



LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD IN PLANNING HOUSTON'S FUTURE

Consolidated Plan Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS A CONSOLIDATED PLAN?

Every five years, the City of Houston's Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) develops a Five Year Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) detailing how the City plans to invest its resources to meet Houston's ongoing affordable housing, community development, economic development, and public service needs. From September 2014 to May 2015, HCDD will develop the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan using a collaborative community engagement process that will result in a shared strategic vision for how resources are allocated to meet the community's needs. Input from both the public and community stakeholders will inform the Consolidated Plan and provide the framework for programs and services offered by HCDD over the next five years.

WHAT IS AN ANNUAL ACTION PLAN?

HCDD's Annual Action Plan is a strategic plan that outlines the community's needs, budget priorities, local and federal resources, and proposed activities for the upcoming year. The majority of activities serve very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. The Annual Action Plan demonstrates the City's progress towards meeting the established goals set in the Five Year Consolidated Plan. Each year, the Annual Action Plan serves as the City's grant application to HUD for the following grant programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

WHAT IS AN ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE?

The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) reviews public and private policies, practices, and procedures for possible barriers to fair housing choice. HUD requires that local grantees receiving federal grants submit an update of the AI on a regular basis. Although the AI is separate from the Consolidated Plan, the City develops a new AI every five years as a part of the Consolidated Plan process. The AI serves as a basis for fair housing planning by providing information on the barriers and ways to lessen those barriers to ultimately promote fair housing choice in the city.

WHY SHOULD YOUR VOICE BE HEARD?

Public input is an essential part of the City's planning process. The City must know the needs and strengths of your communities to develop plans that put these grant funds to the best use for low- and moderate-income Houstonians. Your input will guide us in prioritizing the funding of programs and projects to achieve Con Plan goals over the next five years.

WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Go to www.houstonhousing.org to learn more about how you can become involved!

