

**Program Year 2018 Annual Action Plan  
Community Development Block Grant Program**

*City of Meridian, Idaho*



# Executive Summary

## AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

### 1. Introduction

The City of Meridian is a designated entitlement community by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This designation allows the City to receive funds from HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The 2018 program year will mark the City's twelfth year as an entitlement community.

In accordance with the overarching goals of the CDBG program, as set forth in 24 CFR § 91.1(a)(1), the City's mission is to utilize CDBG funding to develop a viable urban community by providing decent housing, providing a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities principally for low/moderate income (LMI) persons. The City's primary means toward this end shall be to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and non-profit organizations.

Federal regulations (24 CFR § 91.200(a) and 91.220) require the City to submit an action plan each year that describes how CDBG funds will be invested in the community. The 2018 Action Plan was developed with a strong emphasis on community input and follows the Citizen Participation Plan set forth in Meridian's 2017 – 2021 Consolidated Plan. Through this planning effort, the City has prepared strategies, which will guide program expenditures over the next Program Year (PY); October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019.

A consolidated plan must be submitted every three to five years to receive federal CDBG funds. The Consolidated Plan typically results from a collaborative process where a community can scrutinize its current situation and establish a unified vision for community development actions. The City of Meridian's Consolidated Plan spans program years 2017 through 2021 and addresses the community's most critical housing and community development needs. The PY2017 Action Plan represented the first year using the 2017 – 2021 Consolidated Plan; the PY2018 Action Plan is the second year under the current Consolidated Plan. The current Consolidated Plan may be found here on the City of Meridian Website.

For every year identified in the Consolidated Plan, the City of Meridian is required to prepare a one-year Action Plan to notify citizens and HUD officials of the City's intended actions to occur during that specific year. The PY2018 Action Plan identifies the objectives the City hopes to achieve from October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019, and outlines the activities the City will undertake to achieve those objectives.

At the end of each program year, the City of Meridian prepares a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to provide information to its constituents and HUD about that year's

accomplishments. This information allows HUD, city officials, and the general public to evaluate the City's performance and determine whether the activities undertaken during the year helped to (1) meet the City's five-year goals and (2) address priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. This annual performance report, prepared with public review and comment, is submitted to HUD annually no later than December 31.

In compliance with 24 CFR § 91.15(a), and to maintain continuity in its program and provide accountability to citizens, the City shall submit this action plan no later than August 16, 2018. The City shall submit on an annual basis a summary of its citizen participation and consultation process, an annual action plan, and all required certifications. At least every five years, the City shall submit a housing and homeless needs assessment, market analysis, and strategic plan.

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

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

The City is focusing its activities and funding on 1) improving accessibility, 2) enhancing homeownership opportunities, and 3) providing social services to Meridian LMI residents during PY2018.

The City will undergo nine different activities to support over 2,175 eligible individuals and households during PY2018 through the following projects:

### **Administration & Planning**

- Administration, Fair Housing & Planning Activities - \$35,000

### **Public Facilities**

- Meridian Development Corporation & City of Meridian – E 3rd Street Right of Way Improvements - \$180,000
- Meridian Library District – ADA Upgrade to Facility Bathrooms - \$77,970
- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation on E. Chateau Dr. - \$61,178 (\$25,000 from prior PY2016)

### **Public Service**

- Meridian Food Bank - Hunger Relief Program - \$30,000
- Boys & Girls Club - Scholarship Program - \$13,000
- The Jesse Tree of Idaho - Homelessness Prevention - \$10,000
- Education Foundation of West Ada School District – Housing + High School = Success Program - \$10,000

### **Affordable Housing**

- Ada County Housing Authority - Homebuyer Assistance Program - \$30,000

The City also wishes to include the following three alternate or "back-up" projects in this action plan that will be funded in part or whole in the event of other any of the above projects fall through or need their resources reallocated:

### **Public Facilities**

- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation on N. Jericho Way - \$100,000
- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at 12th & State St. - \$125,000
- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at Crestwood Subdivision - \$110,000

The City does not anticipate any obstacles to allocating these funds.

Please refer to sections AP-20 and AP-35 of this report for more details on the City's goals and projects.

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

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

Since 2007, Meridian has successfully managed over \$3.5 million in resources from its annual CDBG allocation. Over these 11 years, the City's expenditures from its CDBG allocation have focused on supporting social service provider operations (Meridian Food Bank), improving community facilities (Boys and Girls Club, Meridian Development Corporation), addressing accessibility barriers (parks and trails, Meridian Library, sidewalk projects), preventing homelessness with emergency assistance (Jesse Tree of Idaho, West Ada School District), and assisting with homeownership attainment for low- and moderate-income buyers (Ada County Housing Authority).

The City successfully produced Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs) for all previous program years—for the period beginning October 1, 2007, and ending September 30, 2017. The CAPERs demonstrated that over 90 percent of the funds expended during the previous program years were invested into activities benefiting low to moderate-income individuals and families, well over the 70 percent statutory minimum requirement. Aside from 2016, the City has met its expenditure of grant funds deadlines imposed by HUD each year.

All of the prior program years' activities meet critical needs in Meridian. The primary challenges encountered during the last Consolidated Plan period were timing- and contact-related. To address these challenges, the City intends to have more stringent requirements for grant recipients, particularly in meeting expected schedules. But over the last 18 months, the City has done an effective job at organizing, streamlining, and managing its CDBG processes to provide the most benefit for each CDBG dollar granted while complying with federal timeliness requirements.

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

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Meridian employs a comprehensive citizen participation process for all CDBG projects and activities. The City solicits input from Meridian residents in all phases of its Community Development efforts, from the initial planning and project/program implementation to reporting and assessing accomplishments/outcomes. This process fosters the open and inclusive identification of needs and delivery of services to City residents.

The City consulted with several organizations to inform the Action Plan. In March the CDBG invited the county housing authority, non-profit homeless and social service providers, housing specialists, for-profit developers of affordable housing, the urban renewal agency, the senior center, local city planners, neighboring municipalities and any interested citizen or agency to be a part of the planning process via a CDBG program workshop. As a result, 15 attendees from those groups attended the workshop which discussed the action planning strategies for the coming year.

Additionally, as a member of the Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care (CoC), the Community Development Program Coordinator solicited potential projects and input on the draft plan from all members of the CoC. Some members of the CoC include: Ada County Sheriff's Office; Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority; Boise School District; Boise State University; CATCH, Inc; City of Boise; City of Meridian; Corpus Christi; El-Ada; Formerly Homeless Advocate; Good Samaritan House; Health and Welfare; Idaho Department of Labor; Idaho Housing and Finance Association; Terry Reilly Health Services; Veteran Affairs; and Women's and Children's Alliance.

The City works with non-profit organizations to encourage the participation of program beneficiaries, including low- and moderate-income residents. Bi-lingual services and additional assistance for persons with disabilities were available upon request. As the city is not a recipient of HOPWA funds, the city did not actively seek out agencies for that purpose. However, Idaho Housing and Finance Association does collaborate on HOPWA issues and is the entity the City would contact for this purpose. Lead-based paint information is always located on the City's website; no entities were contacted directly about lead-based paint.

Meridian went through an extensive citizen participation process for the development of the 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan. That process yielded valuable results and greatly shaped the formation of the City's five-year plan for utilization of the grant funds.

The citizen participation process for the 2018 Action Plan followed the process identified in the City's Citizen Participation Plan, adopted with the 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan. The process consisted of the following a 39-day public comment period with a formal public hearing during that comment period. The City published legal notices in two local newspapers (Idaho Statesman and Meridian Press Tribune) and posted the drafted action plan on the City's website on June 15, 2018. Presentations to the public and City Council about the draft action plan were given by staff on June 19, 2018, July 10, 2018, and July 17, 2018. A local journalism outlet, the Meridian Press, published an online article outlining the details of the action plan and solicited public comment on the plan. All comments that were received were reviewed, acknowledged, and included as an attachment to this plan. The city closed the public comment period on July 24, 2018, and held a formal public hearing on the draft version of this PY2018 Action Plan on July 17, 2018 and on July 24, 2018.

The City views these processes and opportunities for public comment to be necessary and adequate public outreach. See section AP-12 of this plan for more details of the City's citizen participation efforts.

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

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

The City conducted three separate public presentations, held two separate public hearings, published two newspaper notices, and had one online article distributed regarding this action plan during its 39-day public comment period from June 15, 2018 through July 24, 2018. Throughout all of these outreach efforts, two public comments were received via email and no other comments or testimony were given by residents during any of the public hearings, meetings, or at any other time throughout the public comment period. One comment was in support of the proposed plan with a suggestion of a potential project to be considered in future program years. The other comment was for a suggestion for a project to be considered in the future, though that suggestion was for an ineligible project and the comment was ultimately not accepted.

Please refer to AP-12 and the Appendices to this plan for more details on the City's public outreach efforts, details about the comments received, and transcripts of the comments provided to the City.

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

Of the two comments received during the public outreach and public comment period, only Rob Porter's comment was not accepted due to his suggestion of the City funding a currently ineligible project in an ineligible area of the community. Otherwise, all other comments were accepted.

## **7. Summary**

Please see above.

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

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

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	MERIDIAN	Planning Division, Community Development Dept

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative (optional)**

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

Caleb Hood, Division Manager

Planning Division, Community Development Department

City of Meridian | 33 E. Broadway Avenue | Meridian, ID 83642

208-884-5533 | 208-489-0572 fax



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

### **1. Introduction**

This section of the Action Plan describes how the City worked with stakeholders and public and private partners to develop allocation priorities—and how this consultation and coordination will continue through the planning period. Section AP-85 also provide information on institutional structure and program delivery.

The City has relied heavily on the research and extensive consultation during 2017 when the City was developing its 2017-2021 Consolidated plan to inform the direction, goals, priorities, and needs of the community and how CDBG will be used to assist. Comparatively, the development of the PY2018 Annual Action Plan did not see as near a robust or intensive outreach or consultation effort as the prior year provided great, still-relevant information.

### **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(I))**

The Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority (BCACHA) was interviewed as part of the Consolidated Planning process to help the City better understand BCACHA’s resources and needs. While there are no public housing units in Meridian, an estimated 200 Section 8 vouchers are currently used in Meridian—about 10 percent of the housing authority’s total voucher supply.

The City is regularly engaged in the Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care (CoC) where City staff sit on the groups Executive Committee, Housing Committee, Planning and Development Committee, Fair Housing Sub-Committee, and Coordinating Team. The City regularly hosts CoC meetings at Meridian City Hall where City staff plays an active role in facilitating meetings and coordinating collaborative efforts amongst regional and local housing providers (public, nonprofit, and private) and health and social service agencies (including many mental, governmental, emergency, and other health groups). The City’s efforts with the CoC has been instrumental in helping to further the work to end homelessness in Ada County as well as identify and coordinate with partners to meet the needs of LMI residents of Meridian.

In addition, the City is undertaking efforts as part of its internal strategic plan work to develop a socioeconomic profile of Meridian that will identify gaps in service, partnership, and need. The City is dedicated to extending further support to organizations that helps meet the specifically defined needs in the community. One need that is readily apparent is the need for affordable housing 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 to providing needed supportive services. To this end, City staff will continue to stay engaged with the affordable housing and supportive service community to ensure the City provides important tools and resources to affordable 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.**

As noted above, the City is a regular and involved participant in the CoC. Not only do City staff participate in the noted committees, staff also act as Chair of the Housing Committee and Fair Housing Sub-Committee. Thus, the City is leading the efforts of these groups to eradicate homelessness through work to decrease housing discrimination, increase affordable housing inventory, improve landlord involvement in homeless groups and activities, provide resources to enhance the ease of landlord-tenant communications, explore opportunities for changes in local and state housing policies, and other activities. Meridian’s membership in the CoC’s Executive Committee also denotes the City’s involvement in helping coordinate all local and regional efforts of the CoC.

In addition, with 2018 CDBG funds, the City is working with the CoC and the West Ada School District to begin to address the needs of unaccompanied youth in Meridian through housing services grants, while also funding with Jesse Tree to assist those who are not youth but are at immediate risk of homelessness.

**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**

IHFA oversees the allocation of ESG for the State of Idaho, including Meridian. Allocation of ESG is discussed at the CoC meetings, which Meridian staff attend. Meridian’s lack of emergency shelters and demonstrated experience with rapid rehousing programs puts the City at a disadvantage for ESG funds. However, as a member of the CoC Executive Committee, City staff are involved in the current planning efforts to better coordinate and utilize ESG funds in the region and state.

Over the last year, the City has also been involved in the planning and implementation efforts of the CoC’s new HMIS data collection, coordination, and dashboard systems. Prior to 2017, there was no real effort to effectively coordinate or aggregate HMIS systems and data in the region. With the help of the City of Boise and other Executive Committee members, the City of Meridian assisted in the reworking of HMIS user agreements that shifted control of Ada County’s HMIS from IHFA to a third party consultant,

ICA. The City has been an active member of the team that coordinated and carried out that systematic shift and has supported the work of getting all HMIS users in the county to sign new collaborative and data-sharing agreements to enhance data quality and standards. With work with ICA, the City has also helped in creating a data dashboard which aggregates and visualizes the HMIS data. These services and resources were not around before this last year.

The City continues its work with the Executive and Data and Performance Management Committees of the CoC to provide feedback on changes to the HMIS and data management process of the CoC.

**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**

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

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The CoC was consulted to as part of the 2017 Consolidated Planning efforts as well as during the 2018 action planning efforts. The groups are particularly influential in helping the City to understand the needs of the community as it relates to housing, homelessness, and fair housing. This consultation was effective in helping the City develop funding recommendations to address youth homelessness, homelessness prevention, and fair housing activities for PY2018.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority (BCACHA)
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing PHA Services - Housing Regional organization

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	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
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	BCACHA was contacted by the City to discuss the viability of its homebuyer assistance program in the midst of a difficult housing market. Conversations were had and feedback shared that helped the City to develop its funding recommendation for continuing to provide CDBG dollars to BCACHA for downpayment assistance during PY2018. This consultation also led to a discussion about housing development and policy that may change how the City interacts and funds this organization and these kinds of efforts in the future.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	West Ada School District No.2
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs

	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City regularly discussed the needs of homeless and unaccompanied youth in Meridian's public education system with the West Ada School District. Conversations led the City's understanding of a large number of unaccompanied youth in the school system and the relatively limited resources and services available to these students. The City strategized with the organization about how to create new programs or partnerships that could ultimately help meet the needs of homeless students and families with children in Meridian. These conversations led to the West Ada School District submitting three applications for funding, one of which will be funded through CDBG during PY2018 and focus primarily on the supplement of housing assistance to unaccompanied youth in Meridian schools.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CATCH, INC.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	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
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City meets often with CATCH to discuss the state of homelessness in Meridian. CATCH currently houses the coordinated entry efforts of the County and is tracking data about Meridian's homeless population. These consultations clarify the need for certain support in Meridian and helping to develop a short- and long-term strategy to meet the needs of homeless individuals in Meridian and across the County.

5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	City of Meridian
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - Local Planning organization Civic Leaders Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City regularly consults internally with the Mayor's Office, Department of Community Development, Planning Division, Economic Development officials, Finance Department, Public Works Department, and law enforcement officials to explore and operationalize the needs of community members in Meridian. Much of the conversation during the consultations surrounding this PY2018 Action Plan deals with the housing needs, wage growth, vacancy and affordability rates of housing, and work to address poverty in the community. Many of these conversations are still in their preliminary stage and have not directly created outcomes or improved coordination, but work continues to plan and strategize to develop 1) incentives for affordable housing development, 2) partnerships to address service gaps in Meridian, 3) a clear plan/strategy to increase workforce housing developments, 4) a new City Comprehensive Plan and better-addresses and plans for the needs of the homeless and other LMI residents, and 5) a socioeconomic profile of the City. All of these will offer insight, strategy, and structure to the City's community development efforts in the coming years.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	THE JESSE TREE OF IDAHO, INC.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-homeless

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	This organization was consulted to discuss the possibility to expand their emergency rental assistance program in Meridian. They provided insights and clarity into the need for their program in lieu of continually rising rents across the City. This consultation contributed to an expansion of CDBG funding that will be given to this organization for homeless prevention services during PY2018.
7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	MERIDIAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Other government - Local
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Slum and Blight Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The local urban redevelopment agency was consulted regarding the priority slum and blight needs in the City's redevelopment areas. These consultations helped inform the priorities and decisions for funding given to slum and blight projects for PY2018.
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	UNITED WAY OF TREASURE VALLEY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Planning organization Foundation
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The United Way was consulted in efforts to create a Socioeconomic Profile of Meridian in an effort to better understand the housing, transportation, health, food, financial, and education needs of Meridian's residents. This partnership is ongoing and will likely result in funding provided to the City by this organization to conduct research and create plans to understand and meet these needs.



9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	NAMPA
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - Local
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Administrative
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City regularly consults with the City of Nampa to ensure that funding recommendations, administrative practices, and other activities are compliant with federal regulations. The coordination also reflects a shared goal to ensure that all activities undertaken with CDBG funds work to meet regional needs as well as local needs.
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Neighborworks Boise
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Major Employer
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs

	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City worked with NeighborWorks Boise to discuss the viability of down payment assistance and homebuyer education programs in Meridian. These consultations led the City to prioritize homebuyer education activities over down payment assistance activities in the review of its grant applications for PY2018, although not homebuyer education activities were ultimately funded due to eligibility reasons. The City expects these consultations to help inform future funding decisions and efforts to improve housing options and education for LMI and homeless residents in Meridian.
11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Idaho Fair Housing Forum
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Service-Fair Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Fair Housing
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City meets regularly with this group to consult on how to advance the fair housing work of the City and region. These consultations have brought to fruition multiple fair housing trainings and conferences educating over 1000 people about fair housing law and practice. These meetings also inform how the City will implement its strategies to affirmatively further fair housing.
12	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Neighbors United Collaborative
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Refugees
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs Fair Housing

	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City regularly consults with this group to know how to address the needs of LMI refugees in Meridian. Much of the discussion leading up to the development of this PY2018 Annual Action Plan has been around fair housing and language access services in the community. The City is working with this and other groups to develop resources and materials that can better educate about fair housing best practices while providing refugees and others facing housing discrimination support to overcome negative situations.
13	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Idaho Apartment Association
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Business Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs Fair Housing
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City consults, as needed, with this organization to get the private-sector perspective on micro and macro issues in the world of housing and fair housing. These consultations have often informed the conversations and decisions taken to and made by Neighbors United, Idaho Fair Housing Forum, and the CoC's Fair Housing Subcommittee.

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

All relevant organizations, agencies, and stakeholders were invited to participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan, and AI in 2017. During 2018, the City continues to use the findings of that initial consultation to inform its collaborative and funding efforts.

The City would like to improve its coordination with housing developers, particularly those developers who specialize in the development of workforce and affordable housing. Increased efforts were not made this year to reach out to these groups as the City is still working to develop internal strategies and plans about how it wants to address the affordable housing needs in the community and how to engage developers in

that process. The City is also just starting a new Comprehensive Plan process that will bring in consultants to do some of the consultations in the coming months. The decision was made to couple the needed consultation efforts of these Community Development activities with these upcoming comprehensive planning consultation activities.

**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	Idaho Housing and Finance Association, Ada County, City of Boise	Meridian goals of improving economic outcomes of low income residents, providing emergency rental assistance, and improving housing options and social and supportive services for people including but not limited to people with special needs and individuals/families leaving domestic violence situations. These will contribute to the CoC objective of Ending Chronic Homelessness by preventing Meridian residents from falling into homelessness.
State of Idaho Analysis of Impediments	Idaho Housing and Finance Association; Idaho Department of Commerce	The fair housing strategies established for Meridian considered opportunities to collaborate with the State. The City regularly involves representatives from IHFA, City of Nampa, City of Caldwell, and Idaho Department of Commerce in the planning, funding, and implementation efforts of fair housing activities in the region and state.
Meridian Comprehensive Plan	Meridian Planning Division	The City Comprehensive Plan was consulted during preparation of the Consolidated Plan to ensure goals were consistent with the needs and desires of the community. Land use and zoning regulations were reviewed to assess barriers to housing choice.
BCACHA Policies and Procedures	BCACHA	The housing authority policies and procedures were reviewed to ensure they support housing choice and address the greatest needs of low income residents.

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

**Narrative (optional)**

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

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

In 2017, the City completed an extensive citizen participation procedure to gain public guidance and information for the 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan. The findings of those efforts have informed the priorities, needs, and goals entirely. During the consolidated planning process, the feedback received from public surveys, stakeholder interviews, and other public feedback created the framework for which all CDBG goals and action plans will be based on. The City has the goal to use the public feedback from the consolidated plan to inform funding decisions proposed in this and subsequent annual action plans.

In addition to the consolidated plan citizen participation processes, the City has undergone all required citizen participation requirements for this action plan. These include a 39-day public comment period with a formal public hearing during that comment period. The City published legal notices in two local newspapers (Idaho Statesman and Meridian Press) and posted the drafted action plan on the City's website. The City also did some minimal social media outreach to inform the public about the public comment period and the public hearing. All comments that were received were reviewed, acknowledged, and included as an attachment to this plan.

The City also included key public stakeholders in its Grant Scoring Committee who had the responsibility to review all of the grant applications and develop the final recommendations for funding included in this action plan.

Details of each of these activities are noted below.

**Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	A public hearing was held at the City Council meeting on July 17th. No comments were received nor testimony given at this hearing. The City Council chose to continue the hearing to the July 24th City Council meeting. No comments were received at the July 24th public hearing, either. Attendance at both meetings was more than 50 individuals, but no testimony was given by any in attendance.	No comments were received at the July 17th public hearing.No comments were received at the July 24th public hearing.	No comments were received at the July 17th public hearing.No comments were received at the July 24th public hearing.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>Public meetings were held during City Council meetings on June 19th, July 10th, and July 17th. These meetings included presentations that outlined the applications received, funding recommendations, specific projects, presentations by recommended potential subrecipients, and discussion by Council on the proposed projects. Across the three meetings, over 70 residents were exposed to the presentations but no comments were received at these presentations. One comment was received via email after the July 17th presentation.</p>	<p>One comment was received via email from Jenifer Cavaness-Williams noting her support for the proposed project and action plan. She also noted that it would be good for the City to consider using future CDBG funds to support the creation of a performing arts center in Meridian.</p>	<p>Jenifer Cavaness-Williams's comment was accepted as support for this plan and future consideration will be given to her suggestion. No other comments were received through this outreach method, thus there are no comments that were not 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	URL (If applicable)
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Legal notices were published in the Idaho Statesman and Meridian Press Tribune newspapers on July 15th that described the public presentations, comment period, and hearing regarding this plan. One comment was received in response to these newspaper outreach efforts.	One comment was received from Rob Porter, a citizen of Meridian, asking that funds be used to construct a signaled crosswalk along Ustick between Ten Mile and Linder. This crosswalk would connect certain neighborhoods to a robust trail system in the area.	Rob Porter's comment was not accepted due to his suggestion being a currently ineligible project in an ineligible area of the community.	



Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Meridian Press published an online article that outlined the action plan and solicited public comment on the plan. Visit <a href="https://www.idahopress.com/meridian/news/government/meridian-seeking-public-comment-on-use-of-k-grant/article_9293d16c-6a68-5690-b9cd-3d5d6dc522ec.html">https://www.idahopress.com/meridian/news/government/meridian-seeking-public-comment-on-use-of-k-grant/article_9293d16c-6a68-5690-b9cd-3d5d6dc522ec.html</a> to review the article. No comments were received in response to this internet outreach.	No comments were received in response to this internet outreach.	No comments were received in response to this internet outreach.	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

This section shows the amount of CDBG funding that the City of Meridian is expecting to receive for PY2018. How federal funds will be leveraged is also outlined.

#### 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	422,148	0	25,000	447,148	974,156	

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 receives CDBG funds directly through its annual entitlement; this is the only HUD funding that the City directs toward projects. Non-profit organizations utilize other federal, state, and private grant funds. Public Housing programs including Family Self-Sufficiency, Section 8, and Public Housing Comprehensive Grants provide additional funding. For example, BCACHA has historically leveraged CDBG funds from Meridian with CDBG funds from other communities and HUD funding from their Family Self Sufficiency and Housing Choice Voucher Programs. Meridian Food Bank receives almost \$100,000 of private donations and other grants on an annual basis to couple with their CDBG allocations. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Ada County receive funding from the USDA through the Department of Education and leverage those funds with the CDBG funding received from Meridian to help support their programs and projects. Jesse Tree partners with local banks, foundations, and or institutions and cities to help fund their rental assistance and other programs. The Meridian CDBG dollars would allow them to be able to

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

There are currently no publically owned lands within Meridian that have been identified to specifically address needs of the plan. Except for Parks, Fire Stations and other properties containing municipal buildings like City Hall, the City does not own lands that could be donated.

**Discussion**

Please see above.

## 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	Improve Accessibility	2017	2021	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Better Accessibility in Meridian Improve Accessibility in Meridian	CDBG: \$319,148	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted
2	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities	2017	2021	Affordable Housing		Homeownership Opportunities: 80-120 Percent of AMI Down Payment Assistance Opportunities	CDBG: \$30,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 3 Households Assisted
3	Administration and Fair Housing Activities	2017	2021	Admin			CDBG: \$35,000	Other: 0 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Provide Social Services	2017	2021	Non-Homeless Special Needs Low income services		Improvements in Economic Stability Homeownership Opportunities: 80-120 Percent of AMI Rental Assistance and Affordable Rental Units Improved Housing Options and Supportive Services Rental Assistance Programs and Rental Units Service Programs - Low Income and Special Needs	CDBG: \$63,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2050 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 25 Persons Assisted

**Table 6 – Goals Summary**

**Goal Descriptions**

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Accessibility
	<b>Goal Description</b>	
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	

<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Administration and Fair Housing Activities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide Social Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	

# Projects

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

During PY2018, CDBG will fund the following activities to address high priority needs of providing emergency services to low-income residents to prevent homelessness, helping low and moderate income residents achieve homeownership, and improving accessibility through ADA improvements and new streetlights. The expected program allocation and outcomes will include the projects listed below.

### Administration & Planning

- Administration, Fair Housing & Planning Activities - \$35,000

### Public Facility

- Meridian Development Corporation & City of Meridian – E 3rd Street Right of Way Improvements - \$180,000
- Meridian Library District – ADA Upgrade to Facility Bathrooms - \$77,970
- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation on E. Chateau Dr. - \$61,178 (\$25,000 from prior PY)

### Public Service

- Meridian Food Bank - Hunger Relief Program - \$30,000
- Boys & Girls Club - Scholarship Program - \$13,000
- The Jesse Tree of Idaho - Homelessness Prevention - \$10,000
- Education Foundation of West Ada School District – Housing + High School = Success Program - \$10,000

### Affordable Housing

- Ada County Housing Authority - Homebuyer Assistance Program - \$30,000

The City also wishes to include the following three alternate or "back-up" projects in this action plan that will be funded in part or whole in the event of other any of the above projects fall through or need their resources reallocated:

### Public Facilities

- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation on N. Jericho Way - \$100,000
- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at 12th & State St. - \$125,000
- City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at Crestwood Subdivision - \$110,000



The addition of these specific alternate projects is intended to mitigate any requirements for needed substantial amendments to this plan assuming the alternate projects do not violate the monetary restrictions outlined in the City's Consolidated Plan Citizen Participation Plan (CPP). The inclusion of these plans in this plan and the public processes undergone for this plan satisfy the CPP's requirements for these specific alternate projects.

The City does not anticipate any obstacles to allocating these funds.

### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Administration
2	Public Services
3	Public Facilities
4	Housing

**Table 7 - Project Information**

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

The following allocation priorities were determined by the housing market analysis conducted for the last Consolidated Plan, stakeholder and resident input, and the review of fair housing barriers:

Allocation to accessibility improvements: Persons with disabilities interviewed and surveyed for the last consolidated plan prioritized accessibility improvements, particularly public infrastructure. Community access for persons with disabilities was identified as a barrier in reference to lack of/poor sidewalks and access to handicapped parking. In addition, the Meridian Library District was recently found to be in noncompliance with ADA for their restroom facilities.

See AP-50 for more details on the rationale for priorities for the noted streetlights and right of way improvement projects that aim to affect geographic areas than specific clientele.

Allocation to down payment assistance was influenced by the 2017 Consolidated Plan survey that found nearly 90 percent of renters expressed an interest in homeownership. Not having enough money for a down payment (40% of renters who want to buy) and poor credit (16%) were the top reasons these renters had not achieved homeownership.

Allocation to emergency rental assistance: The last Consolidated Plan identified a shortage of 1,077 rental units to serve Meridian households earning \$25,000 and less (rents of \$625 and less, including utilities). This gap increased in the past 5 years to 1,348 units. The increase was largely due to additional households falling below the poverty line.

Funding to support scholarships at the Boys and Girls Club was related to the finding in the 2017-2021 AI that lower income children, particularly those living in Census tracts with a high density of residents with a national origin other than the United States, have lower access to proficient schools.

Funding for the Meridian Food Bank is related to growth in demand for food support. The recession affected many Meridian residents, and some low-income residents have not fully recovered from job and housing losses. Investing in the food bank helps level the playing field for low-income residents, especially children, who perform better in school when they have adequate nutrition.

The primary obstacles to fully addressing residents' needs are 1) Limited supply of affordable units, and 2) Limited funding. The City has allocated funding to both address needs within the limitations of funding.

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

<b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Administration and Fair Housing Activities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$35,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project will have activities that relate to the administrative, planning, and fair housing processes of the CDBG program during PY2018.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	0
	<b>Location Description</b>	The work under this project will be carried out by the City of Meridian's Community Development Program Coordinator at Meridian City Hall located at 33 E. Broadway Avenue.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Administration and Planning - \$25,000 Fair Housing - \$10,000
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities Provide Social Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improvements in Economic Stability Homeownership Opportunities: 80-120 Percent of AMI Rental Assistance and Affordable Rental Units Improved Housing Options and Supportive Services Rental Assistance Programs and Rental Units Service Programs - Low Income and Special Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$63,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project will focus on providing needed public, human, and social service programs to eligible clientele facing special needs in Meridian.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2019

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	2175
	<b>Location Description</b>	Boys and Girls Clubs of Ada County - 911 N Meridian Rd, Meridian, ID 83642 Jesse Tree of Idaho - various locations across Meridian as clientele needs dictate Education Foundation for West Ada School District - various locations across Meridian as clientele needs dictate Meridian Food Bank - 133 W Broadway Ave, Meridian, ID 83642
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meridian Food Bank - Hunger Relief Program - \$30,000</li> <li>• Boys &amp; Girls Club - Scholarship Program - \$13,000</li> <li>• The Jesse Tree of Idaho - Homelessness Prevention - \$10,000</li> <li>• Education Foundation of West Ada School District – Housing + High School = Success Program - \$10,000</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Facilities
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve Accessibility
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Better Accessibility in Meridian Improve Accessibility in Meridian
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$319,148
	<b>Description</b>	This project focuses on the development of new or improved public facilities that meet the needs of LMI individuals in Meridian.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	200

	<p><b>Location Description</b></p>	<p>Meridian Library District ADA Improvements - 1326 W Cherry Ln, Meridian, ID 83642</p> <p>MDC Right of Way Improvements - E 3rd St (Slum and Blight Redevelopment Area)</p> <p>City of Meridian Streetlight Installation - E. Chateau Dr. - Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.33</p> <p>(ALTERNATE) City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation on N. Jericho Way - Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.22 &amp; Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.33</p> <p>(ALTERNATE) City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at 12th &amp; State St. - Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.22</p> <p>(ALTERNATE) City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at Crestwood Subdivision - Block Group 3, Census Tract 103.22</p>
	<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meridian Development Corporation &amp; City of Meridian – E 3rd Street Right of Way Improvements - \$180,000</li> <li>• Meridian Library District – ADA Upgrade to Facility Bathrooms - \$77,970</li> <li>• City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation along E. Chateau Dr.- \$61,178 (\$25,000 from prior PY)</li> </ul> <p>The City also wishes to include the following three public facilities alternate projects in this action plan that will be funded in part or whole in the event of other any of the above projects fall through or need their resources reallocated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation on N. Jericho Way - \$100,000</li> <li>• City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at 12th &amp; State St. - \$125,000</li> <li>• City of Meridian – Streetlight Installation at Crestwood Subdivision - \$110,000</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Project Name</b></p>	<p>Housing</p>
	<p><b>Target Area</b></p>	
	<p><b>Goals Supported</b></p>	<p>Enhance Homeownership Opportunities</p>

<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeownership Opportunities: 80-120 Percent of AMI Down Payment Assistance Opportunities
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$30,000
<b>Description</b>	This project addresses housing-related needs for residents in Meridian, including down-payment assistance programs.
<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2019
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	3
<b>Location Description</b>	Location is dependent on where the eligible client can find a home in their price range.
<b>Planned Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ada County Housing Authority - Homebuyer Assistance Program - \$30,000</li> </ul>

## **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 following are the areas that will have programs and projects ongoing during PY2018 that are assisted with CDBG funds:

-Meridian Development Corporation and City of Meridian’s Right of Way Improvements to the E 3rd Street in the City’s Slum and Blight Redevelopment Area is focused on eradicating some of the most apparent contributing conditions to the areas slum and blight features including a lack of sidewalk and public infrastructure, as well as an open waterway running through the property and neighborhood. CDBG funds will be used to remedy these factors to increase the safety and usability of this area of the City’s Redevelopment Area.

-The City of Meridian’s Public Works Department is focusing on Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.33 to develop and install new streetlights in an area where there is none. This area along E. Chateau Drive is a key pathway to school for students at Chief Joseph Elementary School. These newly installed lights will provide lighting in the mornings to kids walking to school when there previously was no lighting while also providing improved visibility and safety for travelers at night.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**



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

These two projects are geographically benefiting LMI populations and economic opportunities where there has been a defined need and priority. The MDC project is happening in conjunction with two other economic development activities (unassisted by and unrelated to CDBG) that are bringing many more jobs to the block and streets directly around this property that will see these improvements. Because of these eventual increases to road and foot traffic to the area, and to better foster economic development and the eradication of slum and blight in this area, particularly along this one street, these funds are being provided.

The Streetlights project has been a key priority for the public works department and the Meridian City Council primarily because of its proximity to education centers for local students. Thus this project was prioritized over other streetlight projects that CDBG could have been used for.

## **Discussion**

Please see above.

## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

Below are the goals of the City of Meridian as they relate to affordable housing for PY2018. These goals are dependent on the activities funded using the PY2018 CDBG grant.

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported</b>	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	13
Special-Needs	15
Total	28

**Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	25
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	3
Total	28

**Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

## Discussion

### Table 6:

It is difficult to determine the housing status of those households supported through PY17 CDBG partnerships. However, it is presumed that a minimum of 3 non-homeless households will be supported through the programs at ACHA with another 10 or so non-homeless families expected to be served by Jesse Tree. It is also estimated that CDBG support to the Education Foundation of West Ada School District's Housing + High School = Success will assist 15 unaccompanied homeless/special needs youth. Because the School District tracks their homeless data using a different definition of "homelessness" than HUD, these individuals will be included in the Special-Needs category rather than the "Homeless" category though many of these clients are likely to be considered homeless under both definitions. There is also an estimated 2100 households will be helped by Meridian Food Bank and the Boys & Girls Club of Ada County which help individuals with special needs. Some of these 2100 households would likely be considered "Homeless" but neither organization tracks the housing status of their clients. Thus we can't substantiate the housing status of these estimated 2100 clients to be served and their numbers are not included in this table.

### Table7:

Jesse Tree works to prevent homelessness and we anticipate around 10 households being supported by their services through our PY18 CDBG funds. In addition, the Education Foundation of West Ada School District will provide housing stipends and other housing assistance to around 15 homeless youth during PY18. Also, our partnership with AACHA will serve 3 families to help them find housing in Meridian and assist in supplementing down payment and closing costs for those homes.

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

This section is not applicable as Meridian does not have a local housing authority or public housing units. Instead, Meridian is served by the Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority which provides vouchers to qualifying residents in Meridian. The greatest need for low-to-moderate income renters in Meridian is rental housing with rents at or below the Fair Market Rent.

### **Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing**

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

### **Discussion**

Please see "Introduction" of this section.

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

### **Introduction**

This section discusses how the City of Meridian will address the needs of persons at risk of and experiencing homelessness in the City during PY18.

### **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 has been an active member of the Ada County Continuum of Care (CoC) for the last four years. City representatives have been particularly involved in the CoC's Executive and Housing Committees with the hopes of better understanding and coordinating the needs that Meridian's homeless individuals face and how to better serve them. In addition, City representatives are frequently involved in public discussions, presentations, and meetings with citizens, other governmental officials, and local service providers including West Ada School District, Jesse Tree, and CATCH to provide support, understanding, and outreach to the homeless in Meridian.

The City has also worked with Boise State University, the City of Boise, and the CoC to better implement a data collection protocol that can exist countywide. This data system is able to track where Meridian's homeless population came from and the reasons for their homelessness. This data and information will better inform strategies and partnerships that the City can implement in the future. During PY18, the City is committed to further exploring these data and strive to come to a better understanding of the who, what, when, where, and why of Meridian's homeless population.

The City is also committed to furthering its commitment serving the individual needs of Meridian's homeless population, particularly homeless youth, through CDBG funding support to the Education Foundation of West Ada School District's Housing + High School = Success. The City intends to continue to use its partners to identify, understand, and support homeless individuals (especially unsheltered persons) in Meridian.

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

As noted, the City of Meridian is regularly in contact with case management and support services organizations like CATCH and Jesse Tree to assess and address the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons in Meridian. In 2017, Jesse Tree was funded through Meridian's CDBG program to help provide emergency rental assistance to Meridian residents at risk of losing housing. In

the City's PY2017 Annual Action Plan, the City said it would consider grant applications for similar projects that would meet emergency and transitional housing needs in Meridian. Although PY2018 will not be funding any of these types of projects, the City is working with a few partners, Mentor Works and Our Path Home, to get a better idea of future transitional and emergency shelter needs and projects in the near future.

The City is also part of coordinated conversations with CATCH, the CoC, and Idaho Housing and Finance Association, as well as other state housing providers, to better discuss and plan current and future transitional and emergency housing needs in the region and the state. The City is hopeful that a transitional housing provider will locate in the City limits within the coming 3-5 years.

**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**

Through City's CDBG program, Meridian has funded organizations like NeighborWorks Boise and Ada County Housing Authority to help provide down payment and closing cost assistance to low-to-moderate income residents of Meridian. In addition, Meridian's work with Jesse Tree and CATCH in previous and future years has helped provide rental and case management services aimed at preventing and resolving needs for homeless and near-homeless families and individuals in Meridian. Also, Meridian's work with the CoC are indicators of the efforts the City has made to help explore and address the needs of Meridian's homeless population.

In PY2017, the City helped plan and conduct the CoC's annual Point in Time count, assisted Boise State University researchers conduct research on the number of homeless youth in the City, served on a planning committee to build a new Permanent Supportive Housing development located in Boise, and regularly coordinated with partners and residents to better understand and address needs of the homeless population in Meridian and across the region.

The partnerships that the City has with local committees, organizations, and networks in evaluating, understanding, and addressing the many needs of Meridian's homeless population include Meridian Police Department, Ada County Sheriff's Office, City of Boise, City of Nampa, City of Caldwell, Women's and Children's Alliance, Astegos, Jesse Tree, Boys & Girls Clubs of Ada County, West Ada School District, CATCH, Ada County Housing Authority, Local HUD office, Ada County Continuum of Care, Meridian Food Bank, United Way, NeighborWorks Boise, IHFA, Terry Riley, El-Ada Community Action, Our Path Home,

and many others. These partnerships are extensive and ongoing in order to help address and prevent homelessness in Meridian.

These efforts, particularly coordination and participation with CATCH and the local CoC are designed to assist local service providers in helping homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living while shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness. Specifically, the City participates in the CoC's Data and Performance Measurement Committee which supports the Our Path Home coordinated entry system. A main goal of this activity to identify needs and set goals that the City can achieve to meet given targets.

In addition, the City's current and future funding relationship with NeighborWorks Boise, Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority, Education Foundation of West Ada School District, and Jesse Tree are aimed to develop activities through the CDBG program aimed at facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing unit while also preventing individuals and families from becoming homeless.

**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's CDBG Program currently funds Jesse Tree to provide emergency rental assistance to LMI residents who are at risk of becoming homeless. During PY2018 the City will continue to provide funding to Jesse Tree, as well as the Education Foundation of West Ada School District which provides housing stipends and assistance to homeless, unaccompanied youth in Meridian. Both of these organization are working to keep families, individuals, and children off of the streets and in some sort of stable housing. Meridian also partners with other organizations like Meridian Food Bank and CATCH to assess needs and provide services for those at risk of becoming homeless. Please refer to the previous explanation for a list of the partnerships Meridian has to help prevent and address the homelessness needs of LMI individuals in the City.

However, Meridian currently does not have any planned activities to address the housing needs of those who are, specifically, being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care or who are receiving public or other assistance outside of the details specified. Work is being done to expand the City's role in the Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry and other committees to help address any needs being faced in the community.

## **Discussion**

Much of the work that is being funded through the City's CDBG program is aimed toward homelessness prevention among the LMI population in the community. Answers to the questions in this section specify many of the different services and activities that Meridian is exerting energy and resources toward to help the local homeless and nearly-homeless populations. Development of public transportation opportunities for seniors, ADA compliance improvements to public facilities, and public facility improvements such as sidewalk and streetlight improvements in LMI areas are focused, outside of those already noted, to meet the needs of persons who are and who are not homeless in the community.



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

### **Introduction:**

Section V, a supplement to the City’s 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan, analyzes public and private barriers to housing choice in Meridian. Stakeholders were also interviewed about housing barriers. Barriers associated with tax policies, land use controls and zoning, building codes, fees and charges, growth limits, and policies affecting the return on residential investment were not identified as barriers. On the contrary, the review found a favorable environment for development and a migration toward more diverse housing types.

As such, the actions summarized below do NOT address the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing (policies, procedures, processes). Instead, they focus on actions that address other types of identified barriers.

### **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 has recently expressed a commitment to creating more diverse housing types through its redevelopment plan for downtown. The plan states that creating diverse housing opportunities for different housing needs and life-cycles in downtown Meridian is important to support new businesses and activity. A healthy housing mix will also help to draw people downtown and ensure 24-7 activity. Housing created or redeveloped as part of the downtown plan is expected to include apartments, townhomes, condominiums, duplexes, and single-family homes. The City has helped facilitate the recent RFP for a large portion of the publicly-owned properties in downtown meridian with a priority being given to those proposals that will development mixed use and high-density housing developments.

In 2017, to evaluate potential fair housing concerns within the City’s zoning code, the City had BBC Consulting utilize a “Review of Public Policies and Practices (Zoning and Planning Codes)” form recently circulated by the Los Angeles fair housing office of HUD. The research did not reveal any negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing. This includes land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting returns on residential investment.

In addition, over the next few program years, the City intends to undergo a review of potential policy and code changes that will incentivize the future development of multi-family and affordable housing units in Meridian.

**Discussion:**

Please see the Grantee Unique Appendices attached to the City's 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan for details (Section V, pages 9 through 11).

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

This section discusses the Other Actions the City will take to address the needs of low-income residents.

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

The City will continue to engage in the regional dialogue with neighboring communities and service providers to identify and address underserved needs, maintain affordable housing, and reduce the number of families living in poverty.

The City has made steps this year to address the underserved needs of unaccompanied youth and the physically disabled in Meridian through CDBG funding being allocated to projects that would exclusively support both populations.

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

The City intends to partner with local service providers to provide emergency assistance to families who are at risk of eviction and homelessness. The City will also explore additional partnerships—including partnerships with mission-driven and private developers—to bring more workforce housing into downtown and underutilized land parcels. Finally, the city will partner with local service providers to provide down payment assistance to help renter households become homeowners.

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

Over the course of the upcoming program year, the City will maintain information on lead-based paint hazards in order to (1) educate the public, (2) gauge the prevalence of lead paint contamination, and (3) start to address the issue within the City. There is a wealth of information already available from HUD, the State, neighboring communities, and various organizations that staff will gather and make available at City Hall, on the City's website, and at other locations throughout the community.

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

Please see above. The City believes this should be a regional effort and will take more of a leadership role in addressing the needs of families living in poverty. Meridian's CDBG program intends to fund programs that provide emergency assistance to families who are at risk of homelessness, provide food supplies to those individuals in need, provide housing cost assistance for residents unable to cover the full costs of home purchases, among other activities. The City's local strategic plan also plans to address poverty-based issues through the expansion of needed public services as well as the ever-strong focus of Meridian on economic development and the expansion of quality employment opportunities for the

jurisdiction's LMI population.

The City is currently working on an in-depth socioeconomic profile of the City to help identify the needs of community members as it pertains to Housing, Finances, Food, Education, Health Care, and Transportation. Completing this research will allow us better understand the factors in the community that are contributing factors to those residents who are facing poverty in Meridian, as well as help define solutions that could help mitigate those factors. The City's hope is that this research will provide long-term insights and strategies to help reduce the number of poverty-level families in Meridian.

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

There are few capacity issues related to institutional structure in Meridian and the surrounding area. However, the City will be making the CDBG Administrator position a full-time position that is fully funded out of the City's general fund. This institutional change is designed to provide more time to run effectively and efficiently the CDBG program as well as provide flexibility for the position to expand efforts into economic and other areas that can help meet the community development needs of the City. Staff will continue to work to attain relevant and appropriate professional development trainings during the program year to learn and address current and future institutional problems. Discussions will continue about the expansion and opportunities to add new program staff to assist in this community development work.

External to the City, the City has been involved in the institutional restructuring of the Ada County CoC as well as the implementation of new HMIS and Coordinated Entry standards for service providers in the County. These activities have dramatically altered the institutional framework of housing and other service providers in the region and has improved the efficiency and transparency of the coordinated work being done to address these needs. The City hopes to identify new institutional structures that can be developed, reformed or changed to better support the needs of those most at risk in the region (e.g. transitional and emergency housing networks).

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

There are few capacity issues related to coordination between public and private organizations in Meridian and the surrounding area. However, the City's partnership and funding relationship with local housing services organizations including NeighborWorks Boise, Jesse Tree, Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority, and Education Foundation of West Ada School District will continue to expand in this program year. In addition, coordination with other organizations like CATCH, Astegos, Boise Rescue Mission, Interfaith Sanctuary, Terry Riley, El-Ada Community Action, Janus, Idaho Office for Refugees, Agency for New Americans, Women's and Children's Alliance, and all members associated with the local

Continuum of Care (including private housing developers) will continue to be built upon to improve networks, coordination, and problem solving in the jurisdiction. Meridian's participation in the local continuum of care, housing and homelessness roundtables, and other regional coordination efforts outlines the City's continued action plan for enhancing the networking and coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

**Discussion:**

Please see above.

## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Introduction:

Below is a description of the program requirements for Meridian's CDBG program and its commitment to meet those requirements.

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

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	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
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### 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.	53.51%

This City's certification period includes program years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The City commits to meet the 70% LMI benefit requirement of the federal CDBG program over the span of that three year certification period.

With that said, during Program Year 2018, the City has allocated 53.51% of its funding to LMI-benefit projects. The City commits to ensure that, in the 2019 and 2020 program years, the City will allocate more than 70% of its funds to LMI-benefit projects in order to meet the requirement for the cumulative certification period.

## Attachments



## Citizen Participation Comments

### Transcript of Comments Received During Public Comment Period and Citizen Outreach Efforts

Comment received on June 25, 2018 from Meridian Resident, Rob Porter via email:

*"I appreciate the work you do for our city and for the families who live here. I saw an article in the Meridian Press about how the city was seeking public comment on the use of a \$422K grant from the Community Development Block program. I'd like to submit we create a signaled pedestrian crosswalk near the Bridge Tower neighborhood on Ustick. This crosswalk would benefit hundreds of people, encourage families to walk more and drive less, and address an access barrier for our community members to use the Five Mile Creek pathway and Reta Husky Park.*

*As we know, with increasing population, many of our roads have become quite congested especially those with single lanes. Such is the case on Ustick between Linder and 10 Mile. Neighborhoods along this street must go to the major intersections to safely cross Ustick or dart between cars going 40+ MPH. There is a chapel on the southside of Ustick between 10 Mile and Linder that services four congregations and hundreds of families. There are more than 600 individuals in the Bridge Tower and Bellano Creek neighborhoods that are assigned to that chapel. Over 300 individuals consistently use the chapel on a weekly basis, sometimes two or more times a week. All these individuals live less than a mile from the chapel. Many choose to drive themselves and their children because it is safer to cross Ustick. A signaled crosswalk would encourage us to walk more and drive less. Less driving equals less impact on our environment and more time for families to enjoy the best of Idaho's weather in a safe manner.*

*Additionally Meridian, with a tremendous amount of foresight, is trying to develop pathways off of the main streets. Five Mile Creek pathway is one of the longest community pathways currently in development. The easiest access for neighborhoods on the southside of Ustick is Tower Bridge Road. If we're honest about safety, there is no safe biking path along 10 Mile north of Ustick to access the Five Mile Creek pathway. Signaled pedestrian crossing on Ustick would open up access to the 5 Mile Creek pathway and benefit hundreds of families in those neighborhoods.*

*We love this area, we're glad we moved here, but we know there are headaches that come with growth. We are thankful for the public comment request and urge you to consider this project as we try to maintain a family friendly community.*

*Would you please let me know if there's an application or signatures I need to obtain from our community? I'd love to know how to proceed if this is a project that could be considered with these grant funds.*

*Thank you!!*

*Rob Porter*

*Meridian citizen  
Bridge Tower Resident  
Father of 5"*

Comment received on July 20, 2018 from Jenifer Cavaness-Williams via email:

*"All of the organizations and projects chosen are worthy, and I would hate to take anything away from them. However, I hope the city considers using future grant money to build a performing arts center. Meridian is at the stage in its growth where it would benefit from a performing arts center.*

*Jenifer Cavaness-Williams"*

### Table 3C

#### Consolidated Plan Listing of Projects **\*\*ALTERNATE PROJECT\*\***

**Jurisdiction's Name:** City of Meridian, Idaho

**Priority Need:** Suitable Living Environment—Public Facility

**Project Title:** Streetlight Installation on N. Jericho Way

**Description:**

**\*\*ALTERNATE PROJECT\*\*** The City of Meridian Public Works Department will use the CDBG funding to design and install Street lights at various locations along N. Jericho Way in eligible areas of Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.22 & Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.33 that are in need.

**Objective Category:**  Suitable Living Environment  Decent Housing  Economic Opportunity  
**Outcome Category:**  Availability/Accessibility  Affordability  Sustainability

**Location/Target Area**

Various Locations within LMI Area

<b>HUD Objective Number</b>	<b>Project ID</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>	
SL 3		CDBG	<u>\$100,000</u>
<b>HUD Matrix Code</b>	<b>CDBG Citation</b>	ESG	
03K	24 CFR § 570.201(c)	HOME	
<b>Type of Recipient</b>	<b>C DBG National Objective</b>	HOPWA	
Entitlement	LMA	Total Formula	<u>\$100,000</u>
<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	Prior Year Funds	
10/1/2018	9/30/2019	Assisted Housing	
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Annual Units</b>	PHA	
Street lights		Other Funding	
<b>Local ID</b>	<b>Units Upon Completion</b>	Total	<u>\$100,000</u>
	4 new street lights		

The primary purpose of the project is to help:

The Homeless  Persons with HIV/AIDS  Persons with Disabilities  Public Housing Needs

### Table 3C

#### Consolidated Plan Listing of Projects **\*\*ALTERNATE PROJECT\*\***

**Jurisdiction's Name:** City of Meridian, Idaho

**Priority Need:** Suitable Living Environment—Public Facility

**Project Title:** Streetlight Installation at 12th & State St.

**Description:**

**\*\*ALTERNATE PROJECT\*\*** The City of Meridian Public Works Department will use the CDBG funding to design and install Street lights at various locations along Streetlight Installation at 12th & State St. in eligible areas of Block Group 1, Census Tract 103.22 that are in need.

**Objective Category:**  Suitable Living Environment  Decent Housing  Economic Opportunity  
**Outcome Category:**  Availability/Accessibility  Affordability  Sustainability

**Location/Target Area**

Various Locations within LMI Area

<b>HUD Objective Number</b>	<b>Project ID</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>
SL 3		CDBG <span style="float: right;"><u>\$125,000</u></span>
<b>HUD Matrix Code</b>	<b>CDBG Citation</b>	ESG
03K	24 CFR § 570.201(c)	HOME
<b>Type of Recipient</b>	<b>C DBG National Objective</b>	HOPWA
Entitlement	LMA	Total Formula <span style="float: right;"><u>\$125,000</u></span>
<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	Prior Year Funds
10/1/2018	9/30/2019	Assisted Housing
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Annual Units</b>	PHA
Street lights		Other Funding
<b>Local ID</b>	<b>Units Upon Completion</b>	Total <span style="float: right;"><u>\$125,000</u></span>
	4 new street lights	

The primary purpose of the project is to help:

The Homeless  Persons with HIV/AIDS  Persons with Disabilities  Public Housing Needs

### Table 3C

#### Consolidated Plan Listing of Projects **\*\*ALTERNATE PROJECT\*\***

**Jurisdiction's Name:** City of Meridian, Idaho

**Priority Need:** Suitable Living Environment—Public Facility

**Project Title:** Streetlight Installation at Crestwood Subdivision

**Description:\*\*ALTERNATE PROJECT\*\*** The City of Meridian Public Works Department will use the CDBG funding to design and install Street lights at various locations in the Crestwood Subdivision in eligible areas of Block Group 3, Census Tract 103.22 that are in need.

**Objective Category:**  Suitable Living Environment  Decent Housing  Economic Opportunity

**Outcome Category:**  Availability/Accessibility  Affordability  Sustainability

**Location/Target Area**

Various Locations within LMI Area

<b>HUD Objective Number</b>	<b>Project ID</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>	
SL 3		CDBG	<u>\$110,000</u>
<b>HUD Matrix Code</b>	<b>CDBG Citation</b>	ESG	
03K	24 CFR § 570.201(c)	HOME	
<b>Type of Recipient</b>	<b>C DBG National Objective</b>	HOPWA	
Entitlement	LMA	Total Formula	<u>\$110,000</u>
<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	Prior Year Funds	
10/1/2018	9/30/2019	Assisted Housing	
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Annual Units</b>	PHA	
Street lights		Other Funding	
<b>Local ID</b>	<b>Units Upon Completion</b>	Total	<u>\$110,000</u>
	4 new street lights		

The primary purpose of the project is to help:

The Homeless  Persons with HIV/AIDS  Persons with Disabilities  Public Housing Needs