

PY2019 Annual Action Plan Highlights

The Annual Action Plan (AAP) is part of the five-year Consolidated Plan, which sets forth Harris County’s long-term community development goals and strategies. Program Year 2019 (PY2019) is the first year of the PY2019-PY2023 Consolidated Plan for Harris County. The AAP process has been specifically created to assist in mapping one-year actions for community development and making good use of available federal, state, and local resources.

Harris County will receive \$18,663,136 for use towards community development activities during Program Year 2019, which begins March 1, 2019 and ends February 29, 2020. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) determines this allocation amount based on Harris County’s Service Area population, poverty, housing overcrowding and age of housing. Based on this formula funding, for PY2019 the total estimated HUD Entitlement funding will be comprised of \$13,456,439 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, \$1,135,793 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds, and \$4,070,904 in HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds plus an estimated \$27,400 in program income for a total of \$18,690,536 in available funding.

Harris County Entitlement Funds, PY2014 - PY2019

Program Year	CDBG	HOME	ESG	TOTAL
2014	\$11,844,232	\$2,899,993	\$958,591	\$15,702,816
2015	\$11,932,841	\$2,717,525	\$1,055,755	\$15,706,121
2016	\$12,268,605	\$2,953,244	\$1,074,194	\$16,296,043
2017	\$12,362,968	\$2,979,686	\$1,104,511	\$16,477,065
2018	\$13,385,550	\$4,271,239	\$1,104,804	\$18,761,593
2019	\$13,456,439	\$4,070,904	\$1,135,793	\$18,663,136

As part of the Request for Proposals (RFP) and award process, thirty-seven (37) projects utilizing \$10,393,185 in CDBG, HOME and ESG funds were conditionally awarded based upon the PY2019 annual allocation from HUD and estimated program income. An additional \$3,183,560 of CDBG, HOME and ESG funding will fund Harris County administrative costs. The projects in this action plan address the PY2019-2023 Harris County Consolidated Plan’s priority need areas of affordable housing, homelessness, public facilities, infrastructure, public services and other activities.

The following matrix reflects Harris County’s funding allocations, including anticipated program income, by Consolidated Plan Need area:

Consolidated Plan Need Area	Number of Projects	Amount Allocated
Housing	5	\$1,965,000
Homelessness	12	\$1,668,599
Infrastructure	6	\$3,260,333
Public Facilities	1	\$2,000,000
Public Services	12	\$1,284,253
Other*	1	\$150,000
Total Allocations	37	\$10,328,185
Unprogrammed Funds		\$5,178,791
Administration		\$3,183,560
Total Funds		\$18,690,536

**Projects classified in the Other category include a demolition/nuisance abatement.*

Although additional applications were evaluated during the PY2019 competitive RFP process, selected projects were conservatively chosen due to limited available funding. Thus, viable projects that are able to expend funds are pending release of HUD contracts. During PY2019 Harris County anticipates adding one HOME funded affordable housing project and may add unsolicited projects utilizing the procedures in its Consolidated Plan/Action Plan Amendments Policy. These projects may address unmet needs related to impacts from Hurricane Harvey flooding as the county continues the process of long-term recovery.

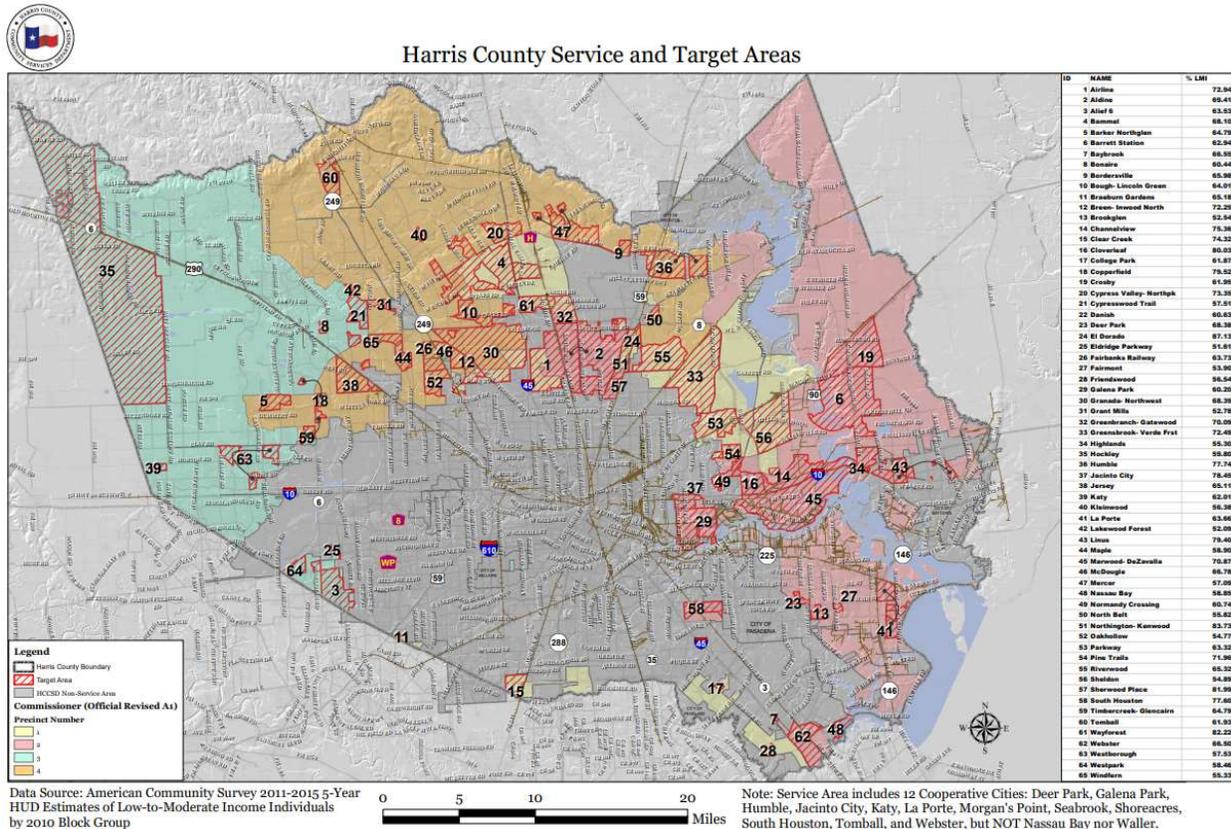
Harris County believes its comprehensive and community-based approach to solving the complex socio-economic ailments within the County is the most effective way to stimulate private reinvestment in the County's most underserved areas. The PY2019 Annual Action Plan (AAP) is the County's blueprint for facilitating change within lower-income communities and ultimately improving the quality of life in Harris County.

PY2019 Measurement of Outcomes	Estimated Persons/Units
Direct Homeownership	25
Single-Family Home Rehabilitation	50
Rehabilitation of owner-occupied LBP housing units	20
Homeless served/Homelessness Prevention	9,000
Services to Youth	1,265
Services to Seniors	672
Transportation Services	8,811
Services to Abused/Neglected Children	195
Health Services	220
Public Facilities to be Completed	1
Infrastructure Projects to be Completed	6

Service Area

The majority of Harris County HUD resources are utilized within Harris County's Service Area (Map 1), which includes unincorporated Harris County and twelve smaller cities within the County which have signed cooperative agreements with Harris County. The cities of Baytown, Houston, Missouri City, Pearland, League City, and Pasadena are entitlement communities that utilize their own community development resources and, therefore, are not within the Harris County service area.

Map 1: Harris County Service and Target Areas



On a limited basis, Harris County HUD funds may be used outside of the designated service area for projects and programs that serve homeless families and individuals.

Income Targeting

Resources available through the County are almost exclusively dedicated toward improving the living conditions for low-income individuals. Low-income is defined as earning less than 80 percent of the median family income (MFI). The MFI for the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, Texas, HUD Metro FMR Area (a portion of the larger Metropolitan Statistical Area) is \$76,300 for a family of four. *Table 1* denotes HUD MFI limits for FY2019.

Table 1: HUD FY2019 Median Family Income (MFI) Limits*

Income Levels*	% of MFI	Amount
Extremely Low Income	30%	\$25,750
Very-Low Income	50%	\$38,150
Low Income	80%	\$61,050

**Based on a family of four*

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,

<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2019/2019summary.odn>

Importance of the Annual Action Plan

The AAP is a public awareness and strategy development document required by HUD for any jurisdiction receiving entitlement grant funds allocated to participating jurisdictions based upon a formula of population and poverty characteristics. In fact, the AAP is only one part of an extensive community development process designed to plan long- and short-term solutions for improving the lives of low-income individuals. This process has been specifically developed to assist in creating strategies for community development and making proper use of available resources.

The large majority of resources discussed within the AAP are derived from federal tax dollars. This alone warrants a need to use funds and other resources in a prudent manner. The AAP serves as a report to HUD and the general public of the anticipated manner in which resources made available through tax dollars will be utilized and provides an additional forum for community input into the community development process.

Further, the AAP provides a means by which HUD can ensure proper and efficient use of resources. By requiring the AAP, HUD not only has an opportunity to review for appropriate use of funds, but also has a benchmark document by which Harris County's performance can be evaluated.

The AAP includes a discussion of available resources, an explanation of the allocation process, a summary and brief analysis of proposed allocations, and strategies for monitoring appropriate use of those resources. Each topic is further divided and

discussed as necessary to make the process understandable to members of the general public.

Public Comment and Approval

On January 8, 2019, the PY2019 AAP was presented to the Harris County Commissioners Court for approval. Prior to court approval, the AAP was published for the minimum 30-day public review period as required by HUD on November 12, 2018 in the Houston Chronicle, on November 25, 2018 in La Voz in Spanish. A Public Hearing was scheduled and held at 10:00 am on November 29, 2018, at HCCSD's Office located at 8410 Lantern Point Drive, Houston, Texas 77054. Public comments were accepted through January 8, 2019, at which time the public was afforded an opportunity to provide comments as a part of the Commissioners Court meeting to be held in the Courtroom of the Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, on the ninth floor of the Harris County Administration Building, 1001 Preston Avenue, Houston, Texas.

Upon release of Harris County's actual funding allocation amounts from HUD, Harris County followed the steps in its Consolidated Plan/Action Plan Amendments Policy and the language in the PY2019 AAP public notice on November 12, 2018, to account for actual PY2019 funding amounts awarded to the county. Actual allocation amounts were processed as a minor amendment in compliance with the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan Amendments Policy on the May 14, 2019 Commissioners Court.