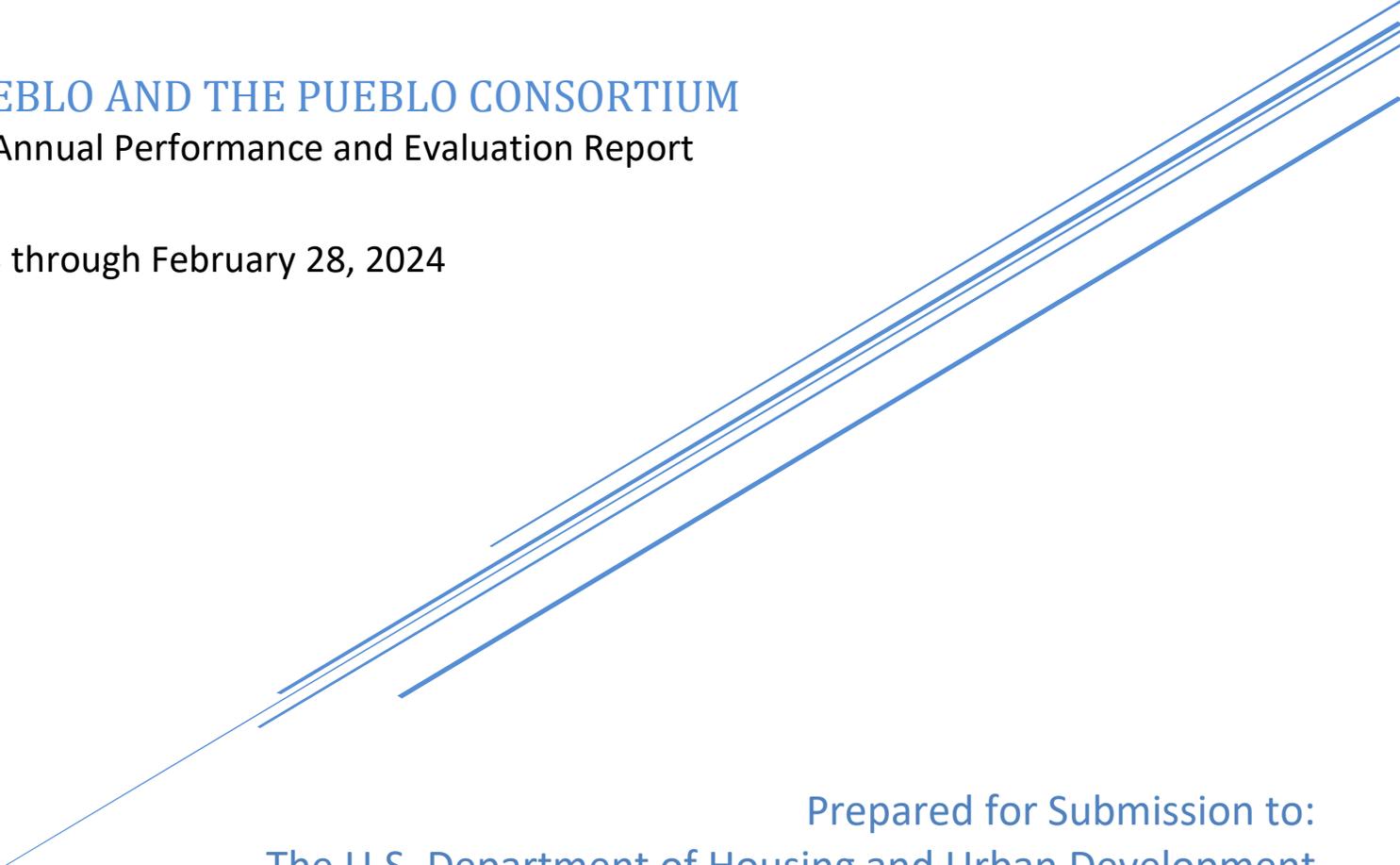


## CITY OF PUEBLO AND THE PUEBLO CONSORTIUM

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

(CAPER)

March 1 ,2023 through February 28, 2024

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Prepared for Submission to:  
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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## Executive Summary

Each year, the City diligently produces the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report, commonly known as the CAPER. This comprehensive document serves a dual purpose: firstly, to transparently communicate to both the community and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) the initiatives undertaken in alignment with the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the One-Year Action Plan; and secondly, to ensure compliance with HUD's reporting standards.

This year's report covers the period from March 1, 2023, to February 28, 2024, evaluating the efficacy of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME resources in addressing the objectives outlined in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2023 Annual Action Plan.

The City received \$1,430,540 in CDBG grant funds for the 2023 Program Year. Utilizing the PR26 Report, the City drew down \$1,399,559 of CDBG funds. HUD notified the City of Pueblo that it is required to reimburse HUD for \$56.20 in ineligible administration expenditures exceeding its administration grant cap from PY2020. Additionally, the 2023 HOME grant amounted to \$1,025,859 with Consortium members contributing matching funds of \$332,150. The City had not drawn funds before February 28, 2024. Notably, 98.91% of the funds drawn, directly benefited low and moderate-income households and neighborhoods, as indicated by the PR-26 Report. In total the City was reimbursed by HUD and drew down, \$1,399,559 in CDBG funds. The City drew down \$472,305 in HOME Funds for affordable housing and tenant based rental assistance projects during the PY2023. No CDBG-CV or HOME-ARP funds were drawn down in 2023

The City allocated \$213,750 to public services in 2023. At the time of this report, the City drew down \$197,686.71 for public service activities delivered in 2023. Of the funds expended in 2023, \$8,316.71 was expended from PY2023 funds with the balance from prior years.

The City of Pueblo received two rounds of CDBG-CV funding through the CARES Act \$1,364,499.00 to prepare, prevent, and protect the community from the effects of COVID-19. The City has expended \$754,266.96 for CDBG-CV eligible activities. The City has not drawn down CDBG-CV funding from HUD to date. CDBG-CV uses approved by City Council are mortgage and rent assistance, COVID testing, the Eastside Pueblo Community Health Center Expansion, non-congregate shelter, and additional non-profit assistance to counter the effects of COVID-19 on public services, and acquisition of an alternate, or second, shelter for homeless services.

The Division of Housing and Citizen Services within the Department of Planning and Community Development for the City of Pueblo is the lead agency responsible for the management of HUD funding and the development of the Annual Action Plan, CAPER, and Consolidated Plan. The City receives direct assistance as an entitlement community under HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, funding is directed within the city limits. The City of Pueblo and Pueblo County participate as a Consortium for HOME funds. The City is the entitlement community. The HOME funds are limited to low- and moderate-income residents of the City and County.

## CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

### **Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)**

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

The consolidated planning process heavily relied on active citizen participation, fostering a collaborative effort with the Pueblo community to pinpoint overarching priority objectives. These included:

- Ensuring Affordable Housing
- Enhancing Public Services, including provisions for the Homeless
- Improving Public Infrastructure and Facilities
- Stimulating Economic Development and Community Revitalization
- Promoting Fair Housing Education and Outreach
- Administering and Planning effectively
- Providing Facilities and Services to bolster pandemic response efforts

Funded activities were meticulously selected to address the identified needs outlined in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan. The allocation of the 2023 CDBG grant was as follows:

- Community Development Infrastructure: \$742,290 designated for projects such as sidewalk, curb & gutter improvements, and ADA-compliant curb ramps.
- Public Services: \$213,750 allocated for non-profit service delivery.
- Affordable Housing: \$189,500 earmarked to sustain the availability of safe and decent housing.
- Administration: \$285,000 retained in adherence to the allowable administrative cap.

Moreover, the City and County of Pueblo allocated \$964,035 in general funds to local non-profits for community services.

The 2023 HOME grant was distributed as follows:

- \$153,879 set aside for Community Housing Development Organizations.
- \$113,357 was allocated to Pueblo County as part of the Consortium.

- \$102,585 earmarked for the City and County’s administrative grant management expenses.
- \$669,374 designated for housing programs.

The match requirement was satisfied through a general fund contribution of \$332,150, facilitated during the adoption of the City’s 2023 Budget on November 28, 2022.

HOME activities undertaken in 2023 encompassed two multi-family new construction projects (77 units), one multi-family rehabilitation project (16 units), and continued tenant-based rental assistance. However, the FY2023 Community Housing Development Organization set aside by the Consortium remains uncommitted.

Notably, a significant affordable housing project was proposed but didn't progress to development. The Compass Pointe Apartment project, a 192-unit initiative utilizing private activity bonds, failed to secure tax credits from CHFA. Though the City and County endorsed the project by allocating its bond allocation and the Mayor participated in the CHFA interview process, the project was ultimately not approved, leading to its \$45M endeavor being shelved. There are anticipations for the developer to reapply for tax credits in 2024, despite challenges posed by increased interest rates.

In FY2023, the City expended \$1,399,559 on CDBG projects.

Additionally, in 2021, the City entered a three-year, \$280,000 agreement with Colorado Legal Services to provide legal assistance to families and individuals facing eviction due to COVID-related circumstances. Pueblo County complemented these efforts by utilizing their CSBG funding for eviction mitigation. In 2023, the program assisted 391 clients and successfully negotiated 89 settlements, preventing eviction filings.

**Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)**

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Acquisition and rehabilitation of housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	3	0	0.00%			
Economic development	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	25	0	0.00%			
Eliminate slum and blighting influences	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$46,557.01	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	12	3	25.00%	0	1	100%
Fair housing education and outreach	Fair Housing	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	10	0	0.00%			
Financial assistance to renters and owners	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	15	235	1,566.67%			

Financial assistance to renters and owners	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$106,633.09	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	85	90	105.9%	12	16	133%
Improve and maintain public infrastructure and fac	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$1,440,744.95	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	2750	123942	4,506.98%	42	121462	289,195.24%
New construction of affordable housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$1,036,680	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	23	15	65.3%	6	10	167%
New construction of affordable housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	8	0	0.00%			
Planning and administration of federal programs	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / CDBG-CV: \$	Other	Other	11	4	0.00%	1	1	100.00%

Preserve existing affordable units (rehab)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$650,000	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	10	100.00%	0	10	1000%
Preserve existing affordable units (rehab)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$219,876.27 HOME: \$-0-	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	80	63	78.75%	25	36	144.00%
Provide facilities/services in support of the pand	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG-CV: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	30	0	0.00%			
Provide housing and services to homeless/ near	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$125,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	2500	31998	1,279.92%	1725	431	25%
Provide housing and services to homeless/ near	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$50,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	20	0	0.00%	25	53	212.00%

Provide housing and services to homeless/ near	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	0	1863		0	142	
Provide housing and services to homeless/ near	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added	Beds	0	0				
Provide housing and services to homeless/ near	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	0	53		0	53	
Provide public services to non-homeless population	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$38,750	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	500	29686	5,937.20%	548	982	179.20%
Provide public services to non-homeless population	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	0	0				

**Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date**

**Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified**

The CDBG activities funded served to meet Objectives 1, 2, and 3 of the Consolidated Plan which are affordable housing, public services including homelessness services, and public infrastructure and facilities, respectively. Activities include sustainability of housing, housing, and supportive services to help prevent homelessness, and infrastructure improvements. Public service activities met the needs of shelter, food security, homeless and homeless youth outreach, budget counseling, and senior transportation.

The Department of Housing and Citizen Services (DHCS) managed 62 CDBG projects, completed 26 CDBG projects during the year, and expended \$1,399,559 of CDBG funds in FY2023. The projects were from current and prior-year action plans from 2017 to 2023. The Department currently has 55 open CDBG projects in various stages progressing to completion.

Two homeless prevention public service projects were completed in 2021 totaling \$72,600, which assisted 681 persons. That count includes 184 homeless youth.

- 1- An eviction prevention assistance program was completed in 2021, totaling \$48,007. The program assisted 235 households.
- 2- One public infrastructure project was completed, totaling \$399,999.96. The project installed ADA curb ramps in low to moderate-income neighborhoods on a citywide basis. The work for one other infrastructure project (IDIS 3215) totaling \$63,683.76 was substantially complete but not completed in IDIS awaiting a total for miscellaneous costs. Currently
- 3- Eighteen housing rehabilitation projects were completed totaling \$126,508.10, which assisted households with essential housing repairs.

DHCS managed four open HOME projects. All the projects were underway. Individual activities were undertaken under several of these projects and the following number of households were assisted.

- Tenant Based Rental Assistance – 66 households (\$104,299.65) averaging almost \$8,691.63 per month in HOME rental assistance.
- CHDO – 10 rental rehabilitation units were completed construction
- 28 New units of rental housing were completed at the Fuel & Iron Residential project. Five of those units are HOME assisted.
- 49 New units of rental housing were completed at the Crawford Townhomes project. Five of those units are HOME assisted.

These numbers were taken from expended funds and do not match funds drawn.

## CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME	
White	1,222	14	
Black or African American	51	2	
Asian	2	0	
American Indian or American Native	41	0	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>16</b>	
	CDBG	HOME	
Hispanic	538	12	
Not Hispanic	780	4	
DEMOGRAPHICS	CITY	CDBG	PROGRAM REPRESENTATION
White	74.10%	1,222	92.8%
Black or African American	2.40%	51	3.9%
Asian	0.80%	2	0.20%
American Indian or American Native	3.30%	41	3.2%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.00%	2	0.20%
	CITY DEMOGRAPHICS	HOME	PROGRAM REPRESENTATION
White	74.10%	14	87.5%
Black or African American	2.40%	2	12.5%
Asian	0.80%	0	0%
American Indian or American Native	3.30%	0	0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0	0%
	CITY DEMOGRAPHICS		PROGRAM REPRESENTATION
Hispanic	49.50%	538	40.9%
Not Hispanic	50.50%	780	59.1%
			14
			2
			85.8%
			14.2%

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

### Narrative

The program data shows a skewed distribution of racial and ethnic access to the programs offered. Access to programs from Whites is statistically greater than census data. Traditionally, Hispanics have accessed the HOME TBRA program at a greater rate than other programs. This year Hispanics were not evenly represented in the CDBG program, Pueblo's population self-identifies differently than typical census

categories. The majority of the population categorizes Hispanic as a race rather than an ethnicity. This causes discrepancies between Multi-Racial, White, and Hispanic data counts in programs as compared to the Census data.

## CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

### Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,430,540.00	1,399,559.00
HOME	public - federal	1,358,009.00	472,305.00
CDBG-CV	public - federal	960,821.31	350,889.27
HOME-ARP	public - federal	3,080,370.05	50,050.00

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

### Narrative

The HOME funds made available include: The FY2023 allocation plus the HOME match of \$332,150.

### Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Citywide	94	100%	Other
Countywide	6	0%	Other

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

### Narrative

The amount listed in the last column of Table 3 represents funds expended by the City of Pueblo, not the amount drawn from the Treasury.

On May 1, 2022, the City issued a notice of funding availability for 2023 CDBG grant funds in the Pueblo Chieftain. Applications were received through the month of May; on July 19, 2022, the Citizens Advisory Committee heard presentations during a public meeting from all grant applicants on their submitted grant request. The Committee's recommendations were presented to City Council during a televised Work Session on August 22, 2022.

### Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Citywide	94		Other
Countywide	6		Other
Downtown		12%	CDBG-CV
Belmont		36%	CDBG
Eastside		9%	CDBG
Mesa Junction		9%	CDBG
Bessemer/Minnequa		16%	CDBG
Sunny Side		8%	CDBG
Eilers		10%	CDBG

Table 5a – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

## Leveraging

**Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.**

Federal funds were not leveraged on infrastructure projects. No City owned property was utilized, either through donation or sale below value, for the development of affordable housing. Federal funds for public services were leveraged through the City’s general fund by a factor of 4.51. Additionally, the non-profit agencies receiving the CDBG public service cap leveraged those funds by a factor of 27.7 for an additional \$5.9M in grants and contributions.

HOME funds for projects completed in FY2023 leveraged private capital, State funding, grants for better health outcomes, energy efficiency tax credits, and historic tax credits. HOME funds leveraged additional capital by a factor of 14.3 or \$15.8M.

<b>Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match</b>	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	\$1,274,965.62
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	\$ 332,150.00
3 .Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	\$1,607,115.62
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	\$ 118,076.25
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	\$1,489,039.37

**Table 6 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report**

The City of Pueblo match liability for 2023 does not match the HOME expenditures listed in Table 5 because the funds were not drawn in FY2023 and will be counted in FY2024.

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match
ORD 10327	11/28/2022	332,150.00	0	0	0	0	0	332,150.00
3216 Mountain View Town Homes	Drawn: \$405,638 9/15/2023	101,409.50	0	0	0	0	0	-101,409.50
3321 Crawford Townhomes	Drawn: \$66,667 9/15/2023	\$16,667.75	0	0	0	0	0	-16,667.75
							Balance	\$214,072.75

Table 7 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

**HOME MBE/WBE report**

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
0	0	0	0	0

Table 8 – Program Income

<b>Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period</b>						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
<b>Contracts</b>						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub-Contracts</b>						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
<b>Contracts</b>						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			
<b>Sub-Contracts</b>						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

**Table 9 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises**

<b>Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted</b>						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 10 – Minority Owners of Rental Property**

<b>Relocation and Real Property Acquisition</b> – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired						
Businesses Displaced						
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced						
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced						
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 11 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition**

## CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	6	10
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	36	61
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>72</b>

Table 12 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	12	16
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	6	10
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	25	46
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>72</b>

Table 13 – Number of Households Supported

### Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The City exceeded its goal to produce 43 units in 2023. Production from the City's rehabilitation programs along with Pueblo County's Emergency Repair and Essential Services Program (ERESP) were operating with high efficiency throughout 2023 allowing the community to meet its total goal. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program exceeded its projected output, as well as the development of new units.

### Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Affordable housing production will be lower in 2024 due to rising interest rates and lack of available capital which in turn slow housing production. At the time of this report, interest rates are at a 16-year high making the cost of housing unattainable to purchase or unfeasible to develop without grants or other subsidy.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	15	27
Low-income	14	9
Moderate-income	7	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>

Table 14 – Number of Households Served

All households assisted were income qualified using Part 5 income determination guidelines.

### Narrative Information

The City’s Rehabilitation and Minor Repairs Program along with Pueblo County’s ERESP Program provided the number of households served on the CDBG side of the table. HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance and the development of three new apartment facilities accounted for the households served on the right side of the table. Fifty-five percent of the clients accessing the City’s housing programs are at or below 30% area median income.

Our housing analysis conducted by Gruen, Gruen, and Associates studied our market and found that a lack of market-rate housing was severely impacting the affordable housing market. It suggested the best way to reduce rents and increase vacancy was to “overbuild” our market-rate housing. The figure below shows the gaps in the market:

Figure 3: Existing Housing Inventory Relative to Existing Households by Monthly Cost (Pueblo County)



Since the Housing Study was conducted in 2021, the City has made little progress toward producing a large volume of new housing. The current housing market/economic conditions are responsible for the

lack of volume. To meet the suggested volume, a large number of jobs would need to be added to the community. In 2023, four hundred and forty (440) new jobs were added to the economy.

The housing analysis identified financial challenges to developing affordable housing in the Pueblo market. In 2021, when the study was completed, interest rates were 5.5% lower than today's rate. With more favorable rates, multi-family construction was identified by the study to need approximately \$78k per unit in subsidy to develop. This is in part due to high development costs and low wages/incomes. Lower wages correlate to lower rents and less capacity for debt service in an affordable housing development. There is parity in vertical construction along the Front Range. Land cost and development costs vary from site to site within a locality. A community with an average income 15% higher than Pueblo would only need 85% of the capital stack required to construct the same facility in a comparable location.

**Table 10: Infeasible Housing Development Prototypes**

	<b>Low-Rise Apartment Building</b>	<b>Adaptive Re-Use</b>
Land Use	Multi-Family	Multi-Family + Commercial
Number of Dwelling Units	100.0	100.0 <sup>1</sup>
Gross Land (Site) Area	2.9	0.7 <sup>1</sup>
Residual Land Value	(\$1,659,300)	(\$7,868,600)
Per Square Foot of Land	(\$13.33)	(\$270.96)
Per Housing Unit	(\$16,593)	(\$78,686)
<sup>1</sup> The Adaptive Re-Use prototype also assumes an off-site parking structure with 100 stalls (not included in the site area of an existing 100,000-square-foot building).		
Source: Gruen Gruen + Associates		

## **CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)**

**Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:**

### **Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

The Pueblo Rescue Mission provides an evening meal to all individuals, irrespective of their stay at the shelter, thus extending its reach to a broader homeless population. Meanwhile, the Pueblo Soup Kitchen offers lunch services, contributing to the provision of meals throughout the day. Additionally, the city boasts thirty-three operational pantries catering to the needs of its residents. Collaborative efforts between the Pueblo Food Project and Care and Share have notably enhanced food security initiatives within the community.

During the Fall and Winter of 2023/2024, select members of the Community Commission on Housing & Homelessness (CCHH) actively participated in various outreach events, organized by community partners, aimed at providing essential provisions such as food, clothing, and medical assistance to unsheltered community members. These outreach endeavors served as opportunities for CCHH members to engage directly with unsheltered individuals, understanding their immediate needs while they navigated towards securing transitional housing solutions.

At the regular CCHH meeting held in December 2023, an unhoused community member, who had been encountered during the outreach events along Fountain Creek, shared insights into the challenges faced by those residing in the area. Their valuable input has since guided the ongoing efforts of the CCHH and its workgroups in enhancing information dissemination and resource allocation for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Complementing the initiatives of the CCHH, the City of Pueblo's Directed Investigation and Community Engagement (DICE) team collaborated closely with Health Solutions' Solutions Outreach Services (SOS) team to conduct direct street outreach to unhoused residents. Throughout 2023, these teams actively engaged with numerous unhoused individuals, offering crucial resources spanning shelter, sustenance, substance recovery, and mental health support. Furthermore, these outreach efforts served as avenues for gathering firsthand insights into the specific needs of unhoused neighbors within the community.

Collaborating with various community partners and city leadership, the CCHH has spearheaded efforts to compile accurate information on available resources for unhoused individuals. Through a unified and collective approach, this information is disseminated effectively to ensure equitable access to essential services among the unhoused population.

## **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

The City supported shelter operations at the Pueblo Rescue Mission. The Mission has a daily capacity of 92 individuals. Crazy Faith Ministries operated a warming shelter during the winter months during exceptionally cold nights when the temperature was expected to reach twenty degrees.

Respite care has been identified as an unmet need in the community. Health Solutions has eight respite beds available but demand exceeds capacity.

The Right Place permanent supportive housing facility continues to serve the community. The property has faced many challenges during the year. The ongoing problems with disruptive tenants, guests, and unauthorized guests entering the building after hours continue.

The Community Commission on Housing and Homelessness established workgroups dedicated to three fundamental pillars addressing housing and homelessness: 1) Housing Development, 2) Neighbors in Need focus group, and 3) Shift the Narrative focus group. The workgroups intend to spur housing development, focus services on current needs identified, and combat NIMBYism, respectively. These workgroups have diligently conducted research and identified potential solutions within their respective focus areas to benefit the Pueblo community.

The Neighbors in Need Workgroup, with a primary focus on aiding unhoused individuals, those at risk of homelessness, and those transitioning into stable housing, has formulated a comprehensive proposal aimed at augmenting transitional housing options within the community.

Specifically, the Neighbors in Need Workgroup has devised a proposal centered on "Designated Camping Sites," featuring pallet or tiny home shelters designed to offer transitional housing alongside essential support services. This proposal entails the identification of suitable locations throughout the community to establish these "Designated Camping Sites," where unhoused residents can access non-congregate housing as they pursue permanent housing solutions. Moreover, these sites would serve as hubs for the dissemination of vital services and resources to individuals in need. Upon completion, the proposal will undergo review by the entire CCHH before being presented to City and County leadership for consideration and decision-making.

**Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs**

The City allocated \$280,000 in ARPA funding to Colorado Legal Services to provide legal assistance in mitigating evictions during the COVID-19 pandemic. This three-year grant aimed to support individuals

navigating the eviction process. This is the third year of the grant. Concurrently, Pueblo County in cooperation with the 10th Judicial District Court has coordinated CSBG funding and other forms of assistance to address displacement concerns.

The program administered by Colorado Legal Services, funded by the Pueblo County Department of Human Services (CSBG) and the Division of Housing (CARES), played a pivotal role in addressing eviction cases in Pueblo County in 2023. They provided consultation legal services for individuals and families facing eviction. Below is the eviction diversion data for Pueblo County:

**2023 Pueblo Eviction Diversion Cases 2023 = 391 (46.5% of total Pueblo County cases filed)**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Total:</b>
Male	130
Female	<b>255</b>
Prefer not to disclose	5
Transgender	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>391</b>

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Total:</b>
Agreement without litigation to pay	7
Agreement without litigation to stay	1
Assisted in obtaining rental arrears assistance	12
Dismissed because client cured by paying to the court or landlord	4
Prepared answer/court documents	<b>1</b>
Prevented eviction	<b>4</b>
Prevented loss of housing voucher	<b>1</b>
Stipulation to move no judgment	<b>11</b>
Stipulation to pay judgment	<b>2</b>
Stipulation to pay no judgment	<b>30</b>
Stipulation to stay w/ judgment to be vacated	<b>3</b>
Other	<b>14</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>89</b>

<b>Race</b>	
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Asian</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Black or African American</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>White</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

Catholic Charities received supplementary funding for their Home Stability Program, which offers a range of critical services aimed at preventing homelessness. This program encompasses housing and budget counseling, payee services, as well as foreclosure prevention and mitigation assistance, providing essential support to individuals at risk of homelessness. Through the program, individuals received assistance with rent, utility, and mortgage payments. Thanks to HUD funding, the program was able to provide personalized one-on-one case management to 147 individuals and families.

**Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again**

Supportive services are available to assist individuals experiencing homelessness in finding temporary shelter and to help formerly homeless individuals maintain stable housing. However, the scarcity of available housing units presents a significant obstacle in providing effective housing solutions. Over the last few years, housing costs, whether rental or ownership, have surged, exacerbating the challenge. The average vacancy rate in Pueblo is 8.4%, but vacancy rate for units renting sub \$750 is hovering near 0%, landlords are charging rents above listed fair market rates, diminishing the attractiveness of housing vouchers. Consequently, the Housing Authority finds itself with a surplus of vouchers due to the shortage of available rentals.

Posada's Elko family shelter is newly renovated, enhancing its facilities to accommodate 12 units dedicated to providing transitional housing for homeless families.

Posada also operate the Sunset Motel, a SRO facility for seniors delivering sixteen additional units renting below \$500.

Moreover, Christ Life Ministries, operating a sober living center for individuals transitioning from incarceration, the Manitoa House, with its commercial kitchen cater to the nutritional needs of residents. The organization extends comprehensive wrap-around services to its clients/residents, ensuring a smooth transition towards stability.

Similarly, Crossroads Turning Points manages a three-bedroom, six-bed home tailored for clients completing substance abuse treatment programs. With a dedicated case manager overseeing operations, Crossroads offers comprehensive wrap-around services to support the rehabilitation journey of its clients.

To streamline housing placement efforts, the City has adopted a coordinated approach, leveraging coordinated entry, By-Name List, and VI-SPDAT assessments. Notably, the HMIS System Performance Data highlights the success of housing providers in maintaining housing stability, with a mere 6.25% return to homelessness rate within two years of assistance. However, it's worth noting that despite these efforts, housing providers can only cater to 15% of the population in any given year, underscoring the persistent challenges in meeting the housing needs of the community.

## **CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)**

### **Actions taken to address the needs of public housing**

The Housing Authority of the City of Pueblo (HACP) completed the third phase of the strategic plan to demolish the Sangre de Cristo Apartments. Phase III, Crawford, consists of 49 units and was placed in service in December 2023. HACP is currently requesting the demolition of the existing units from Housing and Urban Development to make way for the preparation of the final phase of the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) which allows HACP to continue to assist families in the community with low-income rent and affordable housing.

The Housing Authority of the City of Pueblo (HACP) has been actively working to maximize the utilization of vouchers and engage landlords in their programs to address the housing needs within the community. HACP has had landlord outreach engagements. This comprehensive approach to landlord outreach, with a focus on collaboration and support has ensured the success of the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

### **Actions taken to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership**

The Housing Authority of the City of Pueblo currently administers the Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) which enables HUD-assisted families to increase their earned income and reduce their dependency on welfare assistance and rental subsidies. Currently, HACP has 76 families enrolled in the program.

HACP also administers the HCV homeownership program, the HCV family must meet specific income and employment requirements (the employment requirement does not apply to elderly and disabled families), to qualify as a first-time homeowner as defined in the regulation, attend and satisfactorily complete the pre-assistance homeownership, and housing counseling program required by HACP, and meet any additional eligibility requirements set by HACP. Currently, 28 families are participating in the HCV homeownership program.

In January and February 2024, HACP sold nine houses to tenants who were part of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. An option agreement to sell the houses to the initial tenants was signed by the tenant and HACP at the inception of the Oakshire project in 2001. A total of 27 tenants were eligible to become homeowners nine tenants that have exercised their option to buy their home.

### **Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

The Housing Authority of the City of Pueblo is not designated as a troubled PHA

## **CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)**

**Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)**

The Community Commission on Housing and Homelessness remains actively engaged in assessing the impact of regulations on affordable housing. Task subgroups have convened to identify suitable vacant properties for redevelopment and to analyze vacancy rates within the city. Notably, the City of Pueblo has initiated the implementation of a vacant lot registry, accompanied by the enforcement of a \$500 fee for vacant buildings and properties. Through this registry, abandoned properties have been identified, prompting the city to pursue foreclosure proceedings on unpaid liens to facilitate the transfer of these properties to interested developers.

Additionally, the City continues to grapple with the financial repercussions of State-mandated wastewater treatment and selenium discharge standards. Consequently, residential sewer utility bills have risen to \$26.32 per month plus a usage rate of \$6.14 per 1000 gallons of water consumed. The rate is based on winter-time usage and does not reflect irrigation uses. The rate adjustments are part of ongoing negotiations and proposed regulations concerning water quality standards at the State level. Significantly, naturally occurring groundwater containing selenium is seeping into the wastewater system via clay sewer lines serving private residences on the west side of town. This has led to elevated selenium levels being recorded at the treatment plant, surpassing EPA standards and necessitating further attention and mitigation efforts.

## **Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

Non-profit agencies received substantial funding through the Community Services Advisory Commission, a robust City-County Partnership, funding totaled \$964,035 in general revenue funds from both the City and County. In the fiscal year 2023, the Commission recommended funding for 32 agencies, with allocations as follows: Homelessness \$174,057 (18.1% of total funding), Victim Services \$134,272 (13.9%), After School Programs \$123,142 (12.8%), Childcare \$113,234 (11.7%), Food Security \$100,940 (10.8%), Senior Services \$73,125 (7.6%), Mental Health Services \$68,751 (7.1%), Arts & Culture \$60,500 (6.3%), Health Services \$30,000 (3.1%), Disability Services \$27,788 (2.9%), Substance Abuse Services \$19,562 (2%), Veterans Services \$18,361 (1.9%). Notably, the County chose to allocate its customary 5% administration fee directly to the grantees.

# FUNDING BREAKDOWN

## After School Programs - 12.8%

3 Programs, 3 Agencies  
\$123,142

## Senior Services - 7.6%

5 Programs, 1 Agency  
\$73,125

## Education - 1.8%

2 Programs, 2 Agencies  
\$17,303

## Food Security - 10.8%

2 Programs, 2 Agencies  
\$100,940

## Victim Services - 13.9%

4 Programs, 4 Agencies  
\$134,272

## Homelessness - 18.1%

3 Programs, 3 Agencies  
\$174,057

## Health Services - 3.1%

1 Program, 1 Agency  
\$30,000

## Childcare - 11.7%

2 Programs, 2 Agencies  
\$113,234

## Veterans Services - 1.9%

1 Program, 1 Agency  
\$18,361

## Arts & Culture - 6.3%

6 Programs, 6 Agencies  
\$60,500

## Disability Services - 2.9%

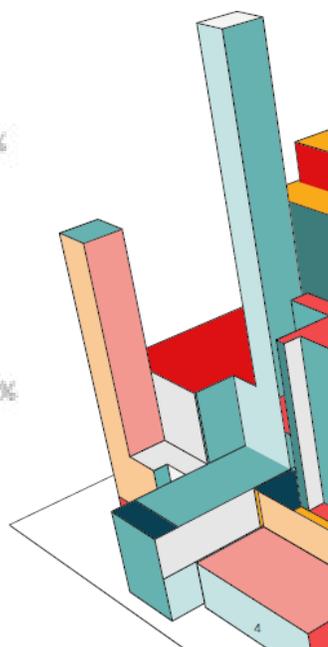
3 Programs, 3 Agencies  
\$27,788

## Mental Health - 7.1%

3 Programs, 3 Agencies  
\$68,751

## Substance Abuse - 2%

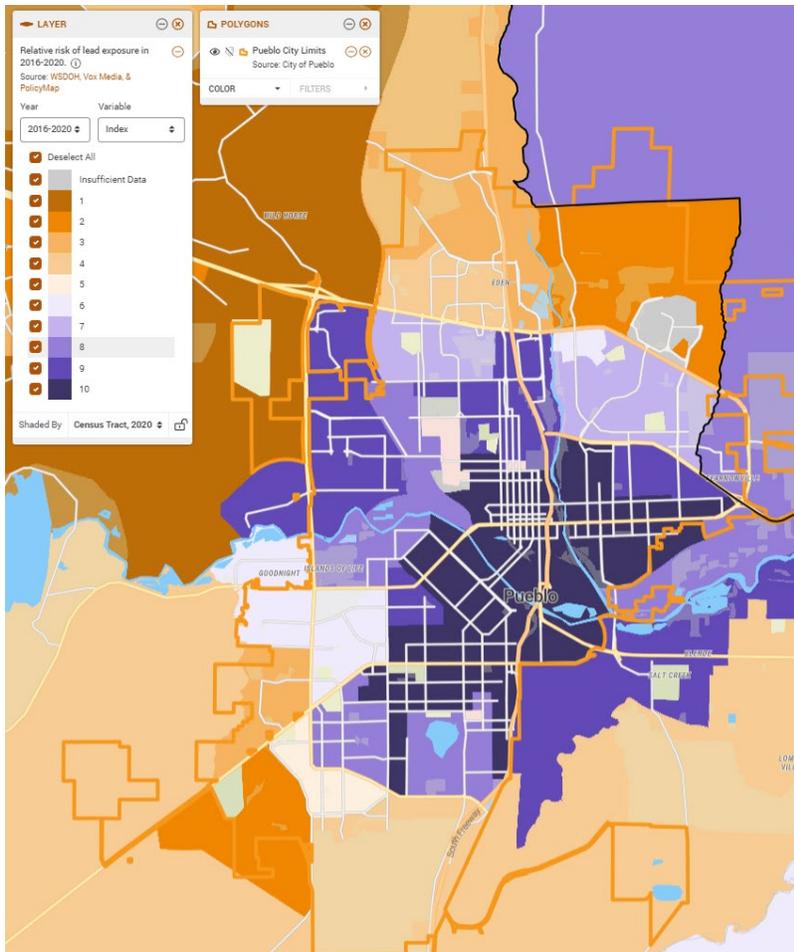
1 Program, 1 Agency  
\$19,562



In 2023, the City of Pueblo authorized three new fire stations to be built. Two of the three stations are located in low-income neighborhoods, but new stations serve low-income census tracts. Station No. 6 will be relocated within Pueblo’s Eastside Neighborhood. The new station will be expanded and the location will be for safer egress into State Highway 96. A new station will be built in the Hyde Park neighborhood just off W. 24th Street and Perry Avenue. The station will provide better fire coverage for the expanding low-income neighborhood. In past environmental assessments for projects located in or around the Hyde Park neighborhood, fire coverage was identified as a concern.

### **Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

The Pueblo Department of Health and Environment did not conduct lead remediation activities in 2023. Notably, Pueblo stands out for possessing the oldest housing stock on the Front Range. While the Division of Housing & Citizen Services did not engage in lead hazard reduction activities during the program year, it did oversee lead testing and clearance via its contracted environmental service provider. Furthermore, lead-safe work practices were mandated for all rehabilitation projects.

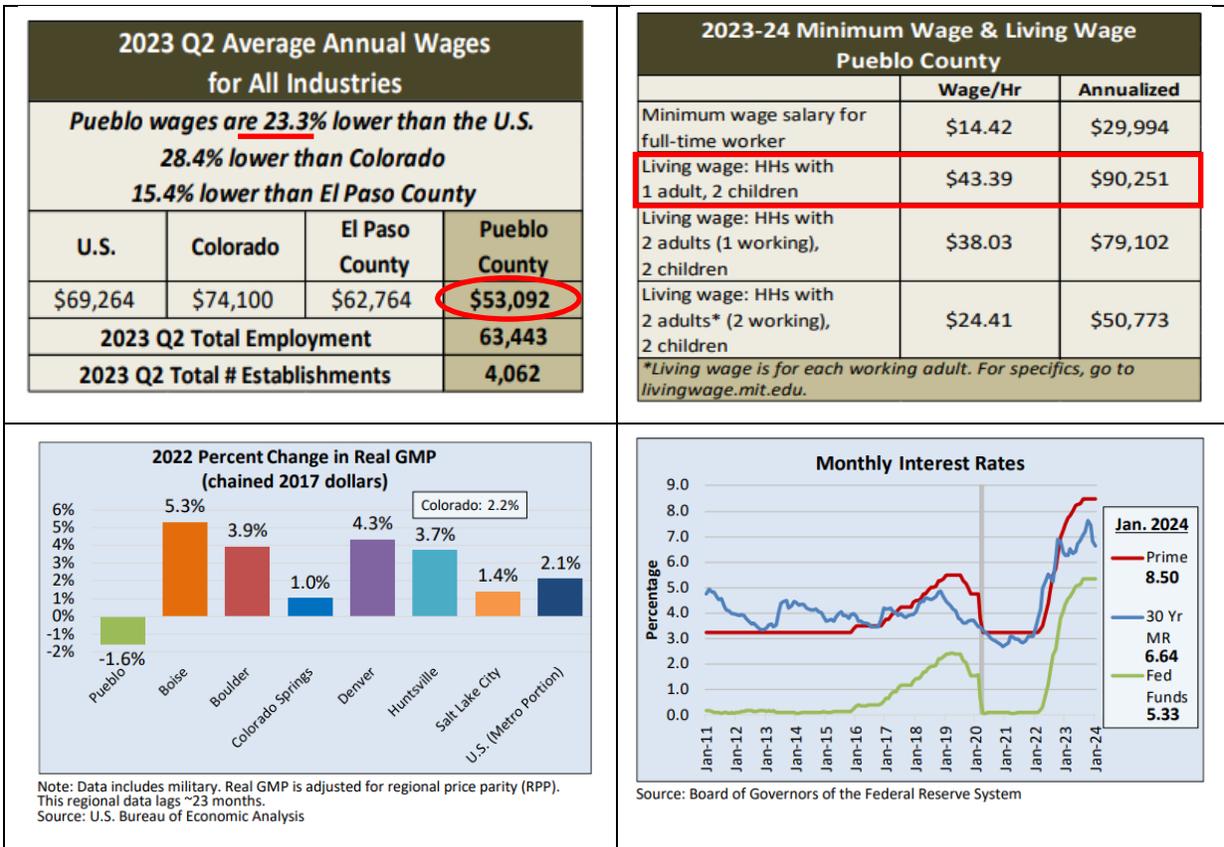


Pueblo, CO: Risk of lead exposure relative to the prevalence of pre-1978 housing

**Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

The Pueblo Economic Development Corporation has allocated \$1.7 million in incentives, funded by the City’s ½ cent sales tax, to attract a new business to Pueblo. These incentives were instrumental in supporting Foam Core Industries’ endeavor to construct a 40,500-square-foot facility for manufacturing vinyl and foam furniture, catering to educational institutions and various commercial sectors. The establishment of Foam Core Industries is projected to generate 87 additional full-time manufacturing positions, boasting an average annual salary of \$43,146, with an annual payroll totaling \$3.7 million.

Furthermore, the City of Pueblo has made a strategic investment in the Pueblo Economic & Workforce Development Dashboard. Developed and maintained by Dr. Tatiana Bailey, an esteemed economics professor at UCCS in Colorado Springs, this Dashboard serves as a vital resource offering real-time insights into the regional economy in comparison to state and national economic landscapes. By identifying trends and providing invaluable data, the Dashboard empowers local businesses to adapt and thrive amidst market fluctuations.



Excerpt from the February 2024 Pueblo Economic Dashboard.

**Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

Ending the 2023 calendar year, the City of Pueblo’s Department of Housing and Citizen Services was consolidated with the City’s Department of Planning and Community Development. The move was made to increase coordination and remove institutional silos. Combining the Department of Planning and the Department of Housing will better align the City’s goal to increase affordable housing.

The main gaps within the agencies are those that are created through regulations and funding eligibility. Pueblo agencies work well together referring clients and sharing information. Agencies continue to use the coordinated entry model and the “by Name” list to coordinate assistance for their clients.

**Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

The City of Pueblo established the Community Commission on Housing and Homelessness (CCHH), comprising a 36-member commission featuring a diverse blend of healthcare providers, service providers,

housing providers, and elected officials. This cohesive group convenes regularly to synchronize efforts and engage in discussions regarding pertinent issues affecting the community.

Moreover, the Continuum of Care, comprised of public service providers many of whom are members of the CCHH, is dedicated to facilitating interagency coordination and addressing issues germane to the services rendered. Together, these entities form an extensive network of agencies, ensuring timely dissemination of information regarding events, services, and funding opportunities.

**Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)**

*Insufficient Housing for Special Needs Populations*

Constructed (5) new ADA compliant housing units. Redeveloped (1) unit into and ADA compliant housing unit. Ensured new properties and rehabilitated properties were ADA compliant. Ensured that existing assisted developments remained ADA compliant.

*Difficulty in Qualifying for Loans*

No progress made on this front. Rising interest rates and low wages combined with a lack of condo/townhome developments in the community restrict low-income homebuyers ability to purchase an affordable home.

*Fair Housing Education*

The City conducted outreach through an internal and external transit media campaign during the year.

## **CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230**

**Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements**

City staff diligently conducted both desk reviews and on-site file inspections with each Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) subrecipient. Adhering to its internal CDBG monitoring policy, the City meticulously monitored six CDBG subrecipients in 2023. Guided by the HUD CPD CDBG Handbook, the reviews encompassed various critical areas, including progress reports, financial management, internal policies, eligibility of low- and moderate-income clientele, and overall accomplishments.

Additionally, the Department conducted comprehensive on-site inspections of all ongoing HOME projects. Staff also conducted on-site assessments for multi-family developments funded with HOME funds within the last two decades. Each property underwent scheduled housing quality inspections utilizing the NSPIRE standards, alongside random file reviews. The HOME monitoring handbook (2030-CPD) provided essential guidance throughout the monitoring process. Subsequently, Home Rental Project compliance Reports were received from each property and meticulously cross-referenced with current rent rolls and randomly selected tenant files. Rigorous scrutiny was applied to new and recertification files, including lease provisions, income eligibility, and rent limits.

All monitoring initiatives commenced with prior notification to each subrecipient regarding the City's intent to conduct monitoring activities. Upon arrival, introductions were made, and city staff elucidated their roles and the purpose of the visit. Housing staff meticulously reviewed client files, policies, procedures, and any additional requested information in collaboration with agency staff. Following the review, a comprehensive summary of findings and concerns was discussed with the subrecipient. Subsequently, within a 60 days, a detailed letter outlining concerns and/or findings was provided to the agency. Subrecipients were allotted 30 days to respond and present corrective action plans. Notably, all identified findings and concerns were promptly addressed, ensuring compliance within the stipulated timeframe.

## **Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)**

**Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.**

The City published an advertisement inviting public comment for the 2023 CAPER in the *Pueblo Chieftain*, on May 7, 2023. The public comment period was open from May 8, 2023, and closed on May 22, 2024. The CDBG Financial Summary for Program Year 2023 was available for citizens to review, along with CDBG Activity Summary Report for Program Year 2023 (PR03), CDBG Federal Financial Report PR26),

Program Year 2023 Summary of Accomplishments (PR23), Summary of Consolidated Plan Projects for Report Year 2023 (PR06). Status of HOME Activities (PR22) and HOME (PR27).

## **CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)**

**Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.**

In 2023, significant alterations were implemented to the allocation and management of HUD funds. On January 1, 2024, the City Council, via Ordinance No. 10594, dissolved the Department of Housing and Citizen Services. Consequently, the personnel previously affiliated with this department seamlessly transitioned into the Department of Planning and Community Development, with all roles and responsibilities preserved save for one. Mr. Scott Hobson now serves as the Acting Director of this merged department.

Throughout 2023, no adjustments were made to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs. The evaluation of projects by the former DHCS adhered closely to the strategic priorities outlined in the Consolidated Plan, with funding allocations reflecting this evaluation. During the same period, the City and Consortium diligently utilized CDBG and HOME funds to sustain existing affordable housing, foster the creation of new affordable housing, and provide crucial support to nonprofit organizations addressing homelessness, food security, fair housing education, and infrastructure enhancements.

Looking ahead, the program objectives remain unchanged, though operational adjustments will be made in the upcoming year to integrate federal regulatory modifications. The programs earmarked for funding align closely with the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan and the pressing needs of our community. DHCS commits to annual evaluations of community needs to ensure that any emerging requirements are duly addressed and incorporated into the Plan as deemed necessary and suitable.

**Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?**

None

**[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.**

N/A

## **CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)**

### **Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations**

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

The Department monitored all multi-family developments funded with HOME funds within the last 20-years. On-site monitoring took place, the inspection was limited to the minimum number of required units per the HOME monitoring handbook (2030). Inspections took place at:

- Ashwood Apartments
- Baltimore Court, Park and Place
- Bethlehem Square Apartments
- Crawford Townhomes
- Hudson Home of Heros –
- Monterey Apartments
- Moring Glory Apartments
- Mountain View Townhomes
- Nancy's Place
- Pueblo Village Apartments
- Rio Sacramento -
- Santa Fe Crossings –
- Upland Townhomes –
- Villa Andrea Apartments
- Village at Pueblo 1 and 2
- Villas at Oakshire

All work was inspected and in accordance with NPSIRE standards.

### **Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)**

The City of Pueblo collaborates closely with both non-profit and for-profit partners to actively promote all housing development projects. Properties receiving assistance from the HOME program are featured on the city's website for visibility. Despite the city's current average vacancy rate of 8.3%, there is a notable demand for subsidized rental properties. To address this, most properties maintain waitlists or

utilize the By-Name List as a tool to attract potential tenants. Vacancies are identified by various means including: posting, MLS listing, social media, and in the local newspaper.

**Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics**

No program income was allocated to the 2023 HOME projects at the time of this report.

**Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)**

The Consolidated Plan identified affordable housing and homelessness as its top priority. In 2023, funding provided for the following activities:

- Essential repairs to (36) single-family homes to maintain housing stability
- Support for homeless services, shelter, and food security
- HOME funds were allocated towards housing development, while HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) funds provided aid to 16 individuals and families. The City designated its Private Activity Bond, totaling \$6.7 million, to the Colorado Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) for the construction of affordable housing. However, despite Pueblo's proposal for the Compass Pointe Apartments, a 192-unit development by the Kittle Group from Indianapolis, Indiana, this project was not awarded funding. This marks the second submission of the project to CHFA. Despite not securing tax credits in 2022, the 2023 submission was revised based on feedback received during a project debrief to better align with recommendations.

## CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

<b>Total Labor Hours</b>	<b>CDBG</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>ESG</b>
Total Number of Activities	1	0	0
Total Labor Hours	3278	0	0
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	2400	0	0
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0	0

**Table 15 – Total Labor Hours**

<b>Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program</b>	<b>CDBG</b>	<b>HOME</b>
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers	1	1
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.	0	0
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	0	0
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.	1	1
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).	2	2
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.	13	0
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.	3	0
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.	12	0
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.	0	0
Held one or more job fairs.	0	0
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	1	1
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.	1	1
Assisted residents with finding child care.	0	0
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.	1	1
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.	1	1
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.	1	1
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	0	0
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.	0	0
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.	1	1
Other.	0	0

**Table 16 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program**

## Narrative

One CDBG project exceeded the funding threshold for Section 3 requirements, (IDIS 3241) Eilers Sidewalks. The project originally was below the Section 3 threshold. By change order, the project was increased because the contractor employed low-income workers. The criteria to direct 25% of the labor hours to low-income workers was achieved, but the criteria targeting 5% of labor hours to vicinity area low-income workers was not met. The City conducted the following outreach activities to achieve Section 3 compliance:

The City developed, implemented, and staffs a Financial Empowerment Center to mentor individuals, establish and/or improve credit, set financial goals, and achieve them.

Developed and implemented an “On Banking Program” to increase the number of low-income households with a bank account; 20% of the City is unbanked. The program was established to increase banking services to low-income individuals, transitioning them away from higher fee services and payday loans.

In cooperation with the Housing Authority of the City of Pueblo, outreach was done to recruit low-income workers residing within Authority properties. The focus centered on Housing Authority projects in which the City participated.

The City received a Work Force Innovation Grant from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment for \$271,889 to conduct outreach and train unemployed and under-employed individuals impacted by COVID-19. The grant will pay for childcare, books, and training/skill building. The grant is intended to assist 225 workers and can provide up to \$1,200 in assistance to secure the training.

The City utilizes a statewide service to direct construction contracts to minority and women-owned businesses. All construction projects were listed with the service. Direct service was provided to contractors wishing to qualify for Section 3 projects.

The City funded agencies to provide supportive services to assist the homeless, unemployed, and under-employed. Indy Dwell during 2023 utilized workers living in the nearby homeless shelter. It was a successful venture until the business folded after a large project in California failed to pay for the units shipped. Pueblo Cooperative Care and the YWCA provided services to help the homeless, domestic violence victims, and the underemployed including interview clothing and interview coaching.

Catholic Charities funded by the City and County houses the Colorado Rehire Program and provides supportive services to workers so they can re-enter the workforce. The Program refers clients to vacant positions within the City and County. The Colorado Rehire Program pays the employee's salary to the business, so they employ the workers while gaining experience and building skills.

Mt Carmel Veteran’s Service receives funding from the City and the County, they offer a variety of services to veterans and can connect veterans to employment.

SEL Tutoring received funding from the City and the County to provide literacy classes and assist individuals achieve their GED. The program assisted 160 individuals, obtained 18 GEDs, and improved 42 grade levels.

The City and County funded The Center for Independent Living, they utilized funding to provide paid internships for disabled students to learn how to apply for a job, interview, and obtain employable skills on the job site.

The City and County funded the Pueblo Hispanic Education Foundation to promote education and recruit minorities into four-year and associate programs. Pueblo County provides scholarships to attend a local school through taxes on marijuana sales and exports.