

## **V. Community Development**

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Community Development

\*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.
2. Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

\*Note: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.

#### Program Year 1 Action Plan Community Development response:

**Question 1: Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.**

The Year 1 Goals of the *Community Development Needs* table included with the 2005 Consolidated Plan delineates the projected annual accomplishments in FY 2005-2006 for each specific matrix code, providing a more exact depiction of the accomplishments listed under the more generic matrix codes defining the five-year goals. A brief description of each project funded in FY 2005-2006, the funding amount and identification of the objectives achieved by the project are included in the Non-Housing Community Development section of FY 2005-2006 Action Plan Funding Priorities chart included in *Year 1 Additional Files* section of this Action Plan.

**Question 2: Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.**

The specific goal and objectives to address non-housing community development needs in Sonoma County are listed below, and a brief description of each project funded in FY 2005-2006, the funding amount and identification of the objectives achieved by the project are included in the Non-Housing Community Development Activities Priority Funding section of FY 2005-2006 Action Plan Funding Priorities chart included in *Year 1 Additional Files* section of this Action Plan.

***Non-Housing Community Development Goal: To assist in creating and/or replacing infrastructure systems, public facilities and non-housing services that meet the needs of the extremely low-, low- and moderate-income residents of Sonoma County, including the homeless and special needs subpopulations.***

#### **Community Development Objective C-1**

*Preserve low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and improve the quality of neighborhood-based living, including construction or reconstruction of storm/flood drain improvements, water*

*and sewer improvements (connecting water and sewer lines to new or existing affordable housing developments, sewer mains, and rural water facilities), streets, streetlights, sidewalks, curbs and gutters (either non-existent or in need of repair or upgrade).*

**Community Development Objective C-2**

*Construct, renovate or install access modifications to meet the special needs of persons with disabilities and the elderly in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) in public facilities, including but not limited to public parks, restrooms, youth centers, senior centers, fire stations, libraries and community recreation facilities.*

**Community Development Objective C-3**

*Facilitate economic integration and self-sufficiency for lower income persons through self-sufficiency programs and through job training and economic development activities to increase job opportunities.*

**Antipoverty Strategy**

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.

**Program Year 1 Action Plan Antipoverty Strategy response:**

**Question 1: Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.**

The County will work to reduce the number of poverty-level families by targeting CDBG, HOME, FESG and local funds to projects that will provide services to foster self-sufficiency, in conjunction with the provision of housing, shelter and other public facilities. The overriding goal of the County is to provide the environment and tools necessary to enable all County residents to realize a greater degree of economic stability. While the County does not have the resources to directly elevate the incomes of poverty level persons, it will continue to act to reduce the housing costs for these individuals. The Sonoma County Community Development Commission (SCCDC) implements the Section 8 Voucher Program, HOME-funded Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program, Shelter Plus Care Program, and Mobile Home Space Rent Assistance Program to serve this purpose. The SCCDC will also make CDBG funding available to municipalities and nonprofit agencies to operate programs that work to reduce the number of persons living below the poverty level through economic development and employment training activities such as family self-sufficiency programs, various homeless services, including both homeless prevention and transitional housing programs. The County's involvement in the Continuum of Care process, Section 3 compliance, SonomaWORKS, Job Link and the actions of the Local Workforce Investment Board will all foster greater economic opportunities for the low- and moderate-income residents of Sonoma County.