

# CDBG YEAR 45 ACTION PLAN

## PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT	SPONSOR	YEAR 45 FUNDING
<b>Parks &amp; Playgrounds</b>	<b>City of Fitchburg Disability Commission &amp; Board of Parks Commissioners</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
<p>Mirror Lake Trail Loop Accessibility Project: Phase I would receive priority funding, contingent upon receipt of grant funds. If grant is not awarded, funding will go toward Goodrich Playground: Phase II.</p> <p><u>The Mirror Lake project:</u> Project funds will be used to create an accessible loop around Mirror Lake in two phases. Phase I will create an over water boardwalk following the shoreline to connect the street sidewalks to the Gazebo, eliminating the need to use the stone stairs and walkway to access the Gazebo and Bandstand. This project meets the needs of the Five Year plan's NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs to expand the limited open space and recreational areas by creating an accessible trail.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is to improve accessibility and availability of recreational activities for individuals using the park. The project will remove architectural and natural barrier, making pedestrian walkways universally accessible. It is estimated that 40,000 people will be served by this project.</i></p> <p><u>Goodrich Playground project:</u> Project funds will be used to remove existing fencing and backstops surrounding the baseball facilities at Goodrich Playground. New fencing will be installed, the diamond will be leveled and graded, the infield will be cut and clay installed. This investment improves a currently defunct section of the park, while also improving the aesthetic of the park and the quality of life within the Goodrich Street neighborhood.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is the improved recreational opportunities for individuals using city parks. The benefit to users is the provision of safe and secure recreational facilities. It is estimated that one public facility will be achieved with this year's funds. It is estimated that 40,000 people will be served by this project.</i></p>		
<b>Crocker Field – Open Grandstand Rear Wall</b>	<b>City of Fitchburg School Department</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
<p>Project funds will be used to prepare final plans and specs, demolish 68 linear feet of concrete cap, and install 68 feet of new concrete cap, as well as construction contract administration and inspection.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project it to improve the recreational and athletic opportunities and amenities available to the populations served by Fitchburg Public Schools. The benefit of this project is the preservation of a National Register structure. It is estimated that 5,114 Fitchburg students will be served by this project. Also qualifies under Historic rehab 570.202(d)</i></p>		
<b>Crocker Field Field House Roof: Phase II</b>	<b>City of Fitchburg School Department</b>	<b>\$33,000</b>
<p>Project funds will be used to prepare final plans and specs; furnish and install 55 linear feet of copper gutters; furnish and install 36 feet of downspouts and collector pipes; clean out clogged underground drainage system; replace wood trim; scrape, sand and paint copper trim; and for contract administration.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project it to improve the recreational and athletic opportunities and amenities available to the populations served by Fitchburg Public Schools. The benefit of this project is the preservation of a National Register structure. It is estimated that 5,114 Fitchburg students will be served by this project. Also qualifies under Historic rehab 570.202(d)</i></p>		

<b>Crocker Field – Restore Grandstand Benches</b>	<b>City of Fitchburg School Department</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
<p>Project funds will be used to remove, replace, and paint hazardous and rotting wood benches in the first three rows of the covered grandstand, totaling 24 benches, the dimensions of which are approximately 8’ x 11.5” x 2.5”. The work will be completed by the Fitchburg DPW.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is to improve the recreational and athletic opportunities and amenities available to the populations served by Fitchburg Public Schools. The benefit of this project is the preservation of a National Register structure. It is estimated that 5,114 Fitchburg students will be served by this project. Also qualifies under Historic rehab 570.202(d)</i></p>		
<b>Streetscape Improvements</b>	<b>Community Development Department</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>
<p>Project funds will be used to design, install or replace sidewalks, curb-cuts, fencing, lighting, plantings or other streetscape, infrastructure, or accessibility improvements along City Gateways, North of Main or other strategic locations. Funds may support or be used as a match for other funding under the city’s Complete Streets program or be used to apply and provide design or match for the next round of MassWorks Public Infrastructure grant program. Middle Street Sidewalks (320 linear feet) to be included in streetscape work.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is the removal of deteriorated sidewalks at the project locations. The benefit of this project is the installation of new accessible sidewalks, which will improve safety, accessibility and aesthetics of city neighborhoods. Other improvements may be made to support the infrastructure of the City. It is estimated that 41,000 people will be served by this project.</i></p>		
<b>Connecting One Wood Place to High Speed Internet</b>	<b>CENTRO</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<p>Project funds will be used to connect Centro’s office at One Wood Place to high-speed internet. The facility is a 143-year-old, repurposed commercial building, and lacks sufficient internet speed. The office serves low- and moderate-income individuals and families. Of the three local carriers, Comcast/Xfinity is the only internet provider willing to work with Centro, and will cover approximately 30% of the cost.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: O-1. The goal of this project is to preserve a building of historic significance in Fitchburg and put it to careful public use by bringing it up to modern office standards through the installation of high-speed internet. Approximately 500 families will benefit from this project.</i></p>		

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**6 PROJECTS – \$281,000**

**PUBLIC SERVICES**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>YEAR 45 FUNDING</b>
<p align="center"><b>Street Homeless Intervention Program</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Our Father's House</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>\$28,000</b></p>
<p>Project funds will be used to pay staff salary for a 20 hour per week Street Outreach Worker solely dedicated to the homeless within the City of Fitchburg. Connections to health and social services, mental health and addiction services will be offered along with food, clothing, blankets, and human contact. Will work with Fitchburg PD and FD. In addition, \$8,000 would be available to pay for a chronically homeless persons first month's rent only or one-time payment in order to enable individuals to acquire and live in permanent housing and off the streets.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-1 The goal of this project is to provide outreach services by means of a dedicated worker in Fitchburg to collaborate with City of Fitchburg Police &amp; Fire in engaging homeless individuals living in uninhabitable places, eventually moving them to Our Father's House shelter or permanent housing. It is estimated that 70 individuals in Fitchburg will be served.</i></p>		
<p align="center"><b>Cleghorn Center After School Program, Summer Camp, and Youth Business Incubator</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>MOC, Inc.</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>\$15,000</b></p>
<p>Program funds will be used to support youth services programming, including the After School Program, Summer Camp, and Youth Business Incubator. The After School program focuses on academics, but includes supports for health and nutrition; civic engagement; computer literacy; workplace readiness, soft skills, and leadership skills. The Summer Camp promotes literacy throughout the summer months, and includes programming for STEAM activities and other youth development activities. The Youth Business Incubator teaches youth how to develop their ideas into viable business models, provides mentorship and coaching, access to technology, workshops, and a launch event. Funding supports the Director of Youth Services (16 hours/week), and a Youth Program Assistant (24 hours/week).</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is to provide afterschool program to Fitchburg youth between the ages of 6-13. The benefit of this project is individual skill building in education, positive youth development, social connections, and access to resources. It is estimated that 85 Fitchburg residents (unduplicated) will be served.</i></p>		
<p align="center"><b>Spartacus Program</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Montachusett Regional YMCA</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>\$10,000</b></p>
<p>Program funds will be used to support staff salary of the Teen Center Spartacus Program, offering services to at-risk youth between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Fitchburg. Emphasis will be on Youth Development, Healthy Living, and Social Responsibility through physical fitness, team building, life skills training, community service, and outdoor activities. It is estimated that 50 youth (unduplicated count) will be served between September and June.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is to provide services that help build confidence, manage anger and develop coping skills through physical fitness, team building, life skills training and outdoor adventure activities. The benefit of this project is to reduce the number of juvenile offenders while instilling a sense of community in all participants. It is estimated that 50 Fitchburg residents (unduplicated) will be served.</i></p>		

<b>Drug Enforcement Patrol Program</b>	<b>Fitchburg Police Department</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
<p>Program funds will be used to provide for police overtime expenses related to drug investigation activities in the CDBG Strategy Area and foot/motorcycle/bicycle patrols in targeted CDBG areas. Police activities include narcotics investigations, surveillance, undercover buys, search warrant services, and arrests. CDBG funds will be used by the Drug Suppression Unit to conduct thorough investigations on mid- to high-level dealers in the City of Fitchburg, particularly targeting the heroin and opioid market in designated CDBG areas.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is to reduce drug distribution and crime in CDBG neighborhoods. The benefit of this project will result in safer neighborhoods. It is estimated that 18,000 people will be served.</i></p>		
<b>Transportation Services to After School Program, Project Learn STEAM</b>	<b>Boys &amp; Girls Club of Fitchburg and Leominster</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>
<p>Program funds will be used to provide one-way transportation from Fitchburg schools to the Boys and Girls Club Afterschool Program located at 365 Lindell Street in Leominster. The Fitchburg schools include: Memorial, South Street, Reingold, Crocker, McKay, Longsjø, Sizer, and Fitchburg High School. It is estimated that approximately 1,440 transportation trips will be provided and 300 Fitchburg youth (unduplicated) served.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is to provide transportation to Fitchburg students who want to participate in the afterschool program. The benefit to participants is the opportunity to develop life skills within a safe environment. It is estimated that 300 Fitchburg youth (unduplicated) will be served and 1,440 one-way trips will be provided.</i></p>		
<b>Family Pathways Project</b>	<b>Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
<p>Program funds will provide emergency housing for homeless families in North Worcester County, including case management and follow up services. It is estimated MIHN will screen 230 referrals during the year, and expects to serve 15 Fitchburg families (with children, unduplicated count) in the shelter and emergency services. The CDBG funds will be used to partially pay for the MIHN Operations Manager salary costs.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is the provision of shelter services to people who are without permanent housing. The benefit of this project is the provision of a safe environment which offers families the time and assistance needed to secure permanent housing and provide case management in the area of employment, day care, health, budgeting, education and parenting skills. It is estimated that 15 Fitchburg families (unduplicated) will benefit from this project.</i></p>		
<b>Fitchburg Homelessness Prevention Project</b>	<b>Community Legal Aid</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<p>Program funds will be used to assist low-income and elderly tenants at risk of eviction or loss of housing subsidy, in order to help prevent homelessness. CLA will also take on cases related to housing that is in need of repair; CLA is able to assert legal claims that result in improvement to housing conditions, making the unit more livable for the tenant, and increases the quality of the City's housing stock. Funding will support part of a Staff Attorney and the Senior Supervising Attorney.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is the [prevention of homelessness through legal representation of at-risk low-income and elderly tenants. It is estimated that 10 residents (unduplicated) will benefit from this project.</i></p>		

**7 PROJECTS – \$147,000**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>YEAR 45 FUNDING</b>
<b>Small Business Technical Assistance Program</b>	<b>NewVue Communities</b>	<b>\$21,000</b>
<p>Program funds will provide outreach and technical assistance to businesses. This program leverages loans for small businesses. It is estimated that 40 businesses will be served (unduplicated count), 65 jobs will be created/retained, 43 businesses will be counseled, 4 loans with a value of \$100,000 total will be facilitated, and 26 business plans developed. Funds will be used to pay staff salary.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: EO-3. The goal of this project is to assist entrepreneurs in the start-up, relocation and/or expansion of microenterprises and small businesses in Fitchburg. The benefit of this project is the promotion of economic development and job creation/job retention. It is estimated that 40 people will be individuals, business or household units 37 jobs will be created/retained, and 2 loans with a total value of \$40,000 will be made. 10 businesses will be trained and 23 business plans developed. Business development related to North of Main Street project will be conducted.</i></p>		
<b>Downtown Mural Project</b>	<b>Community Development Department</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>
<p>Program funds will be used to install 2-3 murals in the downtown area. The City will conduct an RFP process to solicit artists and designers interested in creating a mural for the downtown, and oversee the installation of murals.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is to remove slum and blight in the downtown area through the addition of murals, which will help to beautify the neighborhood. 2-3 murals will be procured through a competitive process. It is estimated that 1,500 individuals will benefit from this project.</i></p>		
<b>Fitchburg Downtown Coordinator</b>	<b>Fitchburg State University</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
<p>Program funds will be used hire a Downtown Coordinator. This position will assist in planning and coordinating Main Street projects and special events; assist in the development of a shared brand strategy for Downtown Fitchburg as both a college town and arts and culture destination. This position will support 15 community and cultural events, engage 75 businesses to participate in said events, help draw one new business and at least one pop-up retail business, and help draw 40,000 residents from the Greater Fitchburg region to local events. This funding will be used to support part of one FTE.</p> <p><i>Performance Measurement: EO-3. The goal of this project is to improve coordination of downtown activities and increase traffic to local businesses through the employment of a full-time downtown coordinator. This position will coordinate efforts among a variety of interested parties to ensure the success of events and other marketing promotions in the downtown. This project will benefit approximately 15-20 microenterprise businesses.</i></p>		

**3 Proposals – \$75,000**

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**REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>YEAR 45 FUNDING</b>
<b>Code Enforcement</b>	<b>Board of Health</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

Program funds will be used to pay 100% of one existing full-time BOH Inspector positions and 50% of one full-time Clerk position. Through the enforcement of the State’s Sanitary and Building Codes, Fitchburg’s housing stock will be greatly improved. To be eligible, this activity must be part of a comprehensive strategy to arrest deterioration, including housing rehab and demolition. It is estimated that 1,000 housing units (duplicated count) will be inspected in the CDBG strategy area.

*Performance Measurement: DH-3. The goal of this project is to inspect housing units in the CDBG Strategy Area and ensure compliance with State Sanitary and Building Codes. The benefit of this project is the continued availability and accessibility of quality housing stock. It is estimated that 1,000 housing units (duplicated) will be inspected.*

<b>Critical Home Repair</b>	<b>Habitat for Humanity</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
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Program funds will be used to fund up to 4 critical repairs in Fitchburg serving 10 households. Critical Home Repair is exterior or interior work to alleviate critical health, life, and safety issues or code violations for homeowners in need. Participants must own their own home and have a verifiable need that falls within scope and capabilities. The home must be a primary principal residence, current on mortgage, property taxes and insurance. Repairs must be necessary to function in the home and homeowners must partner with Habitat. Particular focus will be in the North of Main neighborhood.

*Performance Measurement: DH-3. The goal of this project is to alleviate critical health, life, and safety issues or code violations for homeowners in need through critical repair services. This project will benefit 10 individuals.*

**2 PROJECTS – \$120,000**

**CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>YEAR 45 FUNDING</b>
<b>Demolition</b>	<b>Community Development Department</b>	<b>\$229,476</b>

Project funds will be used to remove abandoned structures which pose an imminent threat to public safety and which contribute to slums and blight. The entire City will be served but the principal benefit will accrue to the CDBG Strategy Area in which the proposed activities will take place. It is estimated that 7 buildings containing up to 21 units will be demolished. Consultants will be hired for specific expertise such as environmental assessment or engineering services.

*Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is the removal of abandoned and deteriorated structures. The benefit of this project is the improved appearance of neighborhoods and increased public safety. It is estimated that seven buildings and up to twenty one units will be demolished. Although entire City will be served, it is estimated that CDBG strategy area of 15,000 Fitchburg individuals (unduplicated) will benefit from this project.*

**1 PROJECT – \$229,476**

**PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>YEAR 45 FUNDING</b>
<b>CDBG Administration</b>	<b>Community Development Department</b>	<b>\$196,085</b>

Project funds will provide for the necessary administration of CDBG programs and sub-recipient contracts in accordance with federal guidelines, including staffing, technical services, and planning activities. This also includes the cost of various activities such as the Consolidated Plan; Consolidated Annual Performance Report; Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing; and other strategic plans and services. These funds enable the City to apply for, receive, and administer additional federal and state grants.

*Performance Measurement: N/A. The goal of this project is to administer the CDBG Program in accordance with regulatory and statutory requirements. The benefit of this project is a more viable urban community with an improved quality of life for all residents, particularly those of low-to-moderate income.*

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**1 PROJECT – \$196,085**

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