



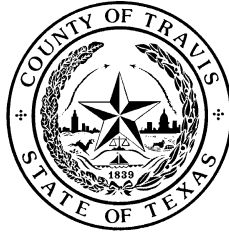
Travis County

Community Development Block Grant Program:

Improving the affordability,
accessibility and sustainability
of neighborhoods and
community services.

Consolidated Annual Performance
and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
Program Year 2008:
October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009





Travis County Commissioners Court

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Acronyms

Throughout this report the following acronyms are used:

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AI	Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
AP	Action Plan
CAPER	Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
Con-Plan	Consolidated Plan (governs CDBG Programs)
CPD	Community Planning and Development (part of HUD)
CPP	Citizen Participation Plan
EA	Environmental Assessment
ESG	Emergency Shelter Grant
FHA	Federal Housing Administration (part of HUD)
FSS	Family Support Services (a Travis County Social Service Program)
HATC	Housing Authority of Travis County
HHS/VS	Travis County Department of Health and Human Services and Veterans Service
HOME	HOME Investment Partnership Program (HUD Program)
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HUD Program)
HTE	Accounting Software used by Travis County
HUD	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
IDIS	Integrated Disbursement Information System (HUD's Financial Management System)
LMI	Low- and Moderate-Income (80% or below median household income)
MFI	Median Family Income
ORCA	Office of Rural Community Affairs
PY	Program Year
RFP	Request for Proposals
RFQ	Request for Qualifications
TC	Travis County
TCHFC	Travis County Housing Finance Corporation
TxDOT	Texas Department of Transportation
TNR	Travis County Department of Transportation and Natural Resources
URA	Uniform Relocation Act

Introduction

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) initiative is a federal grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program provides annual grants to cities and counties to carry out a variety of community development activities aimed at revitalizing neighborhoods, improving affordable housing options, and providing improved community facilities and services.

Based on its population, in 2006, Travis County qualified as an urban county, a federal designation which afforded the County the opportunity to apply for CDBG funds. That year, Travis County applied and received CDBG funds for the first time and has continued to receive funding for the past three years. The County's annual allocation is based on a HUD-designed formula that takes into account the county's population size, poverty rate, housing overcrowding, and age of housing.

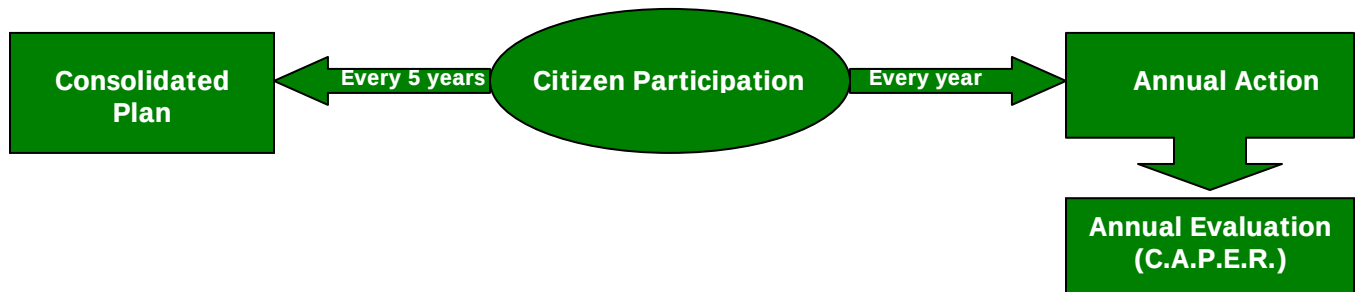
Usage of CDBG funds must meet a variety of parameters set nationally by HUD and locally by the County. Federal regulation requires that a minimum of 70% of the CDBG funds focus on projects for low- to moderate- income residents. Additionally, Travis County's allocation specifically targets residents living in the unincorporated areas of the county and to be eligible, the activities must meet one of the following HUD's national objectives:

- Benefit low- and moderate-income persons;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight; or
- Address other community development needs that present a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community.

The administration of the CDBG program follows a cycle that includes the drafting of a Consolidated Plan (Con-Plan), an Action Plan (AP), and a Consolidated Annual Evaluation and Performance Report (CAPER). The Con-Plan identifies the County's community and housing needs and outlines the strategies to address those needs over a five year period. The Action Plan defines the specific activities to be undertaken during each program year (PY) to address the priorities established in the Con-Plan. The CAPER is conducted annually to assess yearly accomplishments.

The following figure is a simplified visual representation of the CDBG cycle. As shown, citizen participation has a central role in setting the priorities to be addressed and defining projects to tackle identified needs.

Figure 1: CDBG Cycle



The Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) is the lead agency designated by the County for the grant administration of the CDBG program and the single point of contact with HUD.

Executive Summary

As a CDBG urban entitlement, Travis County must compile and publish a report detailing the use of CDBG funds and associated progress and accomplishments for every program year. HUD calls this annual report the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Specifically, the CAPER describes the County's CDBG housing and community development activities as well the County's overall housing and community development efforts. This specific document corresponds to activities conducted during the program year 2008 spanning October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009.

The CAPER is written to provide HUD with required CDBG information and provide the public an update of the progress made in this initiative. As a result of serving two audiences, the report follows the federal reporting requirements while also presenting information in a format meant to be easily understood by County departments, service providers and residents. The report includes specific outcome performance measures as delineated by HUD's 2005 Community Planning and Development Outcome Performance Measurement System.

Overview of Travis County First Three Program Years

Travis County first received CDBG funds for program year 2006. During the first year, no funds were spent given the numerous processes needed for the start-up of the grant and given an allocation error from HUD which significantly delayed Travis County initial CDBG's operation. During the 2007 program year, \$144,014.54 were spent with four projects implemented, but no projects were completed.

During the 2008 program year, \$486,284.70 were spent in six different projects, progress was made in moving forward with the remaining two and four projects were completed. Of the \$2,491,532 budgeted for the past three years, \$ 630,299.24 or 25% percent has been spent. Given most of these projects require longer than two years to implement, the impact or the benefits to residents will not be reflected until project close out. The following table presents a list of the projects implemented in PY08.

Figure 2: Progress of CDBG Projects as of September 30, 2009

Activities	Expected Benefit/ Served in PY08	Year/Amount Allocated		Amount Spent	Status
Production of New Owner Housing Units Via land acquisition and infrastructure development	37/0 Housing Units	PY06	\$250,000	\$0	Continuing: Property to be acquired by July 2010.
		PY07	\$195,518	\$0	
		PY08*	\$500,000	\$0	
Homeowner Rehabilitation	20/0 Housing Units	PY08	\$106,136	\$0	Continuing: Non profit to be identified by February 2010.
Street Improvements: Road improvements to substandard roads in Apache Shores	1710/0 People	PY06	\$305,000	\$ 60,000	Continuing: Design phase 90% complete. Construction anticipated January 2010.
		PY07	\$500,000	\$ 81,381.84	
Street Improvements: Design for Lava Lane road improvement	1297/0 People	PY06	\$83,659	\$ 36,487.15	Continuing:. Design is 60% complete.
Water/Sewer Improvements Improvement of water infrastructure in North Ridge Acres	158/173 People	PY06	\$200,000	\$200,000	Completed
Public Services, Other: Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion – Travis County HHS/VS Program	100/137 People	PY07	\$64,000	\$64,000	Completed
		PY08	\$64,788**	\$27,303.78	
Planning: Water/ wastewater improvement planning	N/A	PY07	\$88,727	\$88,727	Completed Preliminary report anticipated in early 2010.
		PY08	\$108,704**	\$49,119.53	
Administration & Planning:	N/A	PY08	\$53,505**	\$ 23,279.94	Completed
Total			\$ 2,520,370	\$630,299.24	

* Infrastructure support funds currently being reprogrammed to land acquisition through a substantial amendment.

** Unexpended funds from PY 2008 were rolled over for the next program year.

As a new entitlement, Travis County will continue to work on establishing the systems and procedures to support effective long-term management of the grant and compliance with HUD requirements.

Timely Spending of Funds

As part of the mandate from Congress to administer the CDBG program, HUD determines annually whether each CDBG entitlement is carrying out its activities “in a timely manner”. HUD conducts an analysis of each entitlement’s timeliness of spending 10 months into each grant year. For Travis County, the timeliness test started in August 2008, and will continue to occur every August. The threshold for compliance with timeliness is having no more than 1.5 times the current year’s allocation unspent. Travis County did not meet its first two timeliness test and received a timeliness policy exception from HUD in October 2009. The CDBG office is currently working to improve timeliness and will continue to assess the spending of funds and the progress of projects to ensure compliance for 2010 and beyond.

Public Participation

During program year 2008, the public had ample opportunity to participate on the development of projects for the 2009 program year. During the months of February and March 2009, the County held public hearings and solicited proposals for the use of CDBG funds. Solicitation of input and invitations to participate in the public hearings were posted on the County’s website and were published in newspapers of general circulation. In addition, notifications were mailed and e-mailed to service providers, to citizens who had previously attended public hearings, to the community liaison departments of Travis County schools districts and to neighborhood associations. Lastly, two public hearings were held during the month of July and a 30-day public comment period occurred from the 24th of June through the 23rd of July to solicit final comment on the proposed uses of CDBG funds. The announcements and all the participation material were available in English and Spanish.

Similarly, the public was provided the opportunity to comment on the draft of the PY08 CAPER. The public comment period was advertized during the week of November 9, 2009 using the same outreach efforts listed above. The draft report was available to the public for review and comment from December 2nd through December 16th, 2009 at the seven Travis County community centers as well as the County’s website <http://www.co.travis.tx.us/cdbg>. A public hearing was also held at the Travis County Commissioners Court on December 8, 2009.



Travis County

Section I: General Questions

Consolidated Annual Performance
and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
Program Year 2008:
October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009



-Prepared by Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

Status of Projects

Project: Owner Housing - Production of New Units

Activity: Land Acquisition and Public Infrastructure

IDIS #: 7 for PY06, 10 for PY07 and 15 for PY08

Project Description:

Parcels or one large tract of land in unincorporated Travis County will be acquired to build affordable single-family housing for low-income families (25-50% Median Family Income). Single-family housing is defined as a one- to four-family residence. Public hearings will be held to inform the public of the location(s) prior to the purchase of the land. During the selection process, priority will be given to tracts of land near public transportation.

Austin Habitat for Humanity, a local non-profit, will secure funding for the construction of homes on the acquired property. Approximately 37 units of affordable housing will be created. The number of individuals impacted will vary depending upon the families selected for the housing units.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- ♦ A sub-recipient agreement was signed between Travis County and Austin Habitat for Humanity in August 2009.
- ♦ Austin Habitat for Humanity identified land for the project but the Commissioners Court did not approve the site due to its proximity to a proposed gravel/sand mine.
- ♦ Austin Habitat for Humanity will continue to identify new potential sites for the project. Acquisition of the land is anticipated to take place by July 2010.
- ♦ A substantial amendment is taking place in PY09 to reprogram \$500,000 from the development of affordable housing through Infrastructure Development to the development of affordable housing through Land Acquisition, resulting in 20 additional units.

Performance Measure:

Affordability for the purpose of creating decent housing.

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Funds Sources	CDBG Funding	Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG funds Expended	Amended Goal/ Actual
Owner Housing	High	CDBG Private	PY06: \$250,000 PY07: \$195,518 PY08: \$500,000	TBD	\$ 0	\$ 0	37/0 Housing Units

Project: Home Rehabilitation

IDIS #: 16 for PY08

Project Description:

This project will fund home repair and weatherization services to low and moderate income homeowners in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The program seeks to improve the energy efficiency, physical living conditions, and safety in owner-occupied homes. Services will be provided by a non-profit, designated sub-recipient and identified through a formal application process in which it demonstrates the ability to provide services and adhere to federal guidelines. The program will target households at or below 50 percent of the median family income (refer to Appendix A for income eligibility guidelines). A maximum of \$5,000 of CDBG assistance per year will be provided to a single home.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- A scope of work for the project has been drafted.
- A Request-for-Services (RFS) process will take place on late 2009/early 2010 to identify a subrecipient.
- A substantial amendment is occurring to change the beneficiaries to 80% MFI and allow a 5-year forgivable loan of up to \$24,999 per household.
- It is anticipated services will start to be offered by early 2010.

Performance Measure:

Improving the quality of owner housing.

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Funds Sources	CDBG Funding	Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG funds Expended	Amended Goal/ Actual
Home Rehabilitation	High	CDBG	PY08: \$106,136	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	5/0 Housing Units

Project: Street Improvements

Activity: Substandard Roads in Apache Shores

IDIS #: 5 for PY06 and 11 for PY07

Project Description:

This project funds the improvement of a number of substandard roads in Apache Shores, an area identified as a low to moderate income area. The improvements will allow the roads to meet County roadway standards and be accepted onto the County roadway system for future maintenance and traffic safety enforcement.

The scope of work includes: 1) design services; 2) land surveying services; 3) geo-technical services; 4) drainage design services; 4) utility location and relocation coordination services; 5) environmental review and related regulatory permits; 6) acquisition of right of way and easements; and 6) construction.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- The construction plans are 90% complete. All drainage and roadway repairs have been determined.
- The Environmental Review is complete. The report notes that the project has converted to an exempt status and will have no significant impact on the environment. No further environmental study is required. Temporary and permanent erosion control will be required during and after construction of the project.
- The specifications for this project are complete. The scope of the project has been determined and all material for the improvements has been selected.
- Travis County expects to solicit bids for this project in November or December 2009 and start construction by February 2010.

Performance Measure:

Accessibility for the purpose of creating a suitable living environment.

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Funds Sources	CDBG Funding	Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG Funds Expended	Goal/Actual
Public Facilities	High	CDBG	PY06: \$305,000 PY07: \$500,000	NA	PY06: \$60,000 PY07: \$81,381.84	PY06: \$60,000 PY07: \$81,381.84	1,710/0 People

Project: Street Improvements

Activity: Lava Lane Design

IDIS #: 14

Project Description:

This project will fund the design, engineering and environmental review for the improvement of a portion of Lava Lane, a substandard road in Precinct 4, currently not accepted by the County road maintenance system. The improvements will provide a new durable road that will allow property owners, school busses, mail service providers, and emergency service providers to have all-weather access to the properties. Additionally, the improvements will allow the road to meet County roadway standards and be accepted onto the County system for future maintenance and traffic safety enforcement.

Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources Department (TNR) is the department in charge of managing this project and the design, engineering, and environmental work will be provided by a contracted consultant. The project will benefit 1297 people once construction of the improvements is complete.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- The interview process has been completed and Rhed Oaks Engineering, Inc. was signed to a professional services agreement to complete the environmental survey and design of the roadway extension.
- A detailed survey of the proposed new roadway and right-of-way was completed by the Travis County Survey Department.
- The construction plans for this project are 60% complete. All drainage and roadway repairs have been determined.
- The Travis County Surveyor is in the process of preparing the documents necessary for Travis County to acquire the right-of-way necessary for the roadway extension. Negotiations with the landowners affected by the acquisitions are expected to begin after environmental clearance is completed.

Performance Measure: N/A

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Funds Sources	CDBG Funding	Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG Funds Expended	Goal/ Actual
Planning	High	CDBG	PY06: \$83,659	NA	\$36,487.15	\$36,487.15	1297/0 People

Project: Water/Sewer Improvements

Activity: North Ridge Acres - Improved municipal water service for NWSC

IDIS #: 6 for PY06

Project description:

This project funds the complete replacement of the North Ridge Water Supply Corporation's (NWSC) water distribution system with a permanent connection to the City of Austin's water system. The North Ridge Acres subdivision is located in both Williamson and Travis Counties near the intersection of the roads FM 1325 and CR 172. One hundred and fifty-eight people in Travis County and approximately 180 people in Williamson County will benefit from this project.

The phases of the project include: (1) the design and construction of a new water system that meets the requirements of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the City of Austin; (2) disconnection from the City of Round Rock fire hydrant which is the current water source; (3) a permanent connection to the City of Austin's water system; and (4) conveyance of the NRWSC to the City of Austin which will provide service and billing for all NRWSC customers.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- The homes of 173 Travis County residents have been permanently connected to new transmission lines, operated by the City of Austin (they are no longer using the City of Round Rock fire hydrant as their water source).
- All CDBG funds for the project have been expended.
- The project is substantially complete and is considered closed. The paperwork transitioning the system to the City of Austin will be completed in the coming weeks.

Performance Measure:

Availability for the purpose of creating a suitable living environment.

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Fund Sources	CDBG Funding	PY08 Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG Funds Expended	Goal/ Actual
Public Facilities	High	CDBG City of Austin TWDB Travis County ORCA NWSC	PY:06 \$200,000	\$1,103,297 See leveraged funding section for more details.	\$127,702.45	\$200,000	158/173 People

Project: Public Services, Other
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Activity: HHS/VS Family Support Services Division

Social Work Services Expansion

IDIS #: 12 for PY07 and 17 for PY08

Project Description

This program is an internal Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service expansion of existing services. The program is expanding social work services through the work of one social worker who is increasing the capacity to provide case management, information and referral, non-clinical counseling, crisis intervention and outreach to households in the unincorporated areas.

The social worker provides the majority of service provision through home visits in order to reduce transportation barriers. The social worker also works from the Community Centers in Manor and Del Valle, focusing on residents living in the unincorporated areas of precincts 1 and 4. In addition to CDBG funds, this program leverages funds from two other programs called the Youth and Family Assessment Center (YFAC) program and Best Single Source (BSS) funds.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- Outreached a total of 20 agencies, school districts, churches and neighborhood associations during PY08 to inform community members about the social work services available.
- 137 people benefitted from services provided during PY08. Services included case management, referrals, non-clinical counseling and crisis intervention.
- 9 clients received assistance through the Youth and Family Assessment Center program. All 9 clients reported improved functioning after completing the program.
- 8 clients were assisted with Best Single Source funds.
- Data on client needs was de-identified and analyzed by CDBG administrative staff to further the knowledge base about the needs of those residing in the unincorporated areas. Refer to the section of Anti-Poverty Strategy for a breakdown of needs encountered by clients.

Performance Measure:

Availability for the purpose of creating a suitable living environment.

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Fund Sources	CDBG Funding	Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG Funds Expended	Goal/ Actual
Public Services	High	CDBG YFAC BSS	PY07: \$64,000 PY08: \$64,788	\$13,907.52 See leveraged funding section for more details.	PY07: \$36,989.72 PY08: \$27,303.78	PY07: \$64,000 PY08: \$27,303.78	100/137 People

Project: Planning

Activity: Water/Wastewater Improvement Planning

IDIS #: 13 for PY07 and 18 for PY08

Project Description:

This project funds a Senior Engineer who functions as a Project Manager over two active CDBG-funded street improvement projects in Apache Shores and Lave Lane. The Senior Engineer is also in charge of assessing and providing a report for potential water and wastewater projects to be considered in the future by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

The unincorporated areas whose water/wastewater needs will be assessed for eligibility and potential costs include: Apache Shores , Bluebonnet/Volker Lane , Deer Creek Ranch, FM 969 & FM 973 area, FM 1625 Area, Imperial Valley, Kennedy Ridge, Littig, Manchaca Area, Mt. Chalet, Mountain View Estates, Northridge Acres, Plainview Estates, Plover Place, Rodriguez Road, Hazy Hills, Cardinal Hills Estates and Walnut Place. The project is opened to add additional neighborhoods throughout the program year.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- Maps of all neighborhoods that have expressed a need for water or wastewater services have been created.
- Design and construction cost estimates have been created for each neighborhood expressing a need for water or wastewater service.
- A draft planning report for Water and Wastewater Improvements for neighborhoods that have contacted the Travis County CDBG office is scheduled to be completed by January 2010.

Performance Measure:

Creating Sustainable Living Environments.

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Fund Sources	CDBG Funding	Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG Funds Expended	Goal/ Actual
Planning	High	CDBG	PY07: \$88,727 PY08: \$108,704	NA	PY07: \$ 44,020.29 PY08: \$49,199.53	PY07: \$ 88,727 PY08: \$49,199.53	15/0 Neighborhoods

Project: Planning & Administration

Activity: Administration

IDIS #: 19 for PY09

Project Description:

The funds allocated for administration will pay for the operating expenses associated with the grant including office supplies, training, contracted services, interpreting, membership and other business related expenses. The funds include \$25,000 for a consultant to complete an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in Travis County. This assessment will serve as preparation for the next Consolidated Planning process and will allow the development of a plan to address impediments identified.

Project Status and Progress to Date:

- A scope of work for the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice has been drafted.
- A Request-for-Services (RFS) process will take place on late 2009/early 2010 to identify an organization to conduct the study.

Performance Measure: N/A

Activity	Con Plan Priority	Fund Sources	CDBG Funding	Leveraged Funding	CDBG funds Expended during PY 08	Total CDBG Funds Expended	Goal/ Actual
Planning	High	CDBG Travis County	PY08: \$53,505	\$142,341	\$23,279.94	\$23,279.94	N/A

Geographic Distribution of Projects

Since Travis County does not have any consortium cities participating in the use of CDBG funds, all services and planning efforts focus on the unincorporated areas of the county. Additionally, Travis County's CDBG program does not have any designated target areas, however, one of the projects, the Social Service Project, focuses in Precincts 1 & 4 based on the concentration of low to moderate income residents. These precincts also have a larger minority concentration than other parts of the County. The goal for focusing services in those areas is to improve access to services and quality of life for residents. Refer to the table below for specific descriptions of geographic distribution for each one of the CDBG projects. For a map of the project locations and racial and ethnic concentrations, please refer to *Appendix A: Maps*.

Figure 3: Geographic Distribution of Grant Activity for the Program Year 2008

Project	Location/ Census Tract	
Production of New Owner Housing Units: via land acquisition and infrastructure development	To Be Determined	
Street Improvements: Substandard Road Improvements in Apache Shores	Census Tract: 17.42 Block Group: 1 Including sections of Pima Trail, Crazyhorse Pass, and Whitehead Trail	
Road Improvement Design	Lava Lane Road, Precinct 4, Census Tract:24.17, Block Group:3	
Public Services, Other: Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion	Various eligible households in precincts 1 & 4 in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. Specifically residents in the following zip codes were served in PY08: 78617, 78621, 78653, 78701, 78719, 78724, 78725, 78747, 78753, 78754, 78612, 78619	
Housing Rehabilitation	Households residing in the unincorporated areas of the County	
Water/Sewer Improvements: Northridge Acres Water Improvement	Census Tract: 18.51, Block Group: 1 Including sections of Prairie Lane, Summit Drive, Northridge Road, Parkview Drive and Hillside Drive	
Water/Wastewater Improvement planning	<u>Precinct 1:</u> FM 969 & FM 973 area, Littig, Imperial Valley, Bluebonnet/Volker Lane, Kennedy Ridge, Plainview Estates, Walnut Place <u>Precinct 2:</u> Northridge Acres	<u>Precinct 3:</u> Manchaca Area Apache Shores, Mountain View Estates, Mt. Chalet, Deer Creek Ranch, Hazy Hills, Cardinal Hills <u>Precinct 4:</u> FM 1625 Area, Rodriguez Road, Manchaca Area Plover Place

Performance Evaluation of Projects

Compliance with CDBG National Objectives

The use of CDBG funds requires selecting eligible projects that meet one of the three national objectives prescribed by HUD. These are 1) benefitting low/moderate income (LMI) persons, 2) addressing slum or blighted areas and 3) addressing an urgent need. All of the projects implemented during the program year 2008 met the national objective of benefiting low/moderate income persons, thereby complying with the additional HUD requirement of spending 70 % of CDBG funds on LMI persons. The CDBG Financial Summary for Program Year 2008 Report located in Appendix C shows 100% of the PY08 expenditures benefited low to moderate income persons.

For an activity to qualify as meeting the low-mod national objective, grantees must certify they are following one of four qualifying categories: area of benefit activities, limited clientele activities, housing activities and job creation or retention activities. An area of benefit (LMA) activity is one that benefits all residents in a particular area, where at least 51 percent of the residents are low-to-moderate income persons. A limited clientele (LMC) activity is one where 51 percent of the beneficiaries have to be LMI persons. Low-mod housing (LMH) applies to activities that aim to provide or improve permanent residential structures, which upon completion, will be occupied by LMI households. A low/mod job (LMJ) creation activity is one designed to create or retain permanent jobs, at least 51 % of which will be made available to or held by LMI persons.

The following table summarizes the category under which each project qualifies to meet the low-mod national objective as well as the specific number of clients served in each target income area. In the cases of projects where no individuals have received services yet, a check mark identifies the anticipated income targets for the clients that will benefit for that project.

Figure 4: Benefit to Low and Moderate Income Persons by Project

Project	National Objective	Low to Moderate Income Target			Total People Served
		Very Low (>30% MFI*)	Low (30.1 to 50% MFI)	Moderate (50.1 to 80% MFI)	
▪ Land Acquisition for Affordable Housing Development	Low/Moderate Income: Housing (LMH)	√	√	√	0
▪ Home Rehabilitation	Low/Moderate Income: Housing (LMH)	√	√	√	0
▪ Street Improvements in Apache Shores	Low/Moderate Income: Area Benefit (LMA)	√	√	√	0
▪ Street Improvements Lava Lane	Low/Moderate Income: Area Benefit* (LMA)	√	√	√	0
▪ Public Services, Other – FFS Services	Low/Moderate Income: Limited Clientele (LMC)	119 persons	12 persons	6 persons	137
▪ Water/Sewer Improvements	Low/Moderate Income: Area Benefit – Survey (LMA)	45 persons	47 person	81 person	173
▪ Water/Wastewater Planning	N/A	√	√	√	0
Total persons served		164	59	87	310

MFI* = Median Family Income as defined by HUD

Area Benefit*: Both Road Improvement projects qualify as a Low-Mod Area of Benefit through an Exception Rule Provision or Upper Quartile Criterion permitted by HUD. Travis County's exception rule is 46.2%. To learn more about the Exception rule visit the following site: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/lawsregs/notices/2005/05-06.pdf>

Compliance with CONPLAN Goals

CDBG projects must also fit within one of the seven high priority project categories approved by Travis County Commissioners Court for the 2006-2010 period. The following list summarizes those high priorities identified and the corresponding projects implemented during program year 2008.

Figure 5: High Priorities in the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan and Projects Implemented in PY 2008

High Priorities	Projects
Production of New Owner Housing Units via Land Acquisition	Production of New Owner Housing Units: Land acquisition and Public Infrastructure
Infrastructure for New Housing Developments	
Street and Road Improvements	Street Improvements: Substandard roads in Apache Shores
	Street Improvements: Lava Lane
Water and Sewer Improvements	Water/Wastewater Infrastructure Improvement: North Ridge Acres
Public Services, Other	Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion –Travis County HHS/VS Program
Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	Home Rehabilitation
Youth Services	None
Administration and Planning	Water/Wastewater Improvement Planning
	Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

Assessment of Goals and Objectives

This section articulates the CDBG accomplishments for PY 2008 as they relate to the goals and objectives, spending, overall performance and effective grant management. A total of 3,322 people and 18 neighborhoods are expected to benefit from the projects identified in the PY06, PY07 & PY08 Action Plans. For Program Year 2008, 310 people have benefited from these funds.

It is important to note that in many cases the impact of the projects will not be captured for a number of years, given some of the projects will take 12-60 months to implement and complete. For example, the production of new owner housing units will not be completed until approximately the year 2012. Even though CDBG funds are only expected to support the acquisition of the land, the performance indicator will not be achieved until the houses are fully constructed and the households have purchased the homes. The table summarized below identified the goals and objectives, and the expected and actual number of people served during the past program years

Figure 6: Summary of Specific Objectives (HUD Table 1 C)

Project Title	Specific Objectives	Sources of Funds	Performance Indicators	Year	Target #	Actual #	Percent Completed
SL-1 Availability/Accessibility of Living Environment (Outcome/Objective)							
Street Improvements: Substandard Roads in Apache Shores	Public Facilities	PY06 & 07 CDBG	▪ # people receiving new service, # people receiving improved service, # people served (per LMI levels)	2006	1710	0	0%
				2007	0	0	0%
				2008	0	0	0%
				2009			
				2010			
			Multiyear Goal		1,710	0	0 %
Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion	Public Services, Other	PY07 CDBG	▪ Number of people who benefited	2006	N/A	N/A	N/A
				2007	100	71	71%
				2008	100	137	137%
				2009			
				2010			
			Multiyear Goal		200	208	104%
Street Improvements: Substandard Road Lava Lane*	Not Applicable	PY06 CDBG	▪ Number of people who will benefit	2006	N/A	0	N/A
				2007	1297*	0	0%
				2008	0	0	0%
				2009			
				2010			
			Multiyear Goal		1297	0	0%
Water / Sewer Improvements: Northridge Acres Water Improvements	Public Facilities	Travis County PY06 CDBG & 4 other sources of funds	▪ Number of people who will benefit	2006	158	0	0%
				2007	0	0	0%
				2008	0	173	109%
				2009			
				2010			
			Multiyear Goal		158	173	109%
DH-2 Affordability of Decent Housing (Outcome/Objective)							
Owner Housing - Production of New Units: Land Acquisition	Owner Housing	PY06 & 07& 08 CDBG	▪ Number of housing units constructed	2006	10	0	0%
				2007	7	0	0%
				2008	20	0	0%
				2009			
				2010			
			Multiyear Goal		37	0	0%
DH-3 Sustainability of Decent Housing							
Homeowner Rehabilitation	Owner Housing	PY 08 CDBG	▪ Number of housing units rehabilitated	2006	N/A	N/A	N/A
				2007	N/A	N/A	N/A
				2008	5	0	0%
				2009			
				2010			
			Multiyear Goal		5	0	0%
SL-3 Sustainability of Living Environment (Outcome/Objective)							
Planning	Not applicable	PY 07 CDBG	▪ Other – number of neighborhoods assessed	2006	N/A	N/A	N/A
				2007	15	0	0%
				2008	3	0	0%
				2009			
				2010			
			Multiyear Goal		18	0	0 %

* The Lava Lane project is funded out of reprogrammed PY 2006 monies, but was allocated in August 2008 during PY 2007.

The coding system used in the Outcome/Objective rows in the table above follows the numbering system established in the Community Planning and Development Outcome Performance Measurement System. The outcome/objective numbers stand for the following:

Figure 7: Numbering System for Outcome and Objective Coding

Objective	Outcome		
	Availability/Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability
Decent Housing	DH-1	DH-2	DH-3
Suitable Living Environment	SL-1	SL-2	SL-3
Economic Opportunity	EO-1	EO-2	EO-3

Expenditures and Leveraged Resources for Program Year 2008

Overall Expenditures

During PY08, spending occurred in six different projects and progress was made in moving forward with the remaining two. Of the \$2,371,022.46 budgeted to the eight activities \$486,284.68 or 20.5% was spent per HUD's data management system called, IDIS.

Figure 8: CDBG PY08 Summary Financial Report from IDIS

CDBG Program Year 2008 Summary Financial Report	
Carryover from PY07	\$1,542,889.44
PY08 CDBG Entitlement Grant	\$833,133
Total CDBG Funds Available for PY08	\$2,376,022.44
PY08 Funds Committed	\$2,376,022.44
PY08 Funds Expended	\$486,284.70
Carryover to PY09	\$1,889,740.76
HUD Timeliness Ratio	2.26

Expenditures per Project

Figure 9 summarizes the budgeted funding, the expended funds and the percent expended in for each of the projects.

Figure 9: Summary of PY08 Expenditures by Project

Project	PY 08 Budgeted Funding Available	Expended as of 09/30/08	Percent Expended	**PY08 Cap Percentages
▪ Owner Housing: Production of New Units	PY06: \$250,000	\$0	0%	N/A
	PY07: \$195,518			
	PY08: \$500,000			
▪ Home Rehabilitation	PY08: 106,136	\$0	0%	N/A
▪ Street Improvements	PY06*: \$388,659	\$177,868.99	20%	N/A
	PY07: \$500,000			
▪ Public Services, Other	PY07: \$36,989.72	\$64,293.50	63%	7.7%
	PY08: \$64,788			
▪ Water/Sewer Improvements	PY06: \$127,702.45	\$127,702.45	100%	N/A
▪ Administration & Planning	PY07: \$44,020.29.	\$116,419.76	56.5%	13.9%
	PY08: \$162,209			
Total	\$2,376,022.44	\$486,284.70	20.5%	

*Includes \$83,659 of reallocated funds from PY 2006 Public Service funding through Action Plan Amendment, August, 2008.

** Regulations require that no more than 20% and 15% of funds of any one grant year be spent on Administration & Planning and Public Services, respectively. This calculation takes the total dollars spend during the program year divided by the program year's allocation amount to determine the percentage of funds spent and to demonstrate compliance.

Timely Spending of Funds

As part of the mandate from Congress to administer the CDBG program, HUD determines annually whether each CDBG entitlement is carrying out its activities "in a timely manner". HUD conducts an analysis of each entitlement's timeliness of spending 10 months into each grant year. For Travis County, the timeliness test started in August 2008, and will continue to occur every August. The threshold for compliance with timeliness is having no more than 1.5 times the current year's allocation unspent. Travis County's did not meet its first two timeliness test and received a timeliness policy exception from HUD in October 2009. The

CDBG program is taking actions to address timeliness considerations and will continue to assess the spending of funds and the progress of projects to ensure timely spending.

To address timeliness considerations, for the PY08 Action Plan, CDBG staff recommended the funding of administration and planning at maximum level and the selection of projects that could spend money in 12-18 months. In addition, the CDBG office has identified the extent and underlying causes of the timeliness concerns and has developed a workout plan to improve performance. This plan has been presented to HUD's regional office in San Antonio as well as HUD's office in Washington D.C.

Leveraging Resources

Although no matching requirements are mandated for CDBG, during the reporting period, Travis County was successful in using HUD's CDBG funds to leverage additional monies from private and public sources. For the Northridge Acres Water Improvement project, Travis County partnered with the Texas Water Development Board, Williamson County (CDBG), the Office of Rural Community Affairs, and the City of Austin, each of whom invested dollars in this project. In addition, Travis County absorbed all of CDBG's administrative and planning costs to maximize the community impact of CDBG funding. The following table summarizes the amount of dollars leveraged:

Figure 10: PY08 Leveraged Resources

Project/Activity Leveraged	Partners	Committed Leveraged Resources	Spent during PY 2008
Water/Sewer Improvements North Ridge Acres	Texas Water Development Board	\$ 1,000,000*	\$ 576,432
	Williamson County (CDBG)	\$ 150,000	\$150,000
	Office of Rural Community Affairs	\$ 250,000	\$250,000
	City of Austin	\$ 269,464*	\$0
	Travis County General Fund	\$ 237,705*	\$101,125
	Northridge Water Supply Corporation	\$25,740	\$25,740
Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion	Best Single Source (General Fund rent assistance program)	To-be-determined	\$1,551.02
	Youth and Family Assessment Center (flexible funding)	To-be-determined	\$12,356.50
Administration and Planning of CDBG	Travis County General Fund	To-be-determined	\$142,347
	Total Dollars	\$1,932,909	\$1,259,551.50

* Other Dollars Spent in Previous Program Years.

Managing the Process

Comprehensive Planning

The Travis County Health and Humans Services & Veterans Service (HHS/VS) Department has a Research and Planning (R&P) Division tasked with much of the comprehensive planning for the department, both internally and externally with community partners. The R&P Division focuses in different issue areas including basic needs, workforce development, child and youth services (with particular emphasis on early childhood education), public health (particularly HIV/AIDS), behavioral health as well as efforts to organize the community around support for the elderly and immigrants. Additionally, the Division provides information services to inform decision making in the HHS/VS Department and across the community. These services include: an annual report of community trends and statistics based on the American Community Survey, periodic surveys of community-based organizations and focused research and analysis upon request.

CDBG makes requests of the R&P Division for technical assistance, as needed, to assist with data collection, resource development and planning in the areas related to housing, homelessness and community development. This collaborative effort increases capacity and reduces duplication of planning efforts for the Department.

Over the Program Year 2008, the CDBG staff, and in collaboration with the R&P Division, when noted, have participated in the following comprehensive planning efforts:

Homelessness

CDBG staff represent HHS/VS in the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO). This membership provides staff the opportunity to be involved in the issue area, to advocate for the homeless population found in the unincorporated areas, to identify service strategies and to ensure identified pockets of homeless persons in the unincorporated areas are included in the annual homeless count. CDBG staff participated in the Independent Review Team for the Continuum of Care applications, the Count Committee, the Program & Evaluation Committee and the Annual Count on January 29, 2009.

Resource Development

The R&P Division has a staff person dedicated to monitoring and reviewing grant opportunities. Over the last program year, CDBG staff and R&P kept one another informed about federal, State and local funding streams and new monies that came down through various systems including stimulus funds.

Additionally, CDBG staff is a part of an inter-departmental group which focuses on resource development and grant-related processes.

Affordable Housing

CDBG staff attended several meetings over the last program year related to affordable housing including meetings with the City of Austin's Neighborhood Community and Housing Development Department, the Intergovernmental Stimulus Housing Subcommittee, the CSH Texas Re-Entry Best Practices Committee, and the City of Austin's housing forums. While there is not a formal planning body which focuses solely on affordable housing, several planning groups and coalitions have housing-related committees due to the cross-cutting nature of the issue area. Staff will continue to attend these meetings as appropriate.

Additionally, the CDBG staff discussed the possibility of collaborative efforts around housing market studies and consolidated planning requirements with the City of Austin and some of the neighboring CDBG entitlements in a five County area in order to reduce costs and look at affordable housing with a regional lens. CDBG staff hopes to continue this conversation in the future.

Foreclosures

During the program year, CDBG, the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation (TCHFC) and R&P purchased foreclosure data, supported TCHFC's Neighborhood Stabilization Program application to the State and began to identify trends and areas of high foreclosures. This data was presented in the PY 2009 Action Plan. We anticipate continuing to work collaboratively through participatory research in this area to ensure a consistent message on the issue.

Water/Wastewater Planning

In response to the citizen participation process and the public's need for water/wastewater public infrastructure, a planning project was established during the program year. Please refer to the "Status of Projects" section of this report for a detailed description of progress made this year in collaboration with TNR, the Travis County's public works department. A preliminary plan is anticipated to be completed in the first quarter of 2010.

Next Consolidated Plan

In anticipation of the next Consolidated Planning cycle, the CDBG office has created a preliminary plan for its development. The 2011-2015 Con-Plan will consist of the following parts: 1) a Community Needs Analysis, 2) a Housing Market Analysis, 3) a Strategic Direction, 4) an Action Plan for PY 2011 and 5) an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

In 2010, the processes for conducting the housing market analysis, the analysis of impediments to fair housing choice, and other community needs analysis will be initiated. The strategic

direction based on analysis and public input will be developed. There will be ample opportunities for the public to provide input and make comments. In 2011, the strategic direction will be ready for the prioritization of PY11 projects, and the Consolidated Plan as well as the PY11 Action Plan will be submitted to HUD in August 2011.

Board, Commission and Association Involvement

Staff from different divisions of the HHS/VS department, including CDBG and R&P staff are currently involved in numerous boards, commissions, associations, and councils, not only to further the understanding of the relationship between the community and the needs of its most vulnerable residents, but also to be a resource to the community, offering data and analysis, grant-writing skills, contacts with influential businesses, community and government leaders, and knowledge of government-funded program opportunities.

Compliance with Certifications

Travis County carried out all planned actions described in the five year HUD – approved Consolidated Plan, including:

- ♦ Pursuing all resources indicated in the Consolidated Plan. Resources include leveraged dollars for grant administration, public services and public infrastructure.
- ♦ Travis County provided requested certifications of consistency for HUD programs in a fair and impartial manner.
- ♦ Travis County did not hinder the Consolidated Plan implementation through any action or willful inaction.

Anti-Displacement and Relocation

Consistent with the goals and objectives of 24 CFR Part 570.606, Travis County commits to making all reasonable efforts to ensure activities undertaken with federal funds will not cause unnecessary displacement or relocation of persons (families, individuals, businesses, non-profit organizations and farms).

Travis County's policy on displacement, at present, is to not fund projects that displace persons. A more comprehensive Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan was approved by the Travis County Commissioners Court in PY 2008. Travis County did not purchase, rehabilitate or demolish occupied real property with CDBG funds during PY 2008 program year.

Specific Activities

HUD requires reporting on certain types of activities funded by CDBG. Below is the list of responses to the required questions.

- **Low/Mod Job Activities:** Travis County did not undertake any low/mod job activities during the reporting year.

- **Low/Mod Limited Clientele Activities:** Travis County planned one low/mod limited clientele activity during the 2008 program year – a public service project. The Social Work Services Expansion project is currently being implemented successfully. Please refer to the table title “Benefit to Low and Moderate Income Persons by Project” to see the breakdown of clients by income level.
- **Housing Rehabilitation:** Travis County funded housing rehabilitation activities during PY 2008, but did not implement or rehabilitate any housing units during the program year.
- **Neighborhood Revitalization Strategies:** Travis County does not currently have any HUD-approved neighborhood revitalization strategy areas.

Fiscal Related Items

HUD requires reporting on certain types of fiscal-related items funded by CDBG. Below is the list of responses to the required questions.

- **Program Income:** Travis County did not receive any program income during the 2008 program year.
- **Prior Period Adjustments:** Travis County will need to adjust the following draws from HUD’s IDIS database system due to staff erroneously using prior year flags in the system. The error was discovered too late for the flags to be removed. Making these adjustments will allow the County to accurately calculate the public service, administration and planning caps.

Summary of Prior Period Adjustments				
Voucher Number	Project/Activity	Date of Draw	Grant Number	Amount of Adjustment
1610384	Public Services, Other	11/24/2008	B-06-UC-480503	\$8,120.61
1618956	Public Services, Other	12/17/2008	B-06-UC-480503	\$5,459.97
Public Services Subtotal				\$13,580.58
1610384	Administration & Planning	11/24/2008	B-06-UC-480503	\$7,664.38
1617846	Administration & Planning	12/15/2008	B-06-UC-480503	\$7771.09
Administration and Planning Total				\$15,435.47

- **Loans and Other Receivables:** Travis County did not have any loans or other receivables during the 2008 program year.

- **Lump Sum Agreements:** Travis County did not use any lump sum agreements during the 2008 program year.

Monitoring

As the lead agency for the development and implementation of the Consolidated Plan, the Travis County HHS&VS Department implements standard policies and procedures for monitoring CDBG programs. These monitoring activities ensure compliance with program regulations and compliance with financial requirements. Federal guidelines include: OMB A-110, OMB A-122, 24 CFR Part 570.603 (CDBG Labor Standards), 570.901-906 (CDBG) and the Davis Bacon Act and Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (CDBG).

HHS/VS provides contract administration for community development activities in conjunction with the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, including but not limited to contract negotiations, compliance monitoring, and payment and contract closeout.

Frequency and Results of Monitoring Activity

Sub-recipients

Travis County engaged one sub-recipient in August 2008 for the land acquisition project. A desk review of the environmental assessment by CDBG staff identified a problem with the land of interest, and as a result, site approval was not given. The sub-recipient is currently looking for another property.

Contractors

During the reporting period, Travis County worked with a construction contractor for the Water Improvement project and design consultants for the Apache Shores and Lava Lane Street Improvement projects. For the construction contract, the Purchasing Office conducted Davis Bacon interviews and collected certified payroll of workers employed for the conduct of the water improvement project, reviewed invoices for accuracy and compliance with both of the executed contracts, and completed the required reports for each project.

Internal Travis County Departments

For CDBG funded projects implemented by Travis County Departments, the CDBG office has instituted controls at key points of the project implementation process to ensure program compliance. The CDBG office:

- ♦ Meets with each project manager and relevant project-related staff at regular intervals throughout the implementation period to review project status, implementation, effectiveness of programs, and compliance issues.
- ♦ Reviews any request for purchase prior to HHS/VS department approval.

- ♦ Reviews all Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Request for Services, Invitations for BID and contracts prior to the release by the Purchasing Department.
- ♦ Requests technical assistance from HUD, as needed, on behalf of each project.
- ♦ Reviews the results of project environmental reviews, and submits the appropriate paperwork to HUD.
- ♦ Verifies and documents target area, and service area eligibility, monitoring documentation on a quarterly basis.
- ♦ Reviews CDBG project expenditures on a monthly basis before draw-downs are made.

CDBG staff completed a variety of monitoring tasks for each project. No funds were provided during the program year to sub-recipients; therefore, the summary below identifies the monitoring activities for internal Travis County CDBG projects:

Street Improvements: Substandard Roads in Apache Shores

- ♦ Kept in communication with the project manager.
- ♦ Reviewed environmental report and completed paperwork for certification of results by the Commissioners Court.
- ♦ Reviewed draws prior to requesting reimbursement from IDIS.
- ♦ Received quarterly progress report and updated IDIS.

Street Improvements: Lava Lane

- ♦ Kept in communication with the project manager.
- ♦ Reviewed draws prior to requesting reimbursement from IDIS.
- ♦ Received quarterly progress report and updated IDIS.

Water/Wastewater Improvements: Northridge Acres Water Improvements

- ♦ Kept in communication with the project manager.
- ♦ Forwarded technical assistance requests to HUD as needed.
- ♦ Reviewed project implementation after a change in project managers and provided a high level of technical assistance to the project.
- ♦ Reviewed pre-audit findings by Consultant and assisted in improving project compliance.

Public Services, Other: Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion

- ♦ Provided technical assistance and worked out service delivery issues as needed.
- ♦ Reviewed client files in February 2009 and made recommendations for improvement.
- ♦ Reviewed quarterly performance reports.
- ♦ Reviewed and approved all Authorizations to Purchase and travel and mileage requests prior to submission to financial services.

Water/Wastewater and Other Project Planning

- ♦ Kept in communication with the project manager.
- ♦ Provided additional neighborhoods as needs were identified.
- ♦ Assisted in the development of the plan and development of the criteria.
- ♦ Reviewed quarterly performance update.

Results of Monitoring Efforts

As a result of the monitoring efforts made, staff was able to identify and address potential issues surrounding compliance with different projects and to improve systems and documentation that needed strengthening.

- ♦ Staff provided review and technical assistance to the land acquisition project. The assistance resulted in CDBG staff identifying the proximity of a potential site to a gravel/sand mine. This information helped Commissioners Court decide to not approve this site and recommend the search of another property.
- ♦ Technical assistance was provided to the public service project, including collaboration on a different file order and stronger documentation to ensure compliance. Another review of client files is scheduled for the first quarter of 2010.
- ♦ The pre-audit of the water improvement project resulted in several contractual changes for future projects to improve compliance with Davis Bacon, Section 3 and suspension and debarment regulations. Additionally, clearer roles and responsibilities across County Departments were identified to support the contractual changes.

Institutional Structure and Coordination

Effective implementation of projects during the Program Year 2008 involved a variety of key stakeholders. Coordination and collaboration within the Travis County government and between agencies was instrumental in ensuring the needs in the community were addressed effectively. The departments and agencies involved in the implementation of the projects are described below.

Internal Travis County Departments

The CDBG office engaged several Travis County departments to ensure efficient and effective project planning, management, and implementation. Those departments with key roles in the execution of the projects included the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS), the Commissioners Court, the Transportation and Natural Resources Department (TNR), the County Attorney's Office, the County Auditor's Office and the Purchasing Office.

Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department

The HHS/VS department is the lead county agency responsible for the administration of the

County's CDBG funding. This department has the primary responsibility of assessing community needs, developing the Consolidated Plan and yearly Action Plans, managing project activities in conjunction with other county departments and community partners, administering the finances, and monitoring and reporting. The CDBG office is located in the Executive Manager's Office within HHS/VS. HHS/VS reports to the Travis County Commissioners Court for oversight authority.

The CDBG office worked with the Research and Planning Division (R&P) within HHS/VS in the areas of community planning, data collection, and resource development. The CDBG office will continue to keep R&P informed about HUD funding streams and continue to work collaboratively identifying and sharing relevant data to ensure a consistent message on emerging issues such as changing housing needs and foreclosure.

In particular the CDBG office worked with the R&P Division to map and quantify the foreclosures to get a sense of the extent and nature of the problem. The CDBG office will continue to work on better understanding the extent of foreclosures in Travis County, and determine what, if any, continued investments are needed to strengthen the housing market.

Additionally, the Family Support Services (FSS) Division of HHS/VS managed the CDBG public service project. FSS also manages the seven Travis County Community Centers which provide a key access point for the public to access CDBG information. The CDBG office thus works closely with the Division to ensure the public's access to CDBG documents and encourage outreach and citizen engagement through the Centers.

Travis County Commissioners Court

The Commissioners Court is made of four elected commissioners, one to represent each county precinct and the County Judge who serves as the presiding officer. As a group, the Commissioners and County Judge are the chief policy-making and governing body of the county government. The Commissioner's Court made all final decisions about CDBG fund allocations.

Transportation and Natural Resources Department

The Transportation and Natural Resources Department (TNR) and the CDBG office worked closely to coordinate environmental review functions, project planning, implementation and GIS mapping. TNR and CDBG employees have been trained in environmental regulations. This cross training of both departments allows for quality review and peer consultation.

In addition, as part of the project funded with PY07 & PY08 funds, the CDBG office worked closely with a CDBG-funded Senior Engineer the TNR office hired to finalize a preliminary assessment of areas that need water/wastewater improvements. The CDBG office and the Senior Engineer have and will continue to coordinate the preparation of project scopes,

eligibility, cost estimates, and project design. The Senior Engineer also played an active role in the implementation of CDBG projects that are managed by TNR such as the street improvement projects of Apache Shores and Lava Lane.

The County Attorney's Office

The County Attorney's Office creates and reviews legal agreements as well as provides legal advice and consultation. They created templates to assist with CDBG procurement procedures, related consultant services, subsequent construction documents, and templates for sub-recipient agreements. This type of collaboration is expected to continue during the implementation of the PY09 Action Plan.

The County Auditor's Office

The Auditor's Office provides fiscal oversight for the County including the arrangement of the Single Audit. Over the program year, the Grants Division completed quarterly financial reports, reviewed and approved draw-downs from IDIS and reviewed all agreements for fiscal compliance. Additionally, the Auditor's Office will monitor fiscal compliance of sub-recipients. This type of collaboration is expected to continue during the implementation of the PY09 Action Plan.

Purchasing Office

The Purchasing Office manages the CDBG procurement processes for commodities, professional services and construction. The office received a position funded by the Travis County general fund in 2006 to support CDBG and programs of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) - two new streams of federal funding. This approach supports compliance with common federal standards and promotes efficiencies within the County. In addition, this position ensures compliance with required labor standards and submits related reports to the CDBG office. The collaboration between the two offices is also expected to continue during the implementation of the PY09 Action Plan.

Public Sector and Non-Profits

During the implementation of the PY08 Action Plan, the Travis County CDBG office coordinated with a variety of local non-profits and governmental entities activities related to project and grant management and community planning. The following list provides some examples of the type of engagements the Travis County CDBG office had with the public and other sectors:

- ♦ Consultation with other entitlement counties and cities to exchange models for CDBG grant management and project implementation;
- ♦ Information exchange and coordination with other implementing agencies on jointly funded projects;

- ♦ Coordination of planning efforts for affordable housing and ending homelessness initiatives with local stakeholders including coalitions of non-for-profits, the City of Austin, and regional organizations.

During the implementation of the PY09 Action Plan, additional engagements are anticipated such as:

- ♦ Partnerships with local Community Housing and Development Organizations (CHDOs), non-profits, and other community development and housing providers to explore options for community development and public service projects and leverage other federal, state, local and private funding.
- ♦ Coordination of planning efforts with the Travis County Housing Authority and Travis County Housing Finance Corporation for affordable housing programs in the unincorporated areas of the county;
- ♦ Engagement of other municipalities in Travis County for future collaboration in the areas of community development and housing activities.
- ♦ Coordination of planning efforts with different entities in the Austin metropolitan region such as of the City of Austin and other cities in the county, for areas such as combining future efforts in the development of documents such as comprehensive Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and a comprehensive Housing Market Study for the county/region.

Consortium Member Cities

At this time, Travis County's jurisdiction does not include consortium member cities.

Public Engagement

Travis County implements a citizen participation process based upon 24 CFR Part 91.105 and the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) approved by Travis County Commissioners Court on April 11, 2006. The approved CPP identifies the strategies and structure to fully engage the community.

Development of the PY 2009 Action Plan

Travis County held a total of seven public hearings to provide input and comments on the proposed usage of PY09 funding as documented in the PY09 Action Plan. During the months of February and March 2008, the County held five public hearings specifically to solicit input for the use of CDBG funds. In addition, during the months of June and July, Travis County held two public hearings and a 30-day public comment period to solicit final comment on the proposed uses of CDBG funds. For a detailed version of the public participation activities and comments received please refer to the PY09 Action Plan.

PY 2008 CAPER

During the week of November 9, 2009, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing the availability of the PY 2008 CAPER, the public comment period and the public hearing at Travis County Commissioners Court. The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. A copy of the notice may be found in *Appendix A* in English (Attachment A) and Spanish (Attachment B). Public notices were also posted at the Travis County Community Centers, Travis County television and on the Travis County Website.

Travis County HHS/VS drafted the CAPER and presented it to the Travis County Commissioners Court on December 1, 2009. After presentation to Travis County Commissioners Court, the CAPER was posted for public review and written comments prior to approval by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

The comment period began December 2, 2009, and ended December 16, 2009. Additionally, a public hearing was held at Travis County Commissioners Court on December 8, 2009. The public had the opportunity to submit comments on the CAPER in writing via email, postal mail, or verbally at the public hearing. The final CAPER will be posted on the Travis County CDBG website (www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG). Copies of the full document will also be available for review at the seven Travis County Community Centers.

Summary of Citizen Comments on the CAPER

No comments were received during the 15 day public comment period.

Evaluation of the CDBG Program

Evaluation of Overall Performance

The Travis County CDBG Program has come a long way since its inception in October 2006, developing the systems that support the management of the grant and compliance with HUD regulations. Although no funds were spent during the first program year and during the second year, funds were spent, but no projects were closed, the third year demonstrated great progress in moving forward to increase impact, performance and spending. The CDBG office will continue to establish the necessary systems in place to ensure program effectiveness.

It's important to note that the CDBG office has had to cope with factors that initially delayed the program implementation. Due to an erroneous funding amount provided by HUD in 2006, the Consolidated Plan was disallowed, requiring a redirection of strategic plans and a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan and the PY 2006 Action Plan. The execution of the original grant agreement with HUD was delayed four months. The program continues to feel the impact of the delay especially in the area of timeliness of spending.

Strengths

Over the course of its first three program years, Travis County has gained significant knowledge and experience in the administration of the CDBG program, investing much time in the development of systems for CDBG processes, the collaboration of numerous county departments, and the application of federal regulations. Additionally, staff has sought out training opportunities to increase knowledge of the CDBG staff and staff within County departments. Staff has determined that training, networking and having an excellent understanding of terminology and internal systems strengthen the implementation of projects.

During the 2008 program year, staff evaluated systems put in place as project implementation occurred, identified weaknesses and put systems and improvements in place to address areas of concern. Staff received a favorable monitoring result after a Labor Standards visit from HUD CPD staff and are in the process of developing lead based paint procedures for implementation into the appropriate contracts and agreements. With three years past the County, staff are beginning to settle in and move more quickly into the implementation of projects.

Additionally, each County Department involved with CDBG projects is extremely cooperative in communicating status of projects, issues, challenges and resolutions to problems. This level of cooperation allows compliance to be more easily achieved.

Challenges

Project selection and foundation building to support contracted services has proven to be the key barriers to implementing projects and to spending funds timely. With regard to project selection, choosing infrastructure and land acquisition projects were more difficult to implement than anticipated for different reasons. Infrastructure projects take up to 36 months to expend funding. Due to the expensive nature of the infrastructure projects, tying up large amounts of funding for 36 months proves a challenge for achieving timeliness. Land acquisition, on the other hand, can expend large amounts of funding quickly, but the regulations surrounding this type of activity are complicated and take time to learn.

Foundation building is also a key challenge due to the time it takes to understand regulations, build CDBG knowledge within the County, and develop the contracts and other legal documents to support activities. CDBG comes with a reputation of being complicated and cumbersome; therefore, county staff involved with the program is more cautious before approving items and moving forward with expenditure of funds.

These challenges, in addition to the initial 4 month delay, have made it difficult to spend money in a timely manner. In hindsight, staff would have 1) provided a variety of high priority categories that allowed for projects which expend funds quickly through County

Departments along with more phased implementation of infrastructure projects and 2) the use of experienced consultants to manage the projects.

Goals for Improvement

Staff has identified the following goals for improvement:

1. Continue to look for training opportunities to support knowledge gain to increase grant management skills and CDBG knowledge for County staff.
2. Use consultants to improve project performance and complement limited CDBG staff expertise or time.
3. Increase knowledge of internal Travis County systems to find the fastest and most efficient ways to implement projects.
4. Fund infrastructure projects in manageable pieces.
5. Fund projects that can be completed within 12-18 months.



Travis County

Section II: Housing and Services for the Homeless

Consolidated Annual Performance
and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
Program Year 2008:
October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009



-Prepared by Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

CDBG Housing Investments

Travis County did not complete any housing units during the reporting period. The CDBG land acquisition project will purchase land for affordable housing development with housing units anticipated on the property on or before 2011. Refer to the Status of Projects section of this report to learn more about the specifics of the project.

The following figure, a table required by HUD, identifies the priorities the County assigned to the housing activities for renters or owners and the populations with special needs for the Consolidated Plan period 2006-2010. The priorities and goals were assigned in 2006 with limited data so they only represent estimates. The specific type and level of need in the community is not completely known at this time.

Figure 13: Summary of Housing Priority Needs for 2006-2010 and PY 2008 Accomplishments

Housing Priority Needs and Accomplishments Summary					
Priority Housing Needs (Households)		5 Year Goals	PY 2006 Numbers	PY 2007 Numbers	PY 2008 Numbers
Renter	Small Related	2	0	0	0
		1	0	0	0
		2	0	0	0
	Large Related	0	0	0	0
		1	0	0	0
		1	0	0	0
	Elderly	1	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
	All Other	1	0	0	0
		1	0	0	0
		2	0	0	0
Owner		20	0	0	0
		15	0	0	0
		31	0	0	0
Special Needs		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Goals		68	0	0	0

Overview of Housing Services supported by Travis County

In addition to CDBG, Travis County addressed the housing needs of its residents in PY08 through diverse strategies that included the support of homeless and emergency shelters; transitional, public, assisted, and rental housing; first-time homebuyer programs and owner-occupied assistance programs. These services were either directly delivered by County departments, affiliate entities or by contracted not-for-profit agencies.

Travis County HHS/VS Housing Services

The Travis County Housing Services performs weatherization and home repairs on houses occupied by county residents to improve energy efficiency, the physical living conditions, and safety in these homes. Funding for services comes from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the City of Austin and the Travis County General Fund. In the reporting period, a total of 603 county residents received energy saving and emergency repair assistance. The assistance was distributed in the following manner:

- ♦ 123 low-income homeowners and renters were helped to meet energy savings through the state-funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and a state-funded grant from the Department of Labor.
- ♦ 190 very-low and extremely low-income consumers were assisted through the state-funded Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP), which replaces or repairs energy using devices such as refrigerators, air conditioners and heating systems. This activity aims to improve energy efficiency and reduce heating and cooling costs.
- ♦ 180 low-income families were helped with energy saving weatherization.
- ♦ 110 individuals received emergency assistance in the form of access ramps and equipment, limited septic system assistance, or gas, heating, and electrical assistance.

Travis County HHS/VS Family Support Services Division

The Family Support Services (FSS) Division provides rent and mortgage assistance as well as utility assistance to stabilize housing for 30 days. Funding for services comes from the Travis County General Fund, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program and a variety of local electric and gas utility providers. The services provided by the FSS division are reported under the Homelessness Prevention section of this report.

Other Travis County HHS/VS Divisions

Other HHS/VS Divisions provide emergency rent or utility assistance on a smaller scale than FSS. These dollars are usually a part of a comprehensive case management program with strategic use of funds for families in need.

Travis County Housing Finance Corporation

Through the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation (TCHFC), Travis County is engaged in a number of efforts to foster and maintain affordable housing. The Corporation provides single-family home ownership opportunities, including down payment assistance to first-time homebuyers who meet certain income requirements. In addition, the Corporation issues tax-exempt bonds to finance the construction or acquisition of multi-family apartments that must provide rental units to certain low and moderate-income families. During the reporting period:

- ♦ 39 first-time homebuyers received forgivable loans to purchase homes outside the City of Austin. Loans were made to homebuyers whose incomes were below 80% of the Austin area median family income. The loans were in the amount of either \$10,000 or \$8,325 and were forgivable over 5 or 10 years. It is estimated that half of the loans were for homes located in the unincorporated areas of Travis County.
- ♦ Approximately 10 families who purchased a home in Travis County received 30-year fixed rate mortgages and a 4% down payment grant.
- ♦ Approximately 350 families received information about programs in Central Texas to assist them in purchasing a home and 50 families received home buyer education classes.
- ♦ Constructed a Visitation Center at the state jail in Eastern Travis County. The Visitation Center was donated to the State of Texas and its cost was \$271,370.72. The Center provides shelter and play areas for families waiting to visit inmates at the prison.
- ♦ Donated \$20,000 to Frameworks CDC to provide foreclosure counseling to Travis County residents who do not live in the City of Austin. Approximately 10 families were assisted in PY08 who live in the unincorporated parts of the County.

The Housing Authority of Travis County

The Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC) manages three public housing sites, a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, three Shelter Plus Care Projects and a Lease-Purchase program.

The public housing sites have a total of 105 housing units while the Shelter Plus Care projects provides rental assistance for homeless people with chronic disabilities in the Austin-Travis County area. The program utilizes integrated rental housing and flexible and intensive support services to promote community tenure and independence. These Public Housing and Shelter Plus sites are all located in the incorporated areas of the county.

In the unincorporated areas, HATC administers the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, assisting very low income, disabled and elderly families or individuals. HATC also operates a Lease-Purchase program to provide homeownership opportunities for prospective

homebuyers who can afford monthly mortgage payments, but do not have funds for a down payment and/or closing costs or the credit standing to qualify for a loan.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Many factors impact affordability of the housing stock in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The high cost of living and the demand for land and housing create a lack of affordable housing for very low- and low-income households. Outlined below are the barriers to affordable housing identified through the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan's needs assessment, housing market analysis, provider forum and surveys, consultations and public hearings.

Lack of Funding for Affordable Housing

Travis County's Housing Finance Corporation currently has funding and programs in place to increase affordable home ownership through first-time homebuyers down payment assistance and bond programs. While this funding creates opportunities to increase housing affordability, poor credit scores and other factors make it difficult for low to moderate-income families to qualify for mortgage loans. The majority of Travis County residents with a housing cost burden are renters. Not enough funding exists to subsidize renters to make rents more affordable.

High Cost of Housing, Land and Infrastructure

The high cost of housing, land and infrastructure makes homeownership and rents unaffordable to many of Travis County's low-income families. For residents with low- to moderate-income, the availability of homes at affordable prices is dwindling. The execution of the land acquisition project will assist in addressing this barrier.

Building Codes, Zoning Provisions, Growth Restrictions and Fees

At this time, Travis County does not have any building codes, zoning provisions or growth restrictions in the unincorporated areas. This is largely a function of state statutes that place significant limits on the authority of counties to regulate or restrict development. While less restrictions, codes and provisions initially increase affordable development, it also increases the likelihood for substandard housing and other unsuitable living conditions throughout the unincorporated areas. The Travis County Commissioners Court is currently exploring ways the county can expand its land use authority in the unincorporated areas.

Environmental Regulations

Several state and federal regulations exist to protect the environment including the Endangered Species Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and the Wetland regulations. Texas rules include regulation for the installation of septic systems and for development over the Edwards Aquifer. These regulations may increase costs for development, affecting affordability. When possible, land identified for purchase will target areas where environmental costs will not substantially increase the cost of housing.

Addressing Barriers to Affordable Housing

Refer to previous section to see Travis County's investments in promoting affordable housing.

Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

HUD has a commitment to eliminate racial and ethnic segregation, physical and other barriers to persons with disabilities, and other discriminatory practices in the provision of housing. HUD extends the responsibility of affirmatively furthering fair housing to local jurisdictions through a variety of regulations and program requirements.

As an entitlement county receiving CDBG funds from HUD, Travis County must fulfill its fair housing responsibilities by developing an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice and by taking actions to overcome the identified impediments. Given the County's limited history administering the grant (since October 2006), the complexities of conducting a thorough analysis, and the limited staff resources, the CDBG office of Travis County developed a preliminary analysis to lay the ground for a more comprehensive analysis to be conducted by a consultant with PY08 funds. The scope of work and request for proposals for the analysis of impediments are currently being drafted.

The preliminary analysis highlights the impediments identified by the City of Austin in the analysis they published in February, 2005. Since much of the analysis conducted by the city, used county data, the impediments can be expected to hold in other areas of the county including non-incorporated areas. The identified impediments are the following:

- Lack of accessible housing to meet the need of the disabled community throughout the county
- Lack of affordable housing
- Discrimination of minorities in housing rental and sales market
- Misconception by property managers concerning family occupancy standards
- Predatory lending practices

- Disparity in lending practices
- Failure of mortgage lenders to offer products and services to very low-income and minority census tracts people
- Insufficient financial literacy education
- Insufficient income to afford housing

The analysis of impediments that will be conducted with PY08 funds will reveal to what extent the impediments mentioned are applicable to the county as a whole as well as any other impediments that might be unique to the unincorporated areas. The analysis will also include a specific fair housing action plan to address those impediments.

Travis County currently addresses fair housing issues in the following manner:

- The CDBG webpage on the Travis County website now has a page focused solely on fair housing and referrals to report fair housing violations.
www.co.travis.tx.us/health_human_services/CDBG/FairHousing/fair_housing.asp
- A TV ad is continuously run by the Travis County television channel referring those that have felt they have experienced housing discrimination to contact the CDBG office for further information.
- Part of the CDBG investments are aimed to increase affordable owner housing.
- CDBG and Travis County General Fund investments are made in basic needs and case management which can address issues such as financial literacy, underemployment, and access to federal benefits. All of these areas can help residents with opportunities to increase their income and their access to housing.
- Funding of social services from the Austin Tenant's Council (ATC) and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc. ATC provides information about housing rights and advocacy to protect the housing rights of low income and minority residents of Travis County. Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc. provides legal assistance to obtain or preserve safe, decent, and affordable housing for clients facing eviction and/or homelessness. During the program year over \$150,000 was invested in County General Funds which provided service to over 10,000 people.
- The Family Support Services Division, which operates within HHS/VS, addresses issues of possible fair housing discrimination by referring clients to these organizations.

In spite of these efforts, the County needs to develop a comprehensive action plan to identify and address all of the impediments. The Analysis of Impediments study will allow the County to target efforts to reduce discrimination and barriers to affordable housing through advocacy, policy change and strategic investments.

Homelessness

Planning Efforts to End Homelessness

Travis County is a member of the Ending Chronic Homelessness (ECHO) Coalition whose mission is to identify specific strategies and oversee ongoing planning and implementation of a plan to end chronic homelessness in Austin and Travis County. The coalition is comprised of four committees: Planning & Evaluation, Prevention, Exiting, and Event/Community Education. These committees in turn have subcommittees. Regular monthly meetings for each committee/subcommittee are held, and plenary meetings for all ECHO members are held quarterly.

Travis County CDBG staff joined ECHO's Planning and Evaluation Committee during PY07 and since then has participated in a number of subcommittees including the Count and Survey sub-committee in charge of the annual homeless count, the Continuum of Care (CoC) Subcommittee and the Independent Review Team that reviews and ranks CoC applications and provides feedback to contracting agencies. Refer to the section on HUD Continuum of CARE (CoC) Funding for further details on CoC.

Homeless Services

During the 2008 program year, Travis County did not target the use of CDBG funds toward homeless efforts. However, Travis County invested \$248,119 in general fund dollars via contracts with social service providers targeting the homeless persons in conjunction with the Austin/Travis County ESG grant administration and the Austin/Travis County Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. Services provided include:

- ♦ 908 unduplicated clients received case management
- ♦ 48 unduplicated clients received supportive housing
- ♦ 4,791 adults and children received shelter
- ♦ 188 adults and children were placed in transitional housing
- ♦ 115,950 bed/nights were offered for emergency shelter.

Homelessness Prevention

A variety of homelessness prevention efforts are made through the Travis County General Fund and other grant sources. HHS/VS invests funds through its Family Support Services Division (FSS) to address housing stability issues including rent, mortgage and utility assistance. During the reporting period, FSS provided over \$ 3,800,000 of General Fund and grant assistance dollars to:

- ♦ 9,347 individuals with emergency rent/mortgage payments to stabilize housing for 30 days
- ♦ 20,632 individuals with utilities to resolve an energy crisis and maintain housing.

HHS/VS invests additional dollars through social service contracts focusing on housing stability.

HUD Continuum of CARE (CoC) Funding

Continuum of Care is a funding mechanism by which HUD awards through a national competition grants for the Supportive Housing Program (SHP), Shelter Plus Care (S+C) and the Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) Program to states, localities and non-profits organizations.

The SHP program provides funding for the development of transitional housing for homeless individuals with disabilities. The S+C program provides rental assistance for homeless people with chronic disabilities (usually severe mental illness, HIV/AIDS, and chronic drug and/or alcohol dependency). All grantees are required to match their federal funding for rental assistance with equal funding for supportive services. The SRO program provides project-based rent subsidies for occupants of single-room occupancy facilities that have undergone moderate rehabilitation.

The Austin/Travis County received approximately \$5 million in HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) funding for the 2008/2009. Part of the funding will focus on projects that qualify as part of the SHP program while the other part will target projects under the S+C programs. Additionally, the CoC received a Samaritan bonus to increase funds for permanent supportive housing.

HOME/ American Dream Down Payment Initiative (ADDI)

Travis County does not receive HOME or ADDI funds at this time.

Emergency Shelter Grant

Travis County does not receive Emergency Shelter Grant funds at this time.

Addressing “Worst Case” Housing Needs

Addressing the housing needs of persons with disabilities and households who live at or below 50% of the Median Family Income (MFI) is critical to ensuring a viable community. HUD defines households with worst case needs as unassisted renters with incomes below 50% of the local area median income who pay more than half of their income for housing or live in severely substandard housing.

CDBG Efforts

The implementation of the FSS Social Work program this year provided data to demonstrate the housing needs. More than half of the households served thus far, identified having a housing problem (either in need of housing or requiring major housing repairs). The land acquisition project funded with CDBG dollars will purchase land for affordable housing development for families at or below 80% of median family income, including families with very low income (30% MFI) and low-income (50% MFI). Housing units will be built on the property on or before 2011.

Travis County Efforts

The County addresses worst case housing needs in a variety of ways including targeted investments to low income persons. Additionally, Travis County Housing Services performs weatherization and home repairs on houses occupied by county residents to improve energy efficiency, the physical living conditions, and safety in these homes. As pointed out in an earlier section of this report, during the PY08, a total of 603 county residents received energy saving and emergency repair assistance.



Travis County

Section III: Non- Housing Community Development and Other Actions

Consolidated Annual Performance
and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
Program Year 2008:
October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009



-Prepared by Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

Non-Housing Community Development Investments

Non-Housing Community Development projects include infrastructure, public facilities and public service projects. Out of these three categories Travis County identified infrastructure and public services in their high priorities for the 2006-2010 period. Within the infrastructure category, water and wastewater projects and street improvement projects were prioritized. For public services, youth services and “Other Public Service Needs” were prioritized. Other public service needs encompasses most public services except youth services, senior services, employment training, child care services, transportation services, substance abuse services, health services and lead hazard screening.

Figure 14: Community Development Priorities Identified for the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan and Program Years 2006 -2008

Area of Priority	Priority Need Level for the 2006 – 2010 period	Projects for PY 06, 07 & 08	Dollars to Address Needs*	Dollars Spent in PY 2006	Dollars Spent in PY 2007	Dollars Spent in PY 2008
Infrastructure						
Water/Sewer Improvements	High	√	\$2,500,000	\$ 0	\$72,297.55	\$127,702.45
Street Improvements	High	√	\$1,500,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$177,868.99
Public Service Needs						
Youth Services	High	√	\$250,000	Funds were Relocated	NA	NA
Other Public Service Needs	High	√	\$500,000	\$ 0	\$27,010.28	\$64,293.50

* “Dollars to Address Needs” refers to how many dollars it would take to make the problem “go away.” This concept is part of a table that is required by HUD. The numbers listed under the “Dollars to Address Needs” are vague estimates that were made in 2006 with limited data, and as such they do not necessarily represent actual figures.

During the past three years, community development CDBG dollars have been allocated to support the improvement of a water delivery system, the improvement of substandard roads and the planning of water and wastewater projects. Refer to the figure below for a summary of CDBG investments in community development for 2006-2008.

**Figure 15: Overview of Travis County
CDBG Investments in Community Development**

Table 2B: Community Development Needs/Projects		
Community Development Needs/Projects	Priority Need Level	Budgeted in PY06, PY07 & PY08
INFRASTRUCTURE		
Water Improvements PY06	High	\$200,000
Street Improvements PY 06	High	\$388,659
Street Improvements PY 07	High	\$500,000
	Total Infrastructure	\$,088,659
PUBLIC SERVICE		
Other Public Service Needs PY 07	High	\$64,000
Other Public Service Needs PY 08		\$64,788
	Total Public Service	\$128,788
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Low	\$0
PUBLIC FACILITY	Medium and Low	\$ 0
PLANNING		
Water/Wastewater Improvement Planning PY 07	Not applicable	\$ 88,727
Water/Wastewater Improvement Planning PY 08	Not applicable	\$ 108,704
	Total Planning	\$ 197,431
TOTAL CDBG Dollars Invested in Community Development:		\$ 1,414,878

In addition to CDBG projects, the County's infrastructure department, Transportation and Natural Resources, conducts community development activities in the form of public parks, bridge and drainage projects, storm water management, road maintenance, onsite sewage facilities, transportation planning, and various other projects, totaling approximately \$70,639,854 in PY 2008.

Water and Wastewater Needs

During the last three years, residents have repeatedly presented water and wastewater related issues as a major community need. As a result of lowering water tables, as well as the

development occurring in the South and East areas of the County, families are experiencing a shortage of water in their wells. Some families have to truck in water, while others go without this needed resource. The public infrastructure needed to resolve neighborhoods' access to water is costly and requires strategic planning and the creation of partnerships.

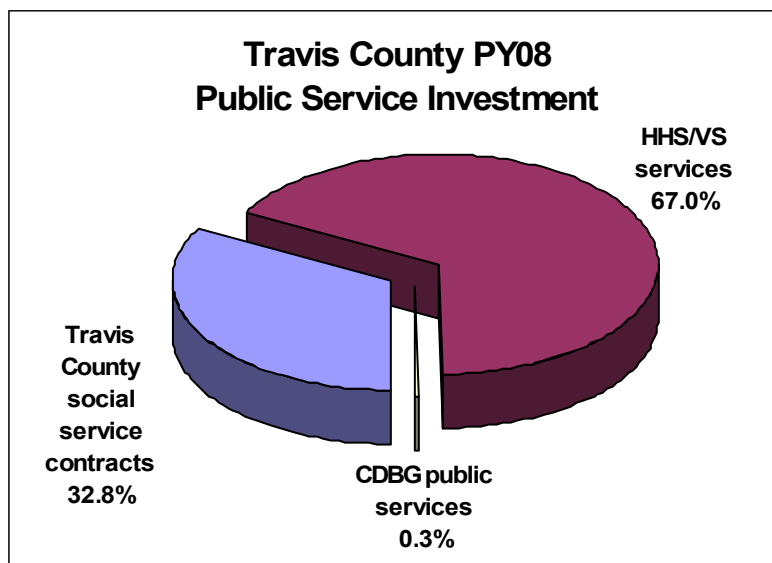
During the reporting period, CDBG funded a water/wastewater study of the neighborhoods that have self-identified a need. When completed, the study will provide the County objective and organized data to determine next steps. The planning will also assist in the development of opportunities to leverage funds with public and private dollars to address identified needs.

Anti-Poverty Strategy

Travis County's lead agency for administering CDBG funds is the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department, whose mission is "to work in partnership with the community to promote full development of individual, family, neighborhood, and community potential." The vision of HHS/VS is "optimizing self-sufficiency for families and individuals in safe and healthy communities." Both the mission and vision of HHS/VS are essentially aimed at preventing and ameliorating conditions of poverty in the County.

Travis County operates a number of anti-poverty programs that assist individuals and families on multiple fronts in transitioning from crisis to self-sufficiency. The County carries out its anti-poverty programs both through the direct delivery of services managed by the HHS/VS Department and by purchasing services from private and not-for-profit agencies in the community. In addition to the provision of direct services, Travis County continually assesses the poverty and basic needs of county residents, works with stakeholders in facilitating anti-poverty efforts, and supports public policy initiatives that prevent and ameliorate conditions of poverty.

HHS/VS contracts annually with over 40 non-profits in the form of social service contracts. During the 2008 program year \$8,352,643 were spent through social service contracts. In addition, during the 2008 program year the HHS/VS Department provided \$17,059,923 in direct public services. The following figure summarizes Travis County Public Service Investments during program year 2008 broken down by services contracted out, those delivered with CDBG funds and those delivered by HHS/VS.



HHS/VS began to develop a formal anti-poverty strategy during the 2006 program year. A committee made up of HHS/VS employees from across different divisions met to discuss the development of an anti-poverty strategy led by CDBG staff. In PY09, work will continue to further the development of an official anti-poverty strategy.

CDBG is funding an expansion of a social service program in the unincorporated areas. Through this program, many clients have manifested multiple needs related to housing, health, income and lack of basic services. Housing needs seems of particular importance with more than half of the clients served identifying as a major concern the lack of affordable housing, or the lack of income to maintain a home. In addition, more than half of the clients served so far identified a lack of basic services nearby as a major obstacle. Additionally, about 20% of the households served have been involved with Adult Protective or Child Protective Services during service provision demonstrating the level of case management need and level of intensity of the cases.

The needs of the residents in the unincorporated areas have not been studied and quantified as much as those that live within the city limits. The work of the social services program will continue to identify those needs and will serve as a starting point for a more thorough needs assessment to be conducted during the development of the next CDBG Consolidated Plan.

Non-Homeless Special Needs

HUD identifies non-homeless special needs populations as elderly, frail elderly, those with severe mental illness, the developmentally disabled, the physically disabled, persons with alcohol and other drug addictions, victims of domestic violence, and persons living with HIV/AIDS. Over the five-year strategic direction of the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, no specific goals for CDBG are targeted to address non-homeless special needs.

Travis County's HHS/VS provides services to special needs populations through direct services as well as social service contracts and inter-local agreements with other governmental organizations. Travis County HHS/VS invests in different programs to address public health, substance abuse, indigent health, and mental health needs.

Services for Elderly & Frail Elderly

Travis County funded \$169,840 dollars worth of services to the elderly and frail elderly through social service contract investments during the reporting period. Services provided include in-home care services, bill payer services, meals, and case management. In-home services included assistance with personal hygiene tasks as well as housekeeping, while bill payer services included assistance with finances and money management. There were:

- ♦ 4,859 unduplicated clients served
- ♦ 648,369 prepared meals provided
- ♦ 832 unduplicated clients received case management services
- ♦ 168 individuals received in-home services.

Services for Persons with Physical Disabilities or Developmental Delays

Through social service contract investments during the reporting period, Travis County funded \$222,859 dollars worth of services for persons with physical disabilities and developmental delays. Services centered around employment and job-readiness, case management, early childhood intervention, basic needs assistance, and social/recreational opportunities. A total of 956 unduplicated children and adults were served during the reporting period.

Services for Victims of Domestic Violence

Travis County funded \$194,077 dollars worth of services for persons experiencing abuse, neglect, domestic violence, and sexual assault through social service contract investments in during the reporting period. Services centered around advocacy, crisis management, emergency shelter, transitional housing, and counseling. Approximately 28,164 days of shelter and 789 unduplicated adults and children received services during the reporting period.

Services for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS

In PY08, Travis County funded \$235,422 dollars worth of services for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA) through social service contract investments. Services centered around advocacy, crisis management, emergency shelter, transitional housing, and counseling. A total of 13,718 persons received services including case management, primary medical care retention, client advocacy, medication adherence assistance, food bank assistance, nutritional counseling, home health, prevention, and support groups. Additionally, Travis County provided other services through health and public health inter-local agreements.

Lead-Based Paint

During PY08, the CDBG office began developing a lead-based paint procedures manual for guiding the implementation of the home rehabilitation project. Prior to contracting for the owner occupied rehabilitation program, the County will finish the manual and follow its guidelines to comply with the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X) and subsequent changes in September, 1999. The procedures will include notification, identification, and treatment, if necessary.

HHS/VS Housing Services Division, which receives funds through State grant funds and the Travis County General Fund, provides limited lead-based paint remediation on houses built

before 1978 where small holes in the wall or similar acts that could cause additional possible lead exposure are made. The Housing Services Division did not conduct any lead based paint remediation during the 2008 program year.

Specific HOPWA Objectives

Travis County does not receive HOPWA funds at this time.



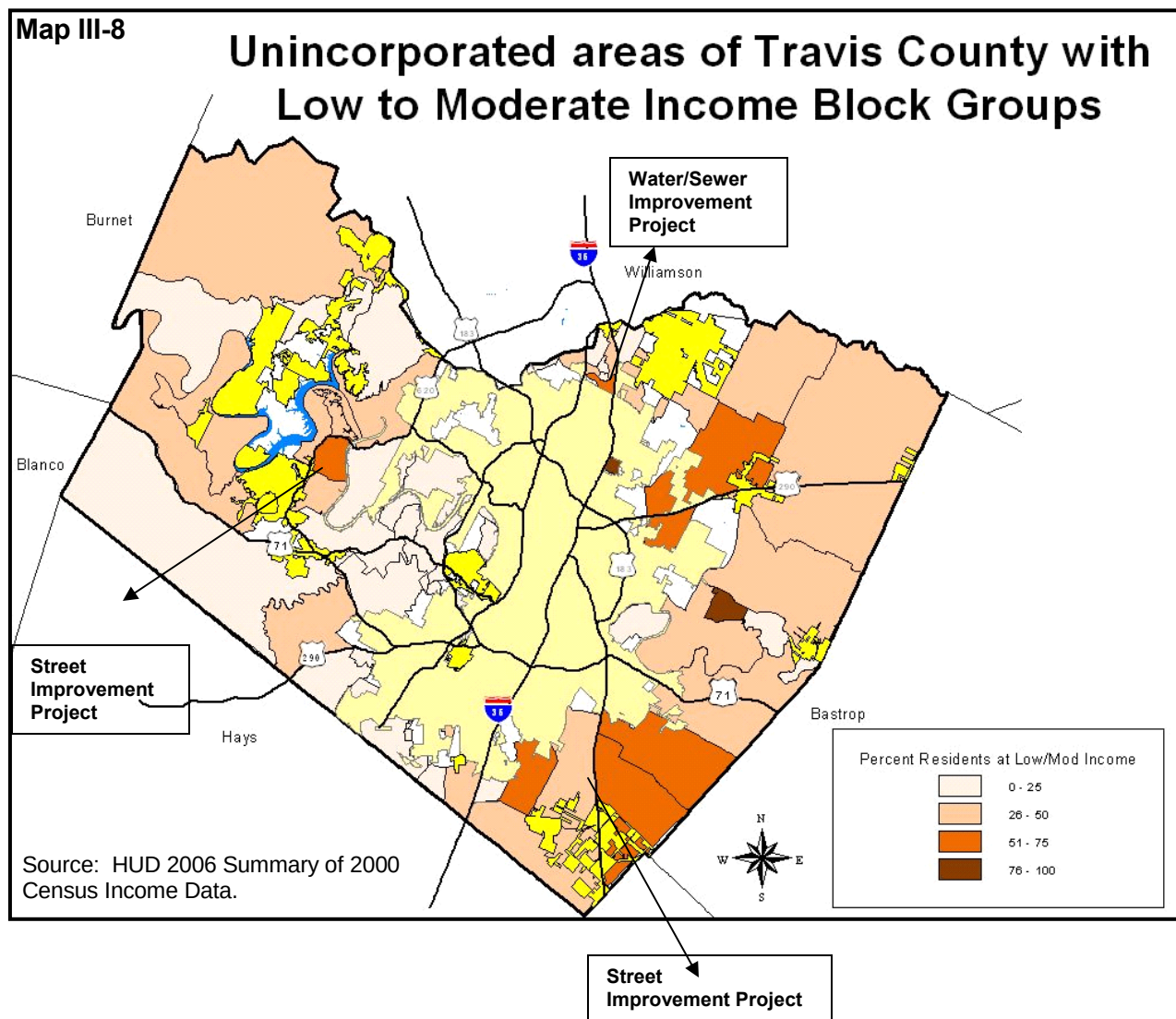
Travis County

Appendix A: Maps

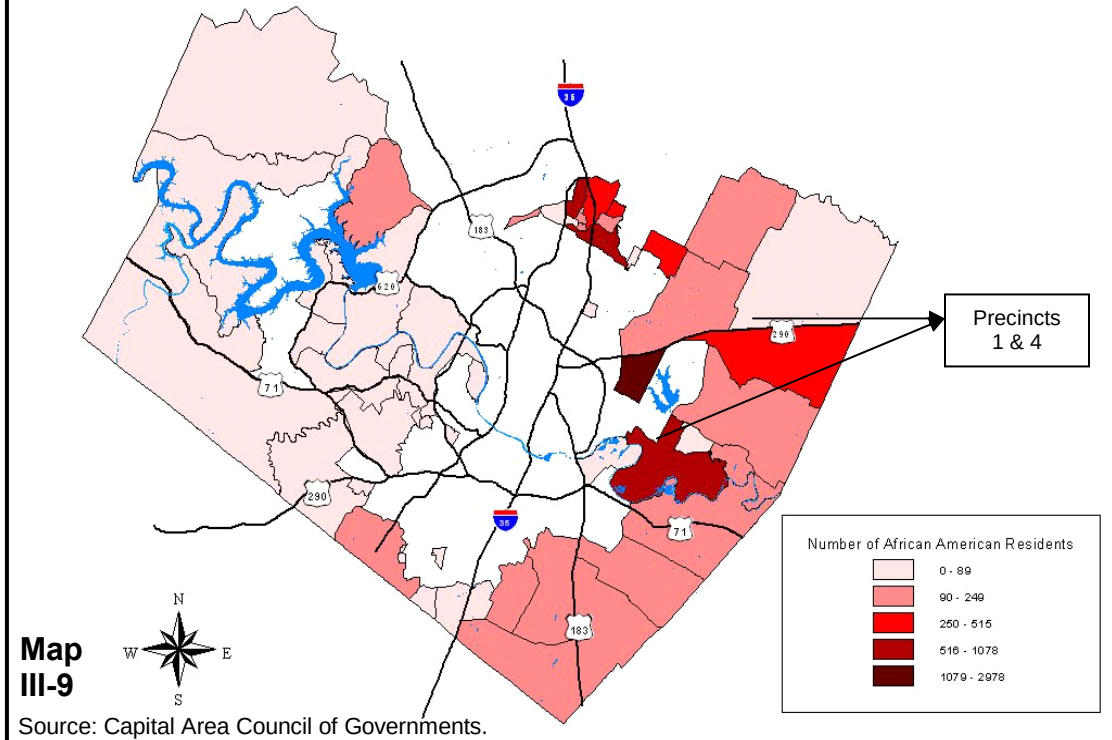
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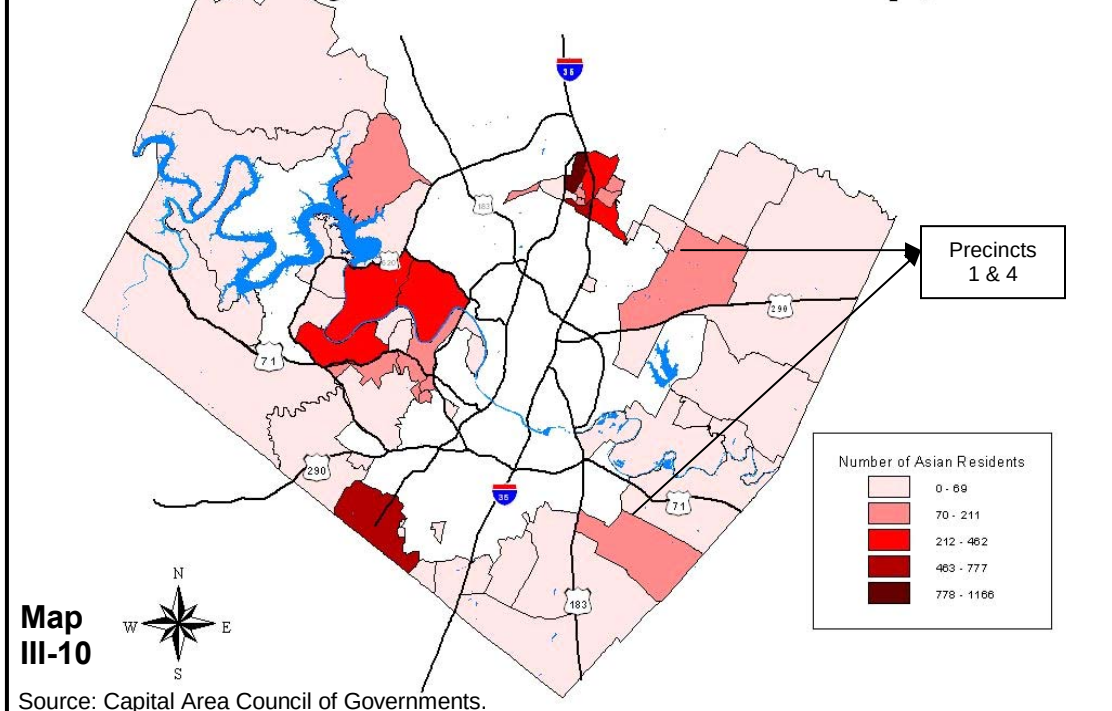
-Prepared by Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

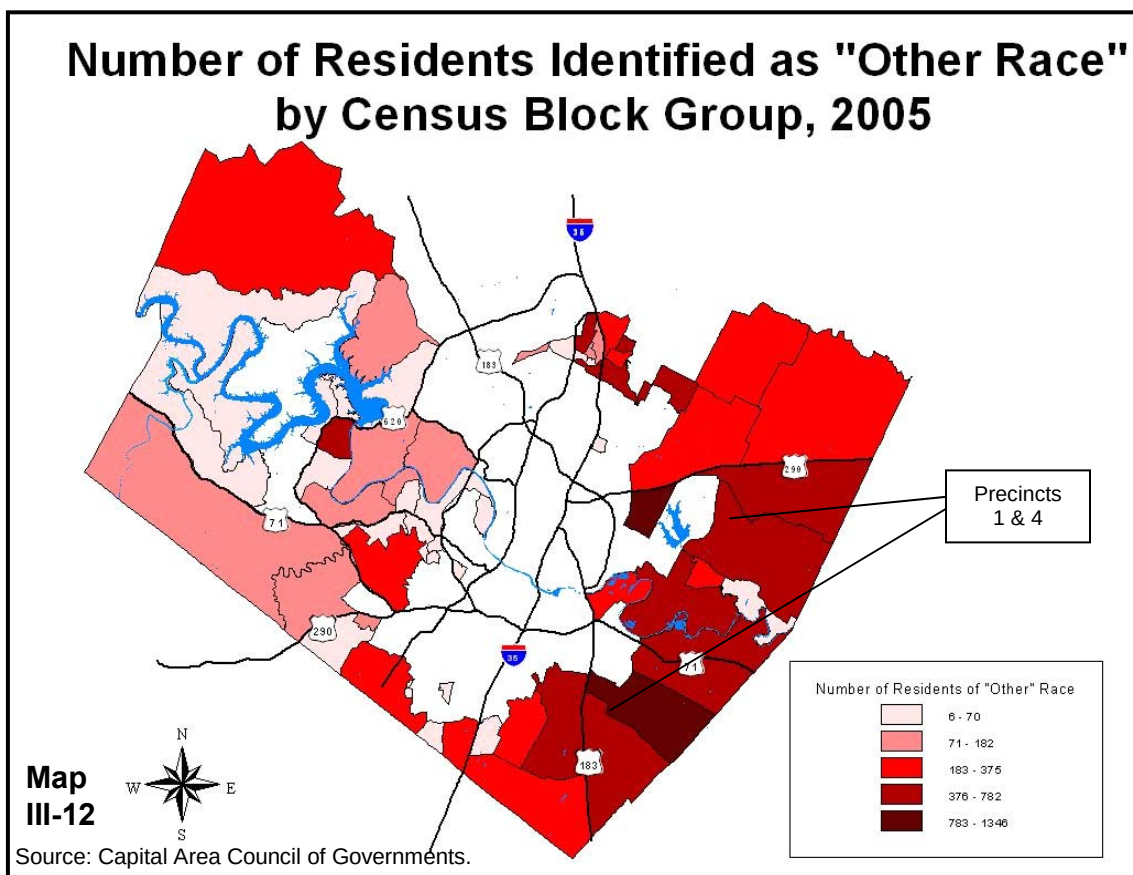
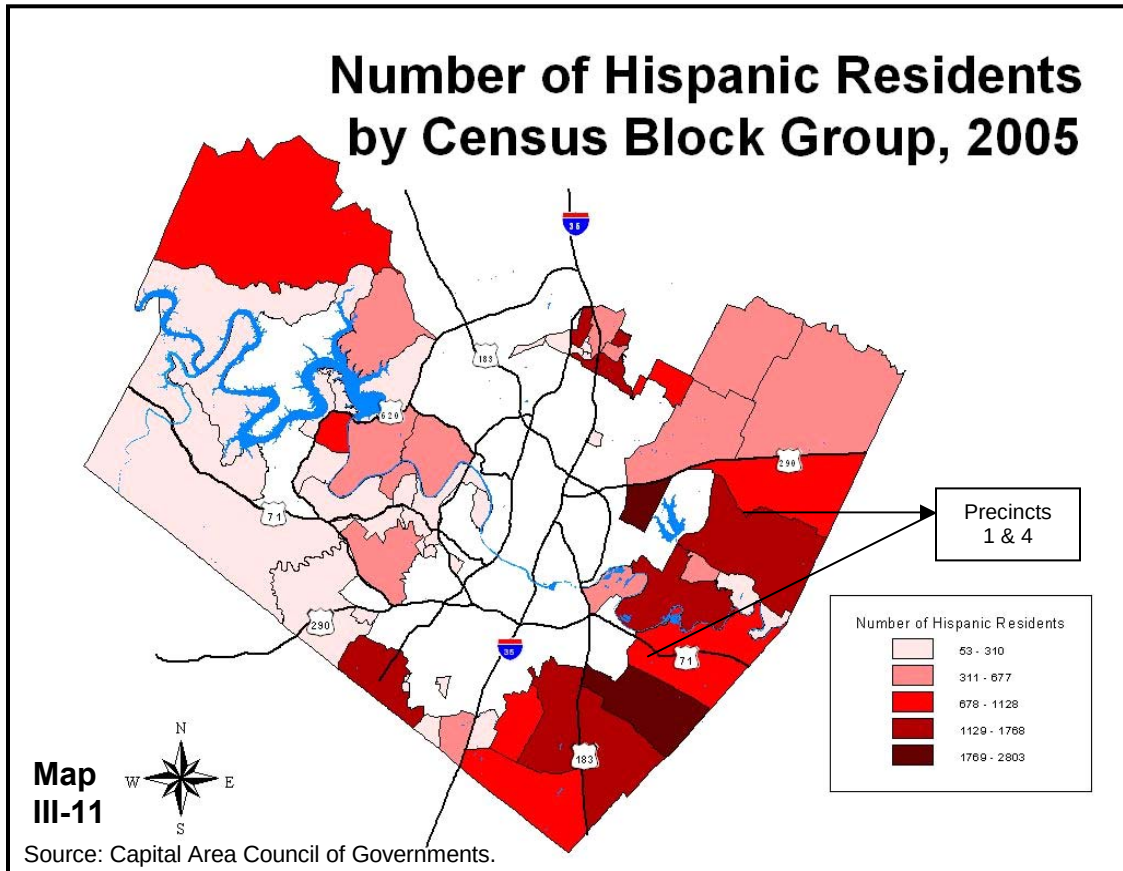


Number of African American Residents by Census Block Group, 2005



Number of Asian Residents by Census Block Group, 2005







Travis County

Appendix B: Public Engagement

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October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

Attachment A



**Travis County
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program
Public Notice: Invitation to Comment on the
Draft of the Program Year 2008 CDBG Annual Report**

As part of Travis County's ongoing public engagement related to its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Travis County will make available to the public its Program Year 2008 CDBG annual report known as the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The CAPER covers a period from October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009, and describes progress made in carrying out the CDBG projects. This report will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to meet federal requirements.

Comment Period and Draft Document

Comments will be accepted for 15 days beginning December 2, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. and ending December 16, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Beginning December 2, 2009, a draft document will be available for download on the Travis County CDBG page www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG or available for review at any of the seven Travis County Community Centers:

South Rural Community Center	3518 FM 973, Del Valle
Travis County Community Center	15822 Foothills Farm Loop, Bldg D, Pflugerville
West Rural Community Center	8656-A Hwy 71 W., Suite A, Oak Hill
Northwest Rural Community Center	18649 FM 1431, Jonestown
East Rural Community Center	600 W. Carrie Manor, Manor
Palm Square Community Center	100 N. IH-35, Suite 1000, Austin
Post Road Community Center	2201 Post Road, Suite 101, Austin

Public Hearings

The public can provide their comments by attending a Public Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at Travis County Granger Building, Commissioners Courtroom, 314 W. 11th St, Austin, TX.

Mailing Comments

The public can also mail their comments to: CDBG Program, Travis County, HHSVS P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767 or or e-mail them to Christy Moffett at christy.moffett@co.travis.tx.us .

Travis County is committed to compliance with the Americans 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 854-3460 for assistance.

Attachment B (Advertisement in Spanish)



Condado de Travis
Programa de Subsidios Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG)
Aviso Público: Invitación para Comentar sobre el Informe Anual
del Programa CDBG para el Año Programático 2008

Como parte del proceso continuo de participación ciudadana dirigido por el Condado de Travis en relación al Programa de Subsidio Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG por sus siglas en inglés), el Condado de Travis pondrá a la disponibilidad del público, un borrador del Informe Anual Consolidado de Desempeño y Evaluación (CAPER) del programa CDBG.

El informe de desempeño cubre el período del 1° de Octubre de 2008 al 30 de Septiembre de 2009, y describe los avances de los proyectos CDBG. Conforme a lo establecido por los requisitos federales del programa CDBG, el informe será presentado ante el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de EE.UU.

Periodo de Comentario y Documento Preliminar

Los comentarios públicos se aceptarán por un período de 15 días a partir del 2 de Diciembre de 2009 a las 8:00 a.m. hasta el 16 de Diciembre de 2009 a las 5:00 p.m. La versión preliminar del informe estará disponible para ser revisado a partir del 2 de Diciembre de 2009 en la página web www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG o en los siguientes centros comunitarios:

Centro Comunitario Rural del Sur	3518 FM 973, Del Valle
Centro Comunitario del Condado de Travis	15822 Foothills Farm Loop, Bldg D, Pflugerville
Centro Comunitario Rural del Oeste	8656-A Hwy 71 W., Suite A, Oak Hill
Centro Comunitario Rural del Noroeste	18649 FM 1431, Jonestown
Centro Comunitario Rural del Este	600 W. Carrie Manor, Manor
Centro Comunitario de Palm Square	100 N. IH-35, Suite 1000, Austin
Centro Comunitario de Post Road	2201 Post Road, Suite 101, Austin

Audiencia Pública

El público puede suministrar sus comentarios asistiendo a una Audiencia Pública planificada para el Martes 8 de Diciembre de 2009 a las 9:00 a.m. en la Sala de la Corte Comisionada ubicada en el Edificio Granger del Condado de Travis, en la dirección 314 W. 11th St, Austin, TX.

Envío de Comentarios

El público puede enviar sus comentarios por correo postal a la dirección: CDBG Program, Travis County HHSVS P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767 o por e-mail a Christy Moffett al correo electrónico christy.moffett@co.travis.tx.us

El Condado de Travis está comprometido a cumplir con la Ley de Americanos con Discapacidades (ADA) y con la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según su enmienda. Al solicitarlo, se proporcionarán modificaciones razonables e igual acceso a comunicaciones. Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al 854-3465.

Attachment C
Summary of Public Comments

No written comments were received during the public comment period nor was any testimony presented at the public hearing.



Travis County

Appendix C: IDIS Reports

Consolidated Annual Performance
and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
Program Year 2006
October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007



-Prepared by Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

Attachment A: CDBG Financial Summary Report (CO4PR26)

Attachment B: Program Year 2007 Summary of Accomplishments (CO4PR23)

Attachment C: Summary of Consolidated Plan Projects (PR06)

Attachment D: CDBG Activity Summary Report for Program Year 2007 (CO4PR03)