience. This collaboration supports preparedness across a range of potential incidents, including flooding, hazardous materials events, wildfires, and other emergency response scenarios. Mutual aid agreements with neighboring

communities further enhance Meridian’s emergency response capabilities by enabling the rapid mobilization of additional first responders when needed. To prepare for fuel shortages during critical incidents, the City has also executed a memorandum of understanding to ensure fuel access for essential vehicles and infrastructure, including police vehicles, fire apparatus, and city generators, helping to maintain uninterrupted emergency services.

The City participates in programs such as the National Flood Insurance Program and the Community Rating System, demonstrating its commitment to exceeding minimum regulatory requirements. Meridian’s hazard mitigation plan incorporates flood risk reduction strategies designed to protect the community and minimize the impacts of flooding. In addition, the City is exploring alternative energy sources, including solar power, battery storage, and backup generation systems, to diversify energy resources, improve operational resilience, and reduce environmental impacts.

Addressing broadband internet access and narrowing the digital divide is a priority for Meridian and these goals have been incorporated into the city's strategic plan. The installation of conduit infrastructure is being considered to expand broadband access throughout the city. Exploring Wi-Fi implementation in public parks aims to provide increased connectivity options for residents.

To further advance these efforts, Meridian has applied for an energy efficiency community block grant to support the development of a comprehensive community-wide energy efficiency plan. Staff also intend to pursue partnership opportunities that increase energy efficiency for low- and moderate-income residents and help bridge the digital divide. By leveraging grants and other available resources, Meridian remains committed to expanding broadband access, strengthening resilience, proactively managing flood-prone areas, and promoting the long-term safety and well-being of the community.

AP-12 Participation

24 CFR 91.105, 24 CFR 91.200(c)

The City of Meridian’s citizen participation process is designed to ensure meaningful engagement with residents and stakeholders in the development of the CDBG Program and related goal-setting. The City uses a variety of outreach methods to broaden participation and gather input from a diverse cross-section of the community.

Key engagement strategies include public outreach events (including virtual open houses), surveys, public meetings, formal comment periods, and direct communications such as mailed notices and targeted stakeholder correspondence. These efforts provide multiple accessible avenues for residents to learn about proposed activities, ask questions, and provide feedback.

Input collected through these methods directly informs the CDBG goal-setting process. Community feedback is used to identify and prioritize local needs, particularly those affecting low- and moderate-income households, and to guide funding decisions toward projects that reflect expressed community priorities. The process also strengthens transparency and accountability by ensuring residents can review and comment on proposed plans before final adoption.

Overall, citizen participation plays a central role in shaping program goals by ensuring they are responsive to community needs, informed by public input, and aligned with the City’s broader housing, community development, and service priorities.

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|------------------|--|--|------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Newspaper Ad | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | Legal notices were published in the Idaho Press newspaper that described the public hearings on March 25, June 3, and July 8, as well as the comment period from May 29 to July 8. | No comments received. | No comments received. |
| 2 | Public Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities | On March 25, 2025, the city held a community presentation and public hearing to request feedback on the development of | No comments received. | No comments received. |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|----------------------|---|--|---|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | <p>the action plan, including public service providers and permanent housing projects that should be included in the application process. There were roughly 50 in-person attendees as it was held during a Council meeting, but none participated in the CDBG public hearing. the meeting was livestreamed and recorded, making it difficult to determine the total number of viewers. The public hearing was noticed in the local newspaper.</p> | | |
| 3 | Application Workshop | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Subrecipients | <p>On April 8, 2025, the city held an Application Workshop where two potential applicants attended. The city provided support and guidance to potential subrecipients.</p> | <p>Attendees discussed changes to the application and timelines, with one attendee requesting an additional meeting to discuss determining the average cost per client.</p> | <p>All comments were accepted.</p> |
| 4 | Public Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities | <p>On April 10, 2025, the city participated in the coordination of the annual "Do the Right" event at Meridian Middle School. This event, which has been held for many years,</p> | <p>Several community members asked for additional information about the program.</p> | <p>All comments were accepted.</p> |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|-----------------------|--|--|---|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | <p>encourages people to do something kind for the person to their right, such as helping a neighbor, appreciating a classmate, or buying coffee for a coworker.</p> <p>At the fair, staff provided information about the CDBG program and requested input on services that are necessary for Meridian residents to be stably housed.</p> | | |
| 5 | Public Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | <p>On April 22, 2025, a presentation was held at city Hall to discuss the purpose of the program, past accomplishments, and to recognize the winners of the CDBG Sticker Competition.</p> <p>Although there were few in-person attendees, the meeting was livestreamed and recorded, making it difficult to determine the total number of viewers.</p> | No comments received. | No comments received. |
| 6 | Public Comment Period | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: | The draft Action Plan was open for public comment from May 29 to July 8, 2025 and | Feedback from a past homeowner repair program recipient was | All comments were accepted. |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| | | <p>Spanish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | <p>noticed in the local newspaper. It was advertised through flyers, posters, a summary of the Action Plan posted on the city’s website, and mailings to distribution lists. Subrecipients were also asked to contact previous and potential program participants to encourage feedback via the survey or by emailing comments directly. One comment was received by email during this period.</p> | <p>provided via email. The participant expressed deep gratitude and satisfaction with the work completed. The individual praised the professionalism, kindness, and skill of the team, highlighting a range of home repairs and accessibility improvements. The comment emphasized how meaningful and impactful the assistance was, describing the experience as a true blessing.</p> | |
| 7 | Action Plan Feedback Survey | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | <p>The city conducted a survey from May 29 to July 8, 2025, to gather feedback on the PY25 Action Plan. The survey was distributed through social media, an email distribution list, a media release, the city e-newsletter, the city website, partner sharing, virtual events, and a legal notice.</p> <p>Twenty individuals who live or work with people in Meridian responded. One</p> | <p>Most respondents expressed strong support for the proposed projects, especially emergency rental assistance, childcare scholarships, homeowner repairs, and walkability improvements. These initiatives were seen as important tools for promoting housing stability, safety, and access—particularly for low-</p> | <p>All comments were accepted.</p> |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | <p>additional respondent without ties to Meridian was excluded from the results.</p> | <p>income families, seniors, and people with disabilities. Childcare scholarships received the most enthusiastic feedback, with many noting they allow parents to remain employed while keeping children safe. Rental assistance was also valued, though some felt it was a short-term fix. Walkability improvements were widely supported, especially near schools.</p> <p>A few respondents raised concerns about eligibility criteria, sustainability, and perceived overfunding of certain programs. Suggestions included better integration with nonprofit services, improved outreach and awareness, and longer-term planning for affordable housing, traffic, and public transportation. Many called for more community</p> | |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | input and transparency to ensure these programs continue to meet real needs. | |
| 8 | Public Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | <p>On June 3, 2025, a presentation and public hearing was held at city Hall to discuss the draft action plan and recommended projects. The public hearing was noticed in the local newspaper.</p> <p>Although there were few in-person attendees, the meeting was livestreamed and recorded, making it difficult to determine the total number of viewers.</p> | No comments received. | No comments received. |
| 9 | Direct Correspondence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households located in the area of impact for public facility and infrastructure improvement projects | In June, a letter requesting feedback was sent to 60 property owners that will potentially be affected by the LMA Walkability projects. | No comments received. | No comments received. |
| 10 | Internet Outreach | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community | Notices about the public comment periods, hearings, virtual open houses and presentations were shared via the city's social media accounts. On Facebook (posted June 12), the post | No comments received. | No comments received. |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | received 1,142 views, 2 likes, and 11 link clicks. On Nextdoor (posted June 13), the post had 255 impressions (non-unique views). | | |
| 11 | Public Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | Staff held a virtual open house on June 18 with information about the action plan. Representatives of the recommended projects were available to answer questions. A second session was scheduled for June 30, but it was canceled due to no public registrations. | Comments reflected strong support for the projects being funded. A community member raised concerns about accessing services through Jesse Tree, to which Jesse Tree responded by explaining their needs-based prioritization process and the limitations of their current funding and staffing. The community member also highlighted the need for gated parks and MPD training to help locate children with disabilities who may wander. Other subrecipients expressed appreciation for one another and discussed opportunities to collaborate in the future to better | All comments were accepted. |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons |
|------------|------------------|--|---|------------------------------|--|
| | | | | support shared participants. | |
| 12 | Public Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living | <p>On July 8, 2025, the city held a community presentation and public hearing to request feedback on the development of the action plan, including public service providers and permanent housing projects that should be included in the application process. There were roughly 50 in-person attendees as it was held during a Council meeting, but none participated in the CDBG public hearing. the meeting was livestreamed and recorded, making it difficult to determine the total number of viewers. The public hearing was noticed in the local newspaper.</p> | No comments received. | No comments received. |

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources

24 CFR 91.220(c) (1,2)

Introduction:

The city of Meridian prioritized goals and objectives for using CDBG funding to strategically and effectively benefit low- and moderate-income residents by increasing decent housing, creating a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities.

The city of Meridian follows HUD guidelines and limits public services to no more than 15% and administration to 20% of the annual entitlement.

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 | \$555,314 | \$0 | \$0 | \$555,314 | \$0 | This is the final year of the 2022–2026 Consolidated Plan. The City of Meridian anticipates no significant prior year resources or program income at this time. |

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:

The City of Meridian does not receive funding from HUD programs with federal matching requirements, such as HOME, HOPWA, or ESG. However, CDBG-funded housing, public service, and infrastructure activities are expected to leverage additional resources from a range of public and private sources.

These leveraged resources may include contributions secured directly by subrecipient organizations, such as private donations, foundation grants, program income, and other non-CDBG funding sources, as well as potential support from state or federal partners, including the Idaho Housing and Finance Association and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. For City-managed projects, in-kind support such as staff time, planning, and materials may also be utilized to support project delivery.

Although CDBG does not carry a matching requirement, subrecipients are encouraged to report all leveraged funds in annual performance reporting to demonstrate the full scope and impact of program investments.

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

The City of Meridian does not currently identify publicly owned land or property available for housing development within the jurisdiction to address needs identified in this plan.

The City will continue to support improvements that enhance livability in low- and moderate-income areas, including walkability enhancements, multi-modal pathways, park upgrades, and other public infrastructure investments. These improvements are intended to improve access to neighborhoods, public transportation, and recreational opportunities, particularly for residents with mobility challenges.

Discussion:

The City anticipates that some current projects may have unexpended funds upon completion; however, the exact amounts cannot be determined at this time as projects remain active and executed under existing agreements.

The City also expects subrecipients to maximize the use of CDBG funds by leveraging additional resources to the greatest extent feasible in order to implement robust programs that further address the needs of area residents

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information:

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|---|------------|----------|--|-------------------|--|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements | 2022 | 2026 | Non-Housing Community Development | Meridian citywide | Create a Suitable Living Environment | CDBG: \$212,508 | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted |
| 2 | Public Services | 2022 | 2026 | Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development | Meridian citywide | Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons | CDBG: \$83,297 | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 52 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 60 Persons Assisted |
| 3 | Housing | 2022 | 2026 | Affordable Housing | Meridian citywide | Provide Decent Housing | CDBG: \$212,509 | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 16 Household Housing Unit |
| 4 | Program Administration | 2022 | 2026 | Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development | Meridian citywide | Provide Decent Housing Create a Suitable Living Environment Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons | CDBG: \$57,500 | n/a |

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| <p>1</p> | <p>Goal Name</p> | <p>Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements</p> |
| | <p>Goal Description</p> | <p>Public Facilities and Improvements are publicly-owned facilities and infrastructure such as streets, playgrounds, underground utilities, and buildings owned by non-profits open to the general public. Safe and accessible infrastructure is essential to the quality of life and building communities that support a range of needs and long-term stability. In general, public facilities and public improvements are interpreted to include all facilities and improvements that are publicly owned or owned by a nonprofit and open to the general public. Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and installation of public facilities and improvements are eligible activities.</p> <p>Meridian's goal to improve and expand public facilities may include, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA Improvements • Senior Centers • Homeless and Domestic Violence Facilities • Neighborhood Facilities • Health Facilities • Sidewalks |
| <p>2</p> | <p>Goal Name</p> | <p>Public Services</p> |
| | <p>Goal Description</p> | <p>Public services are an integral part of a comprehensive community development strategy. Public Service activities provide for a wide range of activities that address needs in the community provided for the target population. Public services can strengthen communities by addressing the needs of specific populations. They can address a range of individual needs and increase CDBG dollars' impact by complementing other activities.</p> <p>The city of Meridian may allocate up to 15% of CDBG funds to public services programs that provide supportive services for low- to moderate-income persons or prevent homelessness. In general, these services are provided by local non-profit partners. This funding is capped at 15% of the CDBG entitlement plus program income.</p> <p>Meridian's goal to improve and provide public services may include, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child care • Health services • Behavioral health services • Services for homeless persons • Services for seniors • Welfare services (excluding income payments) |

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| 3 | Goal Name | Housing |
| | Goal Description | <p>The city prioritized goals and objectives for using CDBG funding to strategically and effectively benefit low- and moderate-income residents by increasing access to decent housing and creating a suitable living environment while expanding economic opportunities for LMI persons. Meridian is committed to improving and expanding access to safe and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income (LMI) residents. Affordable and safe housing helps to provide financial stability, reduces the chances of a person becoming homeless, and promotes housing sustainability.</p> <p>Meridian's projects to improve housing sustainability may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeownership Assistance • Rehabilitation (single-unit residential and/or multi-family residential) • Energy efficiency improvements • Acquisition • The administrative cost for rehabilitation activities • Lead-based paint testing/abatement • Housing counseling |
| 4 | Goal Name | Program Administration |
| | Goal Description | <p>Program Administrative funds will pay reasonable program administrative costs and carrying charges related to the planning and execution of community development activities. Administering federal funds and ensuring compliance is critical for utilizing Federal resources. Meridian is committed to using CDBG entitlement funding for administration to help to continue growing a community development program that is efficient, effective, and resourceful.</p> <p>Meridian may have administration projects that include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General management, oversight, and coordination • Providing local officials and citizens with information about the CDBG program • Preparing budgets and schedules • Preparing reports and other HUD-required documents • Program planning • Public Information • Monitoring program activities • Fair Housing activities • Indirect costs • Submission of applications for Federal programs |

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b).

The only activity that will provide decent housing this year is homeowner repair. We estimate that 16 households with an income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) will be assisted under this project. Meridian does not specify that participants must be categorized separately as extremely low-income, low-income, or moderate-income to qualify; therefore, there is no anticipated breakdown of these categories.

This approach aligns with HOME 91.215(b) by addressing the overall affordable housing needs identified during the Consolidated Planning process. Subrecipients conduct an eligibility review to ensure that housing projects meet the priorities outlined in the housing market analysis. These priorities are used to identify and select activities that address the needs of households earning at or below 80% of the AMI, fulfilling the requirement to provide affordable housing as defined by HOME regulations. This process ensures that selected activities are in line with the goals and priorities established to support affordable housing for eligible households.

Projects

AP-35 Projects

24 CFR 91.220(d)

Introduction:

The city has allocated funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to support projects that align with the priority needs and goals outlined in the 2022-2026 Con Plan. The Con Plan serves as a comprehensive strategy for addressing community development and affordable housing needs within the jurisdiction. By allocating CDBG funds to these projects, the city aims to effectively address the identified priorities and work towards achieving its long-term goals for community development and housing.

Projects:

| # | Project Name |
|---|--|
| 1 | PY26 Public Services |
| 2 | PY26 Housing |
| 3 | PY26 LMA Walkability |
| 4 | PY26 Program Coordination and Management |

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The CDBG program is designed to support the development of viable communities by providing low- and moderate-income households with access to decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include housing rehabilitation and preservation, homeownership assistance, public services, community infrastructure improvements, planning, and program administration.

Priority for project selection is based on the following criteria: compliance with CDBG statutory requirements; benefit to low- and moderate-income residents; coordination and leveraging of additional resources; responsiveness to identified community needs; sustainability and long-term impact; and the ability to demonstrate measurable outcomes and program success.

The primary obstacle to fully addressing underserved needs is the limited availability of resources relative to demand. While the City of Meridian seeks to collaborate with public agencies and nonprofit partners to leverage additional funding and maximize program impact, overall community needs continue to exceed the combined resources available from all funding sources.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information:

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Project Name | Housing Stability Services |
| | Target Area | Meridian citywide |
| | Goals Supported | Public Services |
| | Needs Addressed | Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$83,297 |
| | Description | Housing Stability Services supports low- and moderate-income Meridian residents through programs that reduce housing instability and help families meet essential needs. Funded activities include emergency rental assistance and childcare assistance, helping residents maintain stable housing, support employment, and reduce financial burdens that can contribute to housing insecurity. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2027 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Approximately 112 low- and moderate-income individuals are expected to benefit from these activities, including households at risk of eviction and children from income-eligible families. |
| | Location Description | Services will be provided citywide and will be available to eligible Meridian residents through participating service providers. |
| | Planned Activities | The City will fund public service activities that promote housing stability and support low- and moderate-income residents. Activities include emergency rental assistance for households at risk of homelessness and childcare assistance for income-eligible families. |
| 2 | Project Name | Housing Assistance & Preservation |
| | Target Area | Meridian citywide |
| | Goals Supported | Housing |
| | Needs Addressed | Provide Decent Housing |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$212,509 |
| | Description | Housing Assistance & Preservation supports activities that preserve, improve, and expand affordable housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income Meridian residents. Planned activities include housing rehabilitation, critical home repairs, and access |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2027 |

| | | |
|----------|--|--|
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Approximately 16 low- and moderate-income households are expected to benefit from housing rehabilitation and repair activities. Priority will be given to households that include seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities whose ability to live independently may be impacted by unsafe or inaccessible housing conditions. Additional households may benefit if eligible housing opportunities are identified and funded during the program year. |
| | Location Description | Housing activities will be available to eligible Meridian residents citywide. Applications may be submitted online, and rehabilitation and repair work will be completed at the beneficiary’s residence. Any additional housing activities funded through this project will be located within Meridian. |
| | Planned Activities | The City will fund housing rehabilitation and repair activities that preserve safe, affordable, and accessible housing for low- and moderate-income residents. Planned activities include critical home repairs, accessibility improvements, and rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes. The project also includes an alternate housing activity that may be funded if an eligible opportunity arises during the program year, such as housing acquisition, affordable housing development, preservation, or other eligible housing activities that advance community housing goals. |
| 3 | Project Name | Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements |
| | Target Area | Meridian citywide |
| | Goals Supported | Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements |
| | Needs Addressed | Create a Suitable Living Environment |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$212,508 |
| | Description | Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements supports public infrastructure investments that enhance safety, accessibility, and connectivity in low- and moderate-income areas of Meridian. The project focuses on improving the pedestrian environment through infrastructure upgrades that help residents access schools, services, public spaces, and other community destinations. Improvements may include sidewalks, lighting, street furnishings, landscaping, and other enhancements that contribute to a safer and more walkable neighborhood environment. These investments help create a suitable living environment and improve quality of life for residents in low- and moderate-income areas. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2027 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Approximately 200 residents living within low- and moderate-income areas are expected to benefit from these improvements. Beneficiaries include families with children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and other residents who rely on safe pedestrian access to schools, services, employment, and community resources. |
| | Location Description | Improvements will be completed within low- and moderate-income areas of Meridian. The primary activity for PY26 is located along NW 7th Street from Cherry Lane to W. Carleton Avenue. |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| | Planned Activities | The City will continue implementation of a multi-year pedestrian improvement project identified through its walkability planning efforts. The primary activity for PY26 is the NW 7th Walkability Project, which is being completed in phases and includes infrastructure improvements designed to enhance pedestrian safety, accessibility, and neighborhood connectivity. Eligible improvements may include sidewalks, lighting, benches, landscaping, trash receptacles, and other public infrastructure improvements that support walkability and access within low- and moderate-income areas. |
| 4 | Project Name | Program Administration & Fair Housing |
| | Target Area | Meridian citywide |
| | Goals Supported | Program Administration |
| | Needs Addressed | Provide Decent Housing Create a Suitable Living Environment Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$47,000 |
| | Description | Program Administration & Fair Housing supports the planning, administration, oversight, and compliance activities necessary to effectively implement the City of Meridian’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The project also supports fair housing activities that promote equal access to housing and help reduce barriers to housing choice. These efforts ensure that CDBG-funded activities are carried out in accordance with federal requirements and community development goals. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2027 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | n/a |
| | Location Description | Administrative and fair housing activities will be managed from Meridian City Hall and will support CDBG-funded activities and residents throughout Meridian. |
| | Planned Activities | The City will conduct general program administration activities necessary for the planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and compliance of the CDBG program. The project will also support fair housing activities, which may include education, outreach, partnerships, and other efforts that promote fair housing awareness and equal housing opportunity within the community. |

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 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 Action Plan does not target specific geographic areas within the jurisdiction. Funds are distributed to maximize impact across different areas, as the city does not have a concentrated low- to moderate-income neighborhood. Some projects may focus on these areas, but they are not part of a larger reinvestment initiative or Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). The goal is to address the needs of low- to moderate-income residents community-wide. By distributing resources broadly, the city of Meridian promotes equitable development and improves the well-being of all residents.

Geographic Distribution:

| Target Area | Percentage of Funds |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Meridian citywide | 100 |

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically:

The city did not identify a geographic target area as a basis for funding allocation priorities. Goals and projects are not limited to a specific area within the city.

Discussion:

All projects supported with CDBG funds are within the Meridian city limits. The projects listed in the Action Plan will benefit low- and moderate-income residents throughout the city of Meridian.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing

24 CFR 91.220(g)

Introduction:

The City of Meridian continues to face challenges related to housing affordability, housing quality, and the ability of low- and moderate-income households to maintain safe and stable housing. Rising housing costs and the aging of the existing housing stock can create financial burdens for homeowners, particularly seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities who may have limited resources available for necessary repairs and accessibility improvements.

During PY26, the City will support the preservation of affordable housing through homeowner rehabilitation and critical home repair activities. These programs help low- and moderate-income homeowners address health and safety concerns, improve accessibility, maintain housing quality, and remain in their homes longer. By investing in the preservation of existing housing, the City helps promote housing stability and supports the availability of safe, decent, and affordable housing for Meridian residents.

| One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported | |
|---|----|
| Homeless | 0 |
| Non-Homeless | 16 |
| Special-Needs | 0 |
| Total | 16 |

Table 5 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

| One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through | |
|---|----|
| Rental Assistance | 0 |
| The Production of New Units | 0 |
| Rehab of Existing Units | 16 |
| Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 |
| Total | 16 |

Table 6 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion:

Discussion:

Meridian's approach to affordable housing aligns with the definition of affordable homeownership specified in §92.254. While the city currently does not fund homeownership activities, its funding

focuses on ensuring that any homebuyer assistance activities meet the definition of affordable homeownership.

Meridian is not currently funding any rental activities as part of its Affordable Housing Goals. Instead, the city promotes affordable housing through its homeowner repair program. This program aims to assist homeowners in maintaining their homes, ensuring they remain stably housed in affordable housing. By providing resources for home repairs and improvements, the city helps homeowners address critical issues and preserve housing affordability.

Through its homeowner repair programs, Meridian aims to promote stable housing conditions and affordability for low- to moderate-income residents. These efforts contribute to creating a sustainable and inclusive community where residents can thrive and maintain affordable housing options.

AP-60 Public Housing

24 CFR 91.220(h)

Introduction:

The Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA) does not currently operate any public housing units within Meridian; however, it does administer the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), also referred to as the Section 8 program, in that area. Serving approximately 2,210 low-income households throughout Ada County, equating to around 10 % of Meridian households, this program enables participants to select rental units meeting program requirements within the county. Following identification of a suitable rental unit, tenants contribute a portion of the rent based on their income, while ACHA provides the rental subsidy directly to the landlord.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing:

In 2025, the Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA) continued managing the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program under ongoing federal funding uncertainty and increasing rental market pressures. While ACHA was able to resume limited voucher issuance during the year, leasing activity continued to be closely monitored to ensure program costs remained within available HUD funding.

Due to continued Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) funding constraints and rising rental costs throughout the region, ACHA maintained a conservative approach to issuing vouchers and managing program growth. The agency continued updating waiting list information, verifying applicant eligibility, and assessing funding availability before issuing new vouchers from the waiting list opened in 2024.

The Boise City & Ada County Housing Authorities (BCACHA) revised the Capital Fund Program (CFP) Five-Year Action Plan to address current operational, modernization, and capital improvement needs within the public housing program. These amendments are to ensure Capital Fund Program resources can be used effectively and in compliance with HUD requirements to preserve housing quality, address changing property needs, respond to cost increases, and support long-term asset management and sustainability goals.

ACHA continues to provide quality housing that is affordable to the low, very low, and extremely low-income households. Strategies pursued by the ACHA as outlined in the 5-year PHA plan continue to be successful and allows the authority to meet their mission to promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunities, and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

The organization's strategic goals are:

1. Expand the Supply of Assisted Housing
2. Improve the Quality of Assisted Housing
3. Operate at a High Level of Efficiency
4. Promote Self-Sufficiency and Asset Development of Assisted Households
5. Ensure Equal Opportunity and Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

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

ACHA actively encourages public housing residents to participate in management through its Resident Advisory Board (RAB) meetings. These meetings provide residents with opportunities to give input on annual policy updates and modernization projects funded by the Capital Fund Grant Program.

Although ACHA values homeownership as an important path to long-term stability and self-sufficiency, our homeownership program has seen limited activity in recent years. This is mainly due to economic and structural challenges within our community. Rising home prices over the past several years have created significant barriers for low-income households trying to enter the housing market. Even with financial counseling and assistance programs, many eligible residents struggle to secure mortgage financing or find homes they can afford.

While homeownership is not yet common among our residents, ACHA remains committed to laying the foundation for their long-term success. We continue to explore innovative strategies to expand affordable homeownership opportunities and ensure that resident voices are central to our planning and decision-making.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance:

ACHA is not designated as a troubled PHA.

Discussion:

The city does not own or manage any public housing and relies on ACHA to provide those services to the community. The city works with ACHA on various initiatives to coordinate and promote services and resources to the community.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities

24 CFR 91.220(i)

Introduction:

The city coordinates with the Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care (CoC) to identify the strategies to address needs of those who are at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness.

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:

The City of Meridian will continue working with community partners to identify, assess, and respond to the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, including those experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

The City participates in the local Continuum of Care (CoC) and collaborates with service providers, educational institutions, local governments, and community organizations to better understand homelessness in Meridian and coordinate resources to address identified needs. Through these partnerships, the City supports outreach efforts, service coordination, and community discussions focused on preventing and ending homelessness.

Meridian utilizes data and analysis provided through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the annual Point-in-Time Count to better understand local trends, identify service gaps, and inform community development and housing priorities. The City will continue to support these efforts and use available data to guide decision-making and improve outcomes for residents experiencing housing instability.

During PY26, the City will fund Emergency Rental Assistance through its Housing Stability Services project. This activity provides short-term financial assistance to households at risk of eviction or homelessness, helping residents remain housed and avoid entering the homeless services system.

The City also participates in regional initiatives focused on homelessness prevention and housing stability, including workgroups dedicated to strengthening prevention efforts, coordinating resources, and increasing funding to better address community needs. Through these collaborative efforts, Meridian seeks to reduce the incidence of homelessness, improve access to services, and support long-term housing stability for vulnerable residents.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons:

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons:

While there are emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities located in other nearby cities in the Treasure Valley, none of these facilities are located within city of Meridian. The city has prioritized funding homelessness prevention to mitigate the need for these services, but also works with the CoC to assist Meridian residents who need emergency shelter. The city encourages agencies who provide these services to apply for CDBG funding, but there were no applications during the current year for projects directly related to emergency shelters or transitional housing projects. All services to be funded are available to those who qualify. Leaders in the treasure valley discussed years ago where it would be

most impactful to have a shelter and identified locations that would be most accessible to the majority of people. Populations have shifted since then and it may need to change in the future, but for now we coordinate services with the local communities.

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 City of Meridian supports efforts to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness transition to permanent housing and achieve long-term housing stability through partnerships, prevention activities, and coordinated service delivery. Attention is given to populations that may face additional barriers to housing, including chronically homeless individuals, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth.

The City works closely with the Continuum of Care (CoC), CATCH, Jesse Tree, Ada County Housing Authority, local school districts, nonprofit organizations, and other regional partners to connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness with housing resources, case management, and supportive services. Through these coordinated efforts, service providers help households identify appropriate housing opportunities, access available resources, and maintain stable housing.

During PY26, the City will fund Emergency Rental Assistance through its Housing Stability Services project. This activity provides short-term financial assistance to households at risk of eviction or homelessness, helping residents remain housed and preventing entry into the homeless services system. By addressing housing crises before displacement occurs, the City helps reduce the number of households experiencing homelessness and supports long-term housing stability.

The City also participates in regional planning and coordination efforts focused on increasing access to affordable housing, improving service delivery, and reducing barriers to housing. Through collaboration with community partners, Meridian seeks to shorten the duration of homelessness, expand access to permanent housing opportunities, and prevent individuals and families from experiencing homelessness again.

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:

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:

Meridian recognizes the importance of preventing homelessness, particularly among low-income individuals and families, including those who are at high risk due to various circumstances. The city is actively engaged in partnerships and collaborations to address these needs and provide support.

Meridian participates in the Continuum of Care (CoC), which consists of representatives from organizations such as the Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA), Health and Welfare, mental health service providers, law enforcement, and correctional agencies. The CoC plays a critical role in coordinating efforts, collecting and reviewing data, and prioritizing strategies based on input from service providers. The coordinated entry process ensures that individuals and families across Ada County have access to necessary services and support. Regular case conferencing is conducted to discuss individual cases and develop appropriate interventions.

To further support individuals and families at risk of homelessness, the city provides funding to Jesse Tree. This partnership aims to keep families, individuals, and children who are at risk of eviction stably housed, ensuring they maintain housing stability and avoiding homelessness. Meridian also collaborates with other organizations such as the West Ada School District to assess needs and provide appropriate services to individuals and families facing the risk of homelessness.

Through its involvement in the CoC and partnerships with organizations like Jesse Tree and the West Ada School District, Meridian is actively working to prevent individuals and families, especially those with low income and those transitioning from institutions, from experiencing homelessness. These efforts involve assessing needs, coordinating services, and providing financial assistance to ensure stable housing and access to support services.

Discussion:

The City of Meridian recognizes the needs of non-homeless special needs populations, including elderly persons, frail elderly persons, individuals with disabilities, and other vulnerable residents who may require additional support to maintain stability and access community resources. While the primary focus of the CDBG program is housing stability for low- and moderate-income residents, the City supports activities that contribute to accessibility, independence, and quality of life for special needs populations.

During PY26, the City will fund public service activities that include childcare scholarships, which support low-income families by increasing access to affordable childcare. These services benefit households that may include individuals with special needs by helping reduce financial strain and supporting workforce participation and household stability.

The City also funds public infrastructure improvements that enhance walkability and accessibility in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. These improvements support residents with mobility challenges, including elderly persons and individuals with disabilities, by improving safe access to services, transit, schools, and community destinations.

Through these activities, the City of Meridian supports inclusive community development by improving access to services, enhancing mobility, and promoting greater independence and stability for non-homeless special needs populations.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing

24 CFR 91.220(j)

Introduction:

The City of Meridian continues to experience rising housing costs that affect the availability and affordability of housing for low- and moderate-income households. In addition to increases in home prices and rents, higher interest rates have further constrained housing affordability by increasing the cost of homeownership and limiting access to mortgage credit for potential buyers. These combined factors contribute to higher housing cost burdens and reduce mobility within the housing market.

Several structural factors also contribute to limited housing affordability in Meridian, including high land and construction costs, infrastructure constraints, and extended development timelines. These conditions can limit the pace of new affordable housing production and increase competition for existing housing stock, further impacting affordability for lower-income households.

To address these barriers, the City of Meridian uses its CDBG program to support strategies that preserve and stabilize existing housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents. During PY26, the City will fund homeowner rehabilitation and critical home repair activities that help maintain and extend the useful life of existing housing. The City also supports public infrastructure improvements and community development activities that contribute to stable, accessible neighborhoods.

Through these efforts, the City seeks to mitigate the impact of housing cost pressures, including interest rate increases and supply constraints, by preserving existing housing, supporting vulnerable homeowners, and investing in neighborhood stability.

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 City of Meridian continues to experience barriers to the development and preservation of affordable housing, including rising housing costs, infrastructure and development expenses, and regulatory and procedural requirements that can affect the pace and scale of new housing production. These conditions contribute to limited housing availability for low- and moderate-income households and increased competition for existing housing.

To address these challenges, the City of Meridian focuses on strategies that preserve existing housing stock and support a broader range of housing opportunities within the community. The City supports housing approaches that encourage a variety of housing types, including multifamily housing, townhomes, duplexes, and other residential forms where appropriate. Expanding housing diversity helps improve overall housing availability and supports the needs of households at different income levels and life stages.

The City also utilizes Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for publicly owned properties to encourage redevelopment that supports residential and mixed-use opportunities. These efforts are intended to

promote efficient land use and support development that can contribute to increased housing supply, including potential opportunities for housing that serves low- and moderate-income residents.

Through these efforts, the City of Meridian seeks to mitigate the impact of housing-related barriers by supporting housing diversity, encouraging efficient use of land, and facilitating redevelopment opportunities that contribute to a more balanced and accessible housing market.

Discussion:

The City of Meridian continues to evaluate opportunities to reduce barriers to the development and preservation of affordable housing, including those related to land use regulations, development costs, infrastructure requirements, and other local policies that can affect housing production and affordability.

The City works through its planning, zoning, and development processes to encourage a greater diversity of housing types and support the efficient use of land. This includes consideration of a range of residential development types, such as higher-density housing, where appropriate, as well as redevelopment opportunities that may contribute to increased housing supply and improved housing affordability.

The City also utilizes Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for publicly owned properties to encourage redevelopment that supports residential uses and efficient land use. Through these efforts and ongoing coordination with development partners, the City seeks to identify and address barriers that may limit the availability of affordable housing and to support opportunities that expand housing choice within the community.

AP-85 Other Actions

24 CFR 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Meridian undertakes a range of efforts to address the needs of underserved populations and to coordinate housing, community development, and supportive service systems that contribute to safe, stable, and suitable living environments. These efforts extend beyond the activities funded directly through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and include coordination with regional partners, service providers, and community stakeholders.

Through these partnerships and planning efforts, the City works to support housing stability, improve access to services, and ensure that community development activities are aligned with identified local needs. The City also participates in regional initiatives focused on homelessness prevention, housing coordination, and service integration to improve outcomes for low- and moderate-income residents and other vulnerable populations.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs:

The City of Meridian addresses obstacles to meeting underserved needs through coordinated planning, targeted investment of CDBG funds, and collaboration with regional partners and service providers.

A primary strategy is the use of CDBG funding to support housing stability and community services that address immediate needs for low- and moderate-income residents. During PY26, the City will fund emergency rental assistance and childcare support services to help households remain stably housed, reduce the risk of homelessness, and support working families in meeting basic needs.

The City also invests in housing rehabilitation and critical home repair activities that help preserve existing affordable housing and allow residents, including seniors and individuals with disabilities, to remain safely housed. These efforts directly address barriers related to housing quality, accessibility, and affordability.

In addition, the City funds public infrastructure improvements that enhance access to services, improve safety, and support mobility in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. These investments help reduce geographic and physical barriers that can limit access to employment, education, and essential services.

The City continues to coordinate with the Continuum of Care, nonprofit service providers, and regional partners to identify gaps in services, leverage resources, and support a more coordinated response to community needs. Through these combined efforts, the City of Meridian works to reduce disparities and improve access to housing, services, and opportunities for underserved populations.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing:

The City of Meridian fosters and maintains affordable housing through a combination of housing preservation, homelessness prevention, and supportive community services funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, as well as through coordination with local partners.

During PY26, the City will fund emergency rental assistance to help households at risk of eviction remain stably housed and avoid homelessness. The City also supports homeowner rehabilitation and critical home repair activities that help preserve existing affordable housing by addressing health, safety, and accessibility needs. In addition, childcare scholarship programs support working families by reducing household financial burdens and contributing to housing stability.

The City collaborates with local service providers and regional partners, including organizations that support individuals with behavioral health needs, to help ensure residents can access services that support housing stability. These partnerships help connect individuals to appropriate resources that support their ability to obtain and maintain housing.

The City also continues to explore opportunities to expand housing supply through partnerships with mission-driven and private developers, including potential redevelopment of underutilized properties. These efforts are intended to support long-term housing availability and affordability, including workforce housing opportunities where feasible.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards:

The City of Meridian addresses lead-based paint hazards in accordance with HUD’s Lead Safe Housing Rule for all applicable CDBG-funded housing rehabilitation activities. These requirements apply to housing constructed prior to 1978 and are incorporated into the City’s homeowner rehabilitation and critical home repair programs.

The City has established written policies and procedures to ensure compliance with lead-based paint requirements, including lead hazard evaluation, disclosure and notification, required hazard reduction activities when applicable, and clearance prior to project completion. These standards are incorporated into program administration and are included in agreements with contractors and program partners.

Contractors and subrecipients involved in housing rehabilitation activities are required to comply with all applicable lead-safe work practices. The City ensures that compliance requirements are included in project contracts and monitored as part of program oversight to protect the health and safety of residents.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families:

The City of Meridian addresses the needs of low- and moderate-income households through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program by supporting activities that reduce housing instability, improve housing quality, and enhance access to essential services.

During PY26, the City will fund housing stability services, including emergency rental assistance and childcare support, which help reduce financial burdens on low-income households and support continued housing stability. The City also invests in housing rehabilitation and critical home repair activities that help preserve existing affordable housing and reduce the risk of displacement due to unsafe or deteriorating housing conditions.

In addition, the City funds public infrastructure improvements that enhance access to services, employment, education, and community resources in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. These investments help reduce physical and geographic barriers that can limit economic opportunity and contribute to long-term housing stability.

The City also works in coordination with regional partners, including service providers and the Continuum of Care, to connect residents to supportive services and resources that address the underlying conditions contributing to poverty. Through these combined efforts, the City seeks to reduce the impacts of poverty by supporting housing stability, improving living conditions, and expanding access to essential community resources.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure:

The City of Meridian continues to strengthen its institutional capacity to effectively administer the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and coordinate broader community development activities. In recent years, the City elevated the CDBG Administrator role to a full-time Community Development Program Coordinator position, supported through the City’s general fund. This change enhances program capacity, improves coordination, and supports more effective administration of housing and community development activities.

City staff continue to pursue ongoing professional development and training related to CDBG program requirements, housing and community development strategies, and federal compliance standards. These efforts help ensure effective program implementation and responsiveness to evolving community needs. The City also continues to evaluate opportunities to expand staff capacity as needed to support program administration and related community development initiatives.

The City participates in regional coordination efforts related to homelessness and housing services, including collaboration with the Continuum of Care, HMIS, and coordinated entry systems. These systems support improved data sharing, service coordination, and more efficient delivery of housing and supportive services across the region. Through continued collaboration, the City seeks to strengthen institutional partnerships and improve overall system effectiveness for residents in need.

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

The City of Meridian enhances coordination between public and private housing providers and social service agencies through active participation in the local Continuum of Care (CoC), regional housing and homelessness planning efforts, and ongoing collaboration with community partners.

Through the CoC and coordinated entry system, the City works with housing providers, nonprofit organizations, and service agencies to support consistent assessment, referral, and service connection for individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness. These systems help reduce duplication of services, improve access to available resources, and strengthen communication among providers.

The City maintains ongoing partnerships with local housing and service organizations, including nonprofit housing providers, emergency assistance programs, and regional agencies that serve low- and moderate-income residents. These partnerships support coordinated service delivery, information sharing, and alignment of housing stability efforts across the region.

Through continued participation in regional coordination efforts such as housing and homelessness planning groups and provider networks, the City seeks to strengthen system efficiency, improve service alignment, and support more effective responses to housing instability and homelessness.

Discussion:

The City of Meridian will fund a range of housing and community development activities designed to improve access to affordable housing and enhance suitable living environments for low- and moderate-income residents.

During PY26, the City will support housing stability programs, including emergency rental assistance and childcare services, that help reduce housing instability and support households in maintaining safe and stable housing. The City also funds housing rehabilitation and critical home repair activities that preserve existing affordable housing and address health, safety, and accessibility needs.

In addition, the City invests in public infrastructure improvements that enhance mobility, safety, and access to essential services in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. These investments support more connected and livable communities and help reduce barriers to opportunity.

City staff work closely with subrecipients to ensure effective program implementation, identify operational challenges, and support continuous improvement in service delivery. The City also evaluates program performance and community needs to inform future planning and strengthen the effectiveness of the CDBG program over time.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements

24 CFR 91.220(l)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

The City of Meridian is in compliance with the program-specific requirements outlined in 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1), (2), and (4) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. All CDBG-funded activities are carried out in accordance with applicable federal regulations, including eligibility requirements and national objective criteria.

The City ensures that all planned activities meet a national objective, including benefit to low- and moderate-income persons, prevention or elimination of slum and blight, or meeting urgent community development needs. Program funds are allocated to eligible activities as identified in the Projects Table, which includes housing stability services, housing rehabilitation and preservation, public infrastructure improvements, and program administration.

The City maintains procedures to ensure proper documentation, monitoring, and reporting of all CDBG-funded activities, including any program income and additional funding sources. These procedures ensure compliance with HUD requirements and support transparent and effective administration of the program.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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 | 0 |
| 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. | 0 |
| 3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements | 0 |
| 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 | 0 |
| 5. The amount of income from float-funded activities | 0 |
| Total Program Income: | 0 |

Other CDBG Requirements:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1. The amount of urgent need activities | 0 |
| 2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. | 100.00% |

The City of Meridian’s certification period includes program years 2024, 2025, and 2026. Excluding administration and fair housing activities, the City allocates Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to activities that principally benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons.

For the current program year, the City has programmed funding for eligible LMI activities, including housing stability services, housing rehabilitation and preservation, and public infrastructure improvements that benefit LMI persons or LMA (low- and moderate-income area benefit) areas. Program administration and fair housing activities are excluded from the LMI benefit calculation in accordance with HUD requirements.

The City tracks program performance across the certification period to ensure compliance with the overall CDBG requirement that at least 70 percent of funds are used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons. This includes ongoing monitoring of project expenditures, activity eligibility, and national objective compliance.