

CITY OF LAKEWOOD
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
(For all Federally Funded Grant Programs)

A. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Section 104(a)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the City adopted this Citizen Participation Plan in July 1978 (revised October 1981, June 1988, June 1995, May 2001, and May 2005.) By doing so, the City acknowledges the integral role of citizen participation in the process of planning and development and the execution of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and all other Federally funded grant programs.

The plan outlines basic tenets of the citizen participation process and regulations. The citizen participation regulations remain in effect throughout the implementation of the City's entitlement award from the federal government, or until the funds are completely exhausted.

The Lakewood's Citizen Participation Plan is composed of the following parts:

- A. Lakewood Citizen Participation Plan (Purpose)
- B. Definitions
- C. Role of Citizens
- D. Guidelines for Citizen Participation
 - 1. Consolidated Plan and Action Plan
 - 2. Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
 - 3. Public Hearings
 - 4. Information Access
 - 5. Non-English Speaking Residents
 - 6. Persons with Disabilities
 - 7. Program Amendments
 - 8. Technical Assistance
- E. Citizen Service Requests and Grievance Procedure

B. LAKEWOOD CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

The Citizen Participation Plan is designed to facilitate two-way communication between the City and its residents on matters pertaining to the use of all Federal Grant funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under this plan, citizens are encouraged to participate in application development, program implementation, assessment of performance, submission of views and proposals, consideration of objections to applications,

complaints, technical assistance, public hearings, bilingual dissemination, when appropriate, and program amendments. The Lakewood Citizen Participation Plan:

- Provides greater visibility of the City of Lakewood Community Development Department's improvement programs;
- Encourages citizen involvement in neighborhood improvement activities;
- Ensures equitable representation of all segments of the population; and
- Describes the process to enlist citizen participation in the development of the City's Five-year Consolidated Plan, the Annual Action Plan, the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), and any Substantial Amendments to the Consolidated Plan or Action Plan.

DEFINITIONS

Five-Year Consolidated Plan: This document is submitted to HUD every five years and serves as the 5-year planning document of the City and application for funding for CDBG, HOME, and other federally funded programs. The Consolidated Plan consists of the following primary components: a needs assessment and an analysis which identifies priorities and a strategy which establishes goals and objectives for addressing priority needs and time frames for achievements.

One-Year Action Plan: This document is submitted to HUD every year and updates the Consolidated Plan and allocates one year's CDBG funding, including any program income generated from CDBG. The Action Plan is developed to identify the actions that will be taken and projects that will be funded to meet the strategy's goals and objectives.

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER): This document reports on the progress made in carrying out the Consolidated Plan and Action Plan.

Public Hearing: A public hearing is a public meeting that has been publicly noticed in a local newspaper of general circulation, or noticed in a fashion which otherwise follows local procedures for formal noticing of public hearings. Public hearings are required prior to the adoption of the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan, and Substantial Amendments to either plan.

Urgency Needs: A Federal, State or Local declared Emergency or Crisis.

C. *ROLE OF CITIZENS*

Citizen involvement is vital to assure that neighborhood improvement policies, procedures, programs and activities are well suited to local needs. Individual neighborhoods possess unique qualities that are more fully understood at the community level among those who reside, own property, or work within these areas. This knowledge is invaluable to the successful revitalization of communities.

Residents' concerns and ideas may be articulated to the City's Planning and Environment Commission (PEC). The PEC is an advisory body to the City Council regarding community

development improvement issues. The PEC addresses itself to the development, review, and adoption of the following ideas:

- The City's Consolidated Plan and Action Plan (includes all Federal Grant Applications);
- The submission of the City's Performance Report (CAPER);
- Community development strategies, programs, policies, and procedures;
- The Citizen Participation Plan

Regular meetings of the PEC are conducted on a monthly basis, and special meetings may also be held during any month at the order the Commission Chairperson, should the need arise. A current schedule of PEC meetings can be obtained from the City Clerk's office located at City Hall, 5050 North Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California 90712, or by calling (562) 866-9771.

All meetings take place in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California 90712 unless another location is publicized in advance. In the event of Urgency Needs, specific procedural changes such as conducting virtual meetings or via tele/video conferencing may be implemented. The agenda for each PEC meeting is posted at the Council Chambers and on the City's website at www.lakewoodcity.org at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Public hearing notices for PEC meetings are posted at the following locations at least 72 hours prior to any hearing:

Lakewood City Hall
City Clerk's Office
5050 Clark Avenue
Lakewood, CA 90712

Bloomfield Park
21420 Pioneer Blvd.
Lakewood, CA 90715

Mayfair Park
5720 N. Clark Avenue
Lakewood, CA 90712

D. GUIDELINES FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

The Citizen Participation Plan process provides residents of the City the formal opportunity to take part in the development of community development programs and amendments to adopted plans, at the community wide-level in a public forum, before the PEC. The specific guidelines governing information access, public notices, and technical assistance, among others, that the City will follow to encourage citizen participation in the preparation of the Consolidated Plan and submission of the Performance Report are listed below:

Consolidated Plan and Action Plan:

Following the preparation of the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan, the following steps will be taken to afford the public an adequate opportunity to review and comment on the document:

1. Summary describing the contents of the purpose of the proposed Consolidated Plan/Action Plan will be public in at least one local City newspaper of general circulation. The summary will also include a list of locations where a complete draft of the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan can be obtained.
2. The publication of the summary will commence a 30-day public review period during which citizens will have the opportunity to examine the proposed Consolidated Plan/Action Plan and submit comments regarding the draft document. Complete copies of the draft Consolidated Plan/Action Plan will be available for review at the City's website at www.lakewoodcity.org and at the following locations:

Lakewood City Hall
Community Development Department
5050 Clark Avenue
Lakewood, CA 90712

Lakewood City Hall
City Clerk's Office
5050 Clark Avenue
Lakewood, CA 90712

Iacoboni Library
4990 N. Clark Avenue
Lakewood, CA 90712

3. A public hearing before the PEC will be held to further provide citizens an opportunity to comment on the draft Consolidated Plan/Action Plan. All guidelines set forth under the Public Hearing section of this document will be followed to ensure and encourage citizen participation.

Consolidated Plan Amendments

The City shall complete a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan when a Priority Need is added or removed from the Consolidated Plan.

Action Plan Amendments

The City shall follow the following procedure to complete substantial and minor amendments to the Action Plan, as needed.

The City shall substantially amend the Action Plan if a substantial change is proposed by City staff or the City Council. For the purpose of the Action Plan, a "substantial change" is defined as:

- Addition of a new activity not previously identified in the Action Plan, without regard to funding source;
- Cancellation of an existing activity identified in the Action Plan, without regard to funding source;
- A change in the purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries of an activity; or
- Changes in the use of CDBG funds from one eligible activity to another eligible activity meeting the following thresholds:

Net Increase or Decrease	Trigger of Substantial Amendment*	Minor Amendment*
Net Increase	≥ 30% of the most recent grant allocation	<30% of the most recent grant allocation
Net Decrease	≥ 30% of the most recent grant allocation	<30% of the most recent grant allocation

* (Amended amounts will not be cumulative, that is, each amendment will stand on its own for purposes of determining the 30 percent threshold.)

The City may make minor changes to the Action Plan, including any changes not included in the definition of a "substantial change" above, as needed, so long as the changes do not constitute a substantial amendment as described above. Such minor changes to the Action Plan do not require a public review and comment period or a public hearing. However, City Council approval of activity funding changes may be required based on the amount and City policy.

Urgency Needs:

Upon the Declaration of a Federal, State, or Local Emergency, the public participation process may be modified as determined by the HUD.

Performance Report

Upon completion of the Performance Report, and prior to its submission to HUD, a public notice will be published in at least one local newspaper servicing the residents of Lakewood announcing the availability of the report for review and comment. Publication of this notice will commence a 15-day period during which citizens will have the opportunity to examine the Performance Report and submit comments regarding the document.

Analysis of Impediments or Assessment of Fair Housing (AI or AFH)

The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) or Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) is a five-year plan completed by the City individually or as part of a local consortium of other HUD grantees pursuant to HUD guidance for the evaluation of local housing conditions, economics, policies and practices and the extent to which these factors impact the range of housing choices and opportunities available to all residents in an environment free from discrimination. As of April 2019, HUD has suspended the AFH planning framework. HUD currently requires the submission of an AI for grantees submitting Consolidated Plans for FY 2020-2024. If HUD renews the AFH planning framework, the AFH will replace the AI in the context and implementation of this section.

Public Hearings:

Public hearings shall provide the major source of citizen input on the proposed community development program, activities, policies, and procedures. At a minimum, the City will conduct two separate public hearings—one for the purpose of reviewing the draft Consolidated Plan and the second for the purpose of reviewing program performance and progress through the submission of the Performance Report. All public hearings will be made accessible to persons with disabilities upon request.

To ensure that all City residents have ample opportunity to take notice of all scheduled public hearings, all notices regarding such hearings, including the date, time, and location shall be published in at least one local City newspaper of general circulation a minimum of 14 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

Information Access

Included in the Consolidated Plan will be the estimated amount of federal funding available to the City, and the range of eligible activities, programs, and projects designed to utilize these available funds. Copies of the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan, Citizen Participation Plan, CAPER, and documents regarding other important program requirements, including contracting procedures, environmental policies, fair housing/equal opportunity requirements, and relocation provisions will be available to the public at the City's website at www.lakewoodcity.org and during the regular business hours of 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and alternative Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. City Hall is closed every other Friday.

The City's Community Development Department is located at 5050 N. Clark Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90712. Additional information and assistance may be obtained by calling 562-866-9771.

Non-English Speaking Residents

It is the intent of the City to also allow for input by all non-English speaking persons, as well as English speaking residents, in the public hearing process. The City will provide bilingual assistance whenever it has been determined necessary to adequately allow persons to express

their views regarding the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of community development improvement activities. All advertisement for public hearing will note that arrangements for an interpreter can be made by contacting the City's Community Development Department.

E. CITIZEN SERVICES REQUESTS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Citizens should be aware that any questions or grievances, regarding any facet of City operations, can be submitted to the Community Development Department located at 5050 N. Clark Ave., Lakewood, CA 90712. During the development of the Consolidated Plan submission, written concerns or complaints regarding the Plan shall initiate a written response indicating assessment of the complaint and/or proposals and actions taken to address the complaints and/or proposals before the final submission of the Consolidated Plan to HUD. The City shall ensure that reasonable attempts are made to respond to questions or complaints in a timely manner, usually within 15 working days after receipt of the inquiry. If the content of the complaint is based on a probable misunderstanding (i.e., scope of block grant activities), the response communication will so state and give the complaining party the opportunity of alternative forms of redress.

Although HUD will consider objections submitted at any time, such objections should be submitted within 30 days of the submission of the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan, or CAPER to HUD. Any written inquiries submitted to HUD should be addressed as follows:

US DEPT. OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Los Angeles Area Office
Community Planning and Development Division
300 North Los Angeles Street, Suite 4045
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Objections submitted to HUD must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- The description of the needs and objectives are plainly inconsistent with available facts and data.
- The activities to be undertaken are plainly inappropriate to meeting the needs and objectives defined by jurisdiction.
- The submission does not comply with specific requirements or law.
- The submission proposed the undertaking of ineligible activities.

RESIDENTIAL ANTI-DISPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PLAN – CITY OF LAKEWOOD FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

I. INTRODUCTION

Section 509 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 amended Section 104 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 by adding a new subsection.

The new Section 104(d) of the Act became effective October 1, 1988, and provides that a grant under Section 106, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Programs may be made only if the grantee certifies that it is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan. The residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan under Section 104(d) must contain two components: (1) A requirement to replace all low and moderate income dwelling units that are demolished or converted to a use other than low and moderate income housing as a direct result of the use of CDBG assistance and, (2) a relocation assistance component.

A certification and plan is required even if the grant will not result in demolition or in the conversion of a low and moderate income unit to use other than low and moderate income housing.

The document serves as the residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. In implementation of the relocation activities related to this plan, Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Policies Act of 1970 as amended will be followed. The following details the City of Lakewood's Plan.

II. RESIDENTIAL ANTI DISPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PLAN UNDER SECTION 104 (d) OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED.

- A. The City of Lakewood will replace all occupied and vacant unoccupied low and moderate income dwelling units demolished or converted to a use other than as low and moderate income housing as a direct result of activities assisted with funds provided under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, as described in 24 CFR, 570.606 (b)(1).
- B. All replacement housing will be provided within three (3) years of the commencement of the demolition or rehabilitation relating to conversion. Before obligating or expending funding that will directly result in such demolition or conversion, the City of Lakewood will make public and submit to the HUD Field Office the following information in writing.
 - 1. A description of the proposed assisted activity;
 - 2. The general location on a map and approximate number of dwelling units by size (number of bedrooms) that will be demolished or converted to a use

other than low and moderate income dwelling units as a result of the assisted activity;

3. A time schedule for the commencement and completion of the demolition or conversion;
 4. The general location on a map and approximate number of dwelling units by size (number of bedrooms) that will be provided as replacement dwelling units;
 5. The source of funding and a time schedule for the provision of replacement dwelling units, and
 6. The basis for concluding that each replacement dwelling unit will remain a low and moderate income dwelling unit for at least ten (10) years from the date of initial occupancy.
- C. The City of Lakewood will provide relocation assistance, as described in 24 CFR 570.606 (b)(2), to each low and moderate income household displaced by the demolition of housing or by the conversion of a low and moderate income dwelling unit to another use as a direct result to assisted activities.
- D. Consistent with the goals and objectives of activities assisted under the Act, the City of Lakewood will take the following steps to minimize the displacement of persons from their homes:

1. Provide replacement housing as described in 24 CFR 570.606 (b)(1) and outlined as follows:

One for One replacement units – all occupied and vacant low and moderate income dwelling units (units that could be occupied) that are demolished or converted to a use other than low and moderate income dwelling units as a direct result of CDBG activities will be replaced by the City by private developers with low and moderate income dwelling units.

The replacement of low and moderate income dwelling units may include public housing or existing housing receiving Section 8 project-based assistance.

The replacement of low and moderate income dwelling units will be provided within three years of the commencement of the demolition or rehabilitation related to the conversion and will meet the following requirements;

- a. The unit will be located within the City's jurisdiction.
- b. The units will be sufficient in number and size to house the number of occupants that could have been housed in the units that are demolished or converted. The number of occupants that may be housed shall be determined in accordance with local housing occupancy codes.

- c. The units will be provided in standard condition and may include units which have been raised from substandard to standard.

III. RELOCATION ADVISORY ASSISTANCE

- A. The City will administer its relocation program, including providing relocation assistance and the preparation of claims for processing by the Community Development Department, City of Lakewood.
- B. The Relocation Program will provide maximum assistance to minimize the hardship of displacement to all persons displaced from their dwellings and to displaced businesses to assure their re-establishment with a minimum of delay.
- C. Personal and continuing contact will be maintained with those to be displaced until they are satisfactorily relocated, and where hardship is evident, a follow-up call will be made to ease the transition of the move.
 - 1. The following specific services will be provided;
 - a. Each person or business required to move will be personally interviewed, and a detailed and clear explanation of benefits will be made. The interview will be conducted in the language most easily understood by the displaced person.
 - b. The U.S. Department of Housing Development informational brochures will be delivered to residential and commercial owners and tenants in a timely manner.
 - c. A member of the staff will continuously make field surveys to locate housing resources and business vacancies for referrals. Referrals will be made to standard housing comparable to the occupied housing and in close proximity to employment, medical, shopping, transportation and eating facilities. Additionally, real estate brokers will be informed of the displacement, and their cooperation will be solicited in making referrals. Referrals to commercial sites will be made relative to commercial operators' needs in location, square footage requirements, trade area, and other business location criteria. Inspection of housing resources will be undertaken prior to referral and after the move of the displaced person.
 - d. If transportation is needed to field check referrals, the staff member or consultant will provide such transportation.
 - e. Assistance will be given by explaining procedures to purchase a home, including the purpose of and charges made through escrow.
 - f. If social service agencies in the community could provide a needed service, referrals will be made and follow-up programs will be instituted. The referral services could be Social Security Administration, Department

of Public Social Services, Veteran's Administration, Lakewood Housing Authority, and other local service agencies.

- g. Where necessary, efforts will be made to trace self-relocatees.
- h. Assistance will be given in filing relocation claims, and these claims will be submitted to the Community Development Department, City of Lakewood.
- i. Delivery of benefit check will be made promptly and follow-up claims will be made.

IV. RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

Each low and moderate income household that is displaced as a direct result of CDBG assisted activities shall be provided with relocation assistance. The low and moderate income household may elect to receive assistance described in 24 CFR Part 49 (HUD's regulations implementing the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970) or assistance as described under Section 104 (d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended by Section 509 of the 1987 HCD Act provisions.

Displaced low and moderate income households will receive relocation assistance provided to displaced persons required under 24 CFR 49, Subpart C (General Relocation Requirements) and Subpart D (Payment for Moving and Related Expenses) whether the households receive assistance under the CFR or Section 104 (d) of the Act. Briefly, those benefits are as follows:

Residential Benefits:

1. Actual moving and related expenses, as the Agency determines to be reasonable and necessary, including expenses outlined in 49 CFR 24.301.
2. Fixed payment for moving expenses as described in 49 CFR 24.302.

Non Residential Benefits:

1. Payment for actual reasonable moving and related expenses as described in 49 CFR 24.303.
2. Reestablishment expense as described in 49 CFR 24.304.
3. Ineligible moving and related expenses as described in 49 CFR 24.304 (b) and 49 CFR 24.305 will not be provided.
4. Fixed payments for moving expenses as described in 49 CFR.306.

V. COST ESTIMATE OF RELOCATION BENEFITS

Since no relocation activity is contemplated, it is not possible to provide a cost estimate of relocating payment at this time. However, should it become necessary to make relocation payments, these payments will be funded with CDBG funds.

VI. PLAN FOR DISBURSEMENTS OF RELOCATION BENEFITS

The disbursement of relocation benefits will be made in an orderly and readily available manner.

All claims for relocation payments must be submitted within 18 months after the displacement of the claimant. Relocation claim forms will be prepared by the relocation staff; the forms will be explained in detail to the claimant. Once the signature of the displacee has been obtained, the prepared forms, accompanied by a memorandum explaining the particular need, etc., of the claimant will be promptly delivered to the Community Development Department, City of Lakewood, for review, approval and preparation of warrants. Upon verification of vacating the acquired property, the relocation benefits will be delivered.

Advanced payments will be processed when it is evident that there is a hardship. These payments will be delivered in a timely way to assure ease in securing relocated housing commitments.

A claim must be supported by the necessary documentation which may include itemized receipted moving bills, income tax returns, opening/closing escrow statements, verification of rental data and any other information deemed appropriate and necessary to support the claim.

Payments will be processed in All claim papers and related evidence will become permanent records of the Community Development Department, City of Lakewood, as part of the individual files maintained for each displaced person or business.

If a business does not file a claim for any of the above benefits, it may file for In-Lieu of Moving and Related Expenses Payment. No payment of this kind shall be made unless the Community Development Department, City of Lakewood, is satisfied that the business cannot be relocated without substantial loss of patronage and is not part of a commercial enterprise having at least one other establishment not being acquired, which is engaged in the same or similar business.

This payment represents the average annual net income for the two years prior to displacement, except that the payment may not be less than \$1,000 or more than \$20,000 (49 FR 24.306 {a}).

Payments will be processed in a timely manner to minimize hardship.

VII. LAST RESORT HOUSING

Last resort housing is not contemplated as it has been determined comparable replacement housing will be available for project residents within a reasonable period prior to displacement. However, if it is necessary, procedures as referenced in the Uniform Act will be followed.