



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#25-0529

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: June 30, 2025

TITLE: Public Hearing Approving the City's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Entitlement Funds, the 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan of the Consolidated Plan, Updated Citizen Participation Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing – **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan, the Updated Citizen Participation Plan and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, all in substantially the form attached hereto. Additionally, staff recommends authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents for submission to HUD.

Background

The City of Fort Lauderdale engages in a comprehensive planning process with community stakeholders to strategically address housing, economic, and community development needs. This is a requirement of the City as a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) federal entitlement grants. The comprehensive planning process involves two (2) core documents: the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. This action is unrelated to the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds received by the City. The planning process, including the Action Plan and anticipated use of funds will be developed through a separate effort that includes public input and community needs analysis.

The draft 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan) attached as Exhibit 1 is a five (5)-year strategic roadmap submitted to HUD. It outlines the City's plans to utilize federal entitlement funding provided by HUD to tackle key challenges in housing, economic growth, and community well-being.

The draft 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan (Action Plan) attached as Exhibit 2, complements the Consolidated Plan and is required to be submitted annually. The Action Plan serves as the tactical guide for the upcoming fiscal year. It details the activities and

projects that will be undertaken with federal entitlement funds to achieve the broader objectives established in the five-year Consolidated Plan. The 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan will guide the use of the following funding amounts:

- CDBG - \$1,518,117.00
- HOME - \$624,207.61
- HOPWA - \$7,981,453.00

Future year's funding is dependent on federal appropriation.

The development of these plans follows a structured, community-driven framework. This process is designed to ensure that identified housing and community development priorities align not only with the City's own Comprehensive Plan but also with HUD's national objectives for key grant programs:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): Supports a wide range of community development activities aimed at providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for low and moderate-income people as defined by HUD.
- Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA): Provides housing assistance and supportive services for low-income people, as defined by HUD, living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
- HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program: Helps to expand the supply of decent, affordable housing for low and very low-income families as defined by HUD.

To facilitate the complex comprehensive planning process, the City partnered with BlueLynx, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in community development programs and HUD requirements. BlueLynx was instrumental in developing the Consolidated Plan, conducting an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (which identifies barriers to equal housing opportunities), and updating the City's Citizen Participation Plan (which outlines how the public will be involved in the planning process). The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing and the updated Citizen Participation Plan are included as Exhibits 3 and 4.

BlueLynx hosted two (2) public forums to gather vital feedback for both the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. The initial public forum was held on January 13, 2025. The purpose of the meeting was to allow residents to share their initial thoughts, and to distribute surveys capturing broader community perspectives. The feedback and survey responses gathered from this forum were crucial in developing the initial draft of the plan. Following the initial input, a public notice was published in the Sun Sentinel and circulated locally on April 18, 2025. This notice invited residents to review the draft plan and provide further comments. A final in-person meeting was then held on May 8, 2025, providing an additional opportunity for residents and stakeholders to offer their insights on the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans. Copies of each public notice are included as

Exhibit 5.

Resource Impact

There is no long-term fiscal impact on the General Fund. The Federal grants will reimburse the City for the funding expended on eligible activities.

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing the Affordable Housing and Economic Development initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Housing Focus Area, Goal 2: Enable housing options for all income levels.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Community.

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- The Housing Element

Goal 1: The Comprehensive Plan shall support the provision of adequate sites for future housing, including affordable workforce housing, housing for low-income, very low-income, and moderate-income families, mobile homes, and group home facilities and foster care facilities, with supporting infrastructure and public facilities.

Goal 2: Be a community of strong, beautiful, and healthy neighborhoods.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Draft 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Exhibit 2 – Draft 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan

Exhibit 3 – Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

Exhibit 4 – Citizen Participation Plan

Exhibit 5 – Public Notices

Exhibit 6 – Resolution

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Department