

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECORD

YR 47

Introduction

Pursuant to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the environmental Review procedures for the Community Development Block Grant Assistance Program (CDBG) set forth in 24 CFR Part 58, municipalities applying for assistance under the CDBG Program are required to conduct an environmental review of proposed program activities: To comply with the aforementioned requirements, the City of Albany has prepared the following Environmental Review Record for the Year 47 Community Development Block Grant Program, Emergency Solutions Grants Program and Home Investment Partnerships Program, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND COMPLIANCE

The following activities will be undertaken during the City's Year 47 Community Development Program.

<u>PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS</u>		\$ 160,117
City of Albany, Department of General Services	Public Streets, Side Walks and Access Ramps	\$ 160,117

In accordance with the provisions set forth in 24 CFR 58.35-(a) (I), these public improvements projects are categorically excluded from NEPA requirements as they involve the reconstruction of already existing streets, sidewalks and ramps that will be retained for the same use and will not change in size or capacity of more than 20%. Projects will be reviewed individually for requirements other than NEPA.

B. PUBLIC SERVICES

The following public services and programs of the Action Plan which serve residents of the ACDA target neighborhoods with public services are exempt according to 24 CFR 58.34 (a) (9):

<u>PUBLIC SERVICES</u>		<u>\$445,000</u>
Equinox, Inc.	Youth Support Services	25,000
Black Nurses Coalition, Inc	Albany Level Up	25,000
Boys and Girls Club	Ezra Prentis Program	60,000
Department of Youth and Workforce Services	Public Service	77,339
Boys and Girls Club	Teen Program	25,000
Radix Center	Radix Center Ecological sustainability center	35,000
Albany Fund for Education	Albany Feed and Read	25,000
Albany PAL	Albany Baseball Program	25,000
South End Neighborhood Tutors	South End Neighborhood Tutors	15,000
The Red Bookshelf	Reading is our Right	20,000
USCRI	ESL and adult education	24,000
In Our Own Voices	Supporting our Seniors	20,000
Art Partners	Albany living Arts program	20,000
CEO	Capital Region Employment Reentry program	25,000
Albany Community Action Partnership	Pathways to employment	31,000

Baby Institute	Summer Camp	20,000
Catholic Charities Housing Office	Homeless services – Shelter	50,000

PLANNING

Cares/Albany County Coalition on Homelessness	Albany Homeless Management Info System/Single Point of Entry	50,000
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\$ 125,000

The following is a new housing construction project that is neither exempt nor categorically excluded from NEPA and requires an environmental assessment. The assessment will be completed at a later date, and a separate sight specific authorization to release funds will be submitted to HUD.

Habitat for Humanity	Sheridan hollow Revitalization	\$150,000
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The following homeless Public Services are programs supported by the Albany Emergency Solutions Grants Program. In compliance with NEPA, these activities are exempt according to 24 CFR 58.34:

HOMELESS

Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless	Shelter provider, code blue, Sheridan ave, Morton ave	97,889
St. Anne's	Youth Shelter provider	23,000
Catholic Charities Housing Office	St. Charles Lwanga Center/Mercy House	50,000
Legal Aid Society.	Homeless prevention	20,000
United Tenants of Albany, Inc.	Homeless Prevention Program	79,000
CARES	Admin	21,883

The following projects are housing administration. In compliance with NEPA, these activities are exempt according to 24 CFR 58.34:

HOUSING

\$ 54,543

Josephs House	HAC SRO	\$10,000
Albany Housing Coalition	Senior Veterans Housing	12,000
Community Builders		50,000

C. HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS is administered by the City of Albany and CARES, Inc. This entitlement grant for the five county Albany EMSA has been used in the past for supportive housing.

Alliance for Positive Health	40,000
Mohawk Opportunities	135,000
Support Ministries	162,304
Damien House	100,000
Unity House	230,000

D. REHABILITATION

The following residential programs, of the Albany Community Development Agency are aimed at upgrading the City's housing stock and serve principally lower income households:

- Senior Rehabilitation Program (SRP)
- Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RAP)
- Home Owner Assistance Program (HOAP)
- Home Acquisition Program (HAP)
- Direct Delivery expenses.
- Acquisition, demolition, stabilization of deteriorating properties prior to rehabilitation.
- Brownfields Assessment

The rehabilitation and loan activities listed above are generally categorically excluded as per 24 CFR 58.35 (a) (4) (I). The project is categorically excluded from NEPA requirements under 24 CFR 58.35(a)(3), (i) which covers rehabilitation of buildings and improvements where in the case of a building for residential use (with one to four units) the density is not increased beyond four units, the land use is not changed, and the footprint of the building is not increased in a floodplain or in a wetland; and (ii) where in the case of multifamily residential buildings, the unit density is not changed more than 20 percent, the project does not involve changes in land use from residential to non-residential, and the estimated cost of rehabilitation is less than 75 percent of the total estimated cost of replacement after rehabilitation. However each rehabilitation and new construction will be individually reviewed for its environmental effect as per 24 CFR 58.35 (a)(4)(I) and requirements other than NEPA. Further, all rehabilitation projects will be reviewed in accordance with the Agency's current Memorandum of Agreement with SHPO.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The following economic development programs under the Department of Development and Planning are aimed at upgrading the City's commercial areas and providing job opportunities for lower income City residents. The CDBG funded economic development activities generally involve loans to for-profit business, technical assistance and the rehabilitation of existing structure. As per 24 CFR (a)(4)(ii), these activities as a whole are categorically excluded. However, in the event that a project involves substantial expansion, new construction or acquisition, it will be assessed individually.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Capitalize Albany Corp	Economic Development tech. Assistance	\$165,843 \$ 165,843
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F. ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

General administration and operating expenses, the Department of Housing and Community Development, The Department of Planning and Development, and the Albany Community Development Agency are exempt as per 24 CFR 58.34 (a) (3).