

Executive Summary Draft FY 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan FY 2024 Annual Action Plan and Budget

Background

The City of Round Rock is a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) federal entitlement funds awarded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These funds are used to conduct a wide range of housing, community and economic development activities and services, primarily for low to moderate income households earning less than 80 percent of the area median family income.

As a recipient of CDBG funds, the city is required to prepare a Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan identifies and prioritizes the city's affordable housing, community development and economic development needs and strategies to guide the use of its CDBG funding for the next five years. The Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans, which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan.

The City of Round Rock has prepared a draft FY 2024 – 2028 Consolidated Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan. The city will receive an allocation of \$642,233 in CDBG funds for the FY 2024 Action Plan for the program period of October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025. For the five-year period covering the FY 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan (October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2029), the city anticipates receiving \$3.2 million in resources to be available through CDBG.

In developing the FY 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan, the City gathered information through various methods including a review of available housing market and economic data, census data, engagement with local stakeholders, community meetings, and a community needs survey which received 77 responses. The draft Consolidated Plan was also informed by other city plans and initiatives including the Round Rock 2030 Comprehensive Plan. This process formed the strategic plan to identify priority needs for the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan are due to HUD by August 15, 2024.

FY 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan Priorities

The City of Round Rock's strategic plan is built on the priority needs identified through a needs assessment, market analysis, and community engagement process and aligns with priorities and needs identified in the city's other strategic plans and initiatives. Through the Consolidated Plan process, Decent, Safe Affordable Housing; Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements; and Services for Special Needs Populations were identified as the highest priority needs.

City of Round Rock 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan Priority Needs & Goals:

- 1. Provide Decent, Safe Affordable Housing
 - a. Preservation of affordable housing through homeowner repair program
- 2. Create Suitable Living Environments

a. Public facilities and infrastructure activities to improve neighborhoods

3. Provide Services for Special Needs Populations

a. Public Services activities to assist low-income households and special needs populations such as seniors and children

4. Provide Economic Development Opportunities

FY 2024 Annual Action Plan and Budget

The City of Round Rock has a total of \$642,233 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the FY 2024 Action Plan for the program period of October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025.

Entitlement Grant	Federal FY 2024
Community Development Block Grant	\$642,233

Below are the proposed FY 2024 CDBG activities and budget which aligns with the priorities outlined in the draft FY 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The budgets are also within the HUD maximum expenditure limits for Administration (20% of grant) and Public Service activities (15% of the grant).

	Proposed	Consolidated Plan	% of
Proposed CDBG Activities	Funding	Priority	Budget
		Provide Decent Affordable	
CDBG Home Repair Program	177,453	Housing	28%
		Create Suitable Living	
Greenhill Park Improvements	240,000	Environments	37 %
		Provide Services for Special	
Public Services	96,334	Needs Populations	15%
		Provide Services for Special	
OWBC Meals on Wheels Program	16,334	Needs Populations	
		Provide Services for Special	
RRASC Housing Assistance	30,000	Needs Populations	
		Provide Services for Special	
RRASC Food Pantry	30,000	Needs Populations	
		Provide Services for Special	
CASA Child Advocacy	20,000	Needs Populations	
CDBG Program Administration	128,446	N/A	20%
Total	\$642,233		100%

Activity Descriptions

CDBG Home Repair Program

City of Round Rock Community and Neighborhood Services Department will administer the CDBG Home Repair Program which will assist low to moderate income homeowners with necessary home repairs up to \$25,000 per home. Approximately 6 homeowners will be assisted under this program.

Greenhill Park Improvements

City of Round Rock Parks Department will implement this project which includes the purchase and installation of a playground and shade structure. This project will support improvements at one park facility that will benefit area neighborhoods who access this facility.

Public Services

Opportunities Williamson-Burnet Counties (OWBC) Meals on Wheels Program

This program provides nutritious hot meals to homebound seniors and other persons in need. CDBG funds will be used to support the partial salary of a chef. Approximately 100 seniors will be assisted.

Round Rock Area Serving Center (RRASC) Housing Assistance Program

This program provides up to \$250 of rent or mortgage assistance to low to moderate income households to prevent eviction or foreclosure. Approximately 120 households will be assisted.

Round Rock Area Serving Center (RRASC) Food Pantry

This program will provide funds to purchase food for the food pantry to assist low to moderate income households in needs of assistance. Approximately 850 households will be assisted.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Williamson County Child Advocacy

This program provides support for CASA to advocate for children in the foster care system. CDBG funds will be used to support the partial salary of an Advocate Supervisor. Approximately 100 children will be served.

CDBG Program Administration

City of Round Rock – Funds will be used to support program planning, administration, and reporting costs necessary to administer the CDBG program in compliance with HUD and other federal regulations.

Alternate Projects

The following activities may be funded during the FY 2024 program year with any remaining balances from completed CDBG projects or from projects that may have funds reprogrammed due to unanticipated project delays:

- Additional Home Repairs up to \$25,000 per home for low to moderate income households
- Any of the approved city facility or infrastructure project in this action plan
- Any public services balances (Services for Special Needs Populations) may be used to provide additional funds to another public services activity approved in this plan

Citizen Participation

The draft Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan Summary will be available for public review and comment for thirty (30) days beginning June 7, 2024, through July 11, 2024, at the address listed below or at www.roundrocktexas.gov and at the following locations: Alan R. Baca Senior Center reception desk, Round Rock Public Library, Round Rock Housing Authority, Round Rock City Hall bulletin.

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive comments after which the final FY 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan will be considered by city council for approval. All interested persons are invited to attend at the location and time listed below:

Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting
Location: Council Chambers at City Hall
Address: 221 East Main Street, Round Rock, TX

Programs funded through the CDBG program may be emphasized in target neighborhoods or on a city-wide basis. Approximately 80 percent of the CDBG funds made available to the city will benefit households earning less than 80 percent of the area median family income.

Citizens may send written comments to Community and Neighborhood Services Department, 221 East Main Street, Round Rock, TX 78664. The document may be viewed through July 11, 2024, at the Community and Neighborhood Services Department, 221 East Main Street, Round Rock TX and on the City of Round Rock website: www.roundrocktexas.gov and the locations listed above.

Public Comment

Proposed use of Federal funds are outlined in the draft Consolidated Plan summary. Recommendations for all of the grants were developed by City staff. All recommendations are subject to change. Questions about the 2024-2028 draft Consolidated Plan are welcome and should be directed to the Community and Neighborhood Services Department, 221 East Main Street, Round Rock, Texas 78664, (voice) or 1-800-735-2989 (TDD/TTY). Formal written comments may be sent to the same address. All comments should be received by the Community and Neighborhood Services Department by 5:00 p.m. on July 11, 2024. The Consolidated Plan will be submitted to HUD on or before August 15, 2024.

The City of Round Rock is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call (512) 341-3328 (voice) or Relay Texas at 711 or 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) for assistance. For a sign language interpreter, please call (512) 341-3328 at least 4-5 days in advance.

The City of Round Rock offers, to all non-speaking English persons and upon written request, translated versions of all public documents and public hearing notices. Non-English-speaking persons who desire translated public documents or public notices should formally request these items from the Community and Neighborhood Services Department during normal business hours. For questions or additional information about these plans, please contact the Community and Neighborhood Services Department at (512) 341-3328.