

# Staff Report

## CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN

December 4, 2018

As an entitlement community, the City is required under the Community Development Block (CDBG) Program to submit a Consolidated Plan to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and an Annual Action Plan of the projects to be implemented for the program year. The Consolidated Plan may be submitted every three or five years; and Ames has elected to do so every five years.

The Consolidated Plan is the overall housing plan document – the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy, or CHAS – for the jurisdiction. This Plan must include detailed background information provided by HUD for the community, census data, and other comprehensive studies performed by the community regarding housing issues. **The Plan must also identify, over the specified planning period, the goals and priorities to address the housing and community development needs of low- and moderate-income persons and the housing and community development needs of NON low- and moderate-income persons in the community.** The City's **fifth** 5-year Consolidated Planning period begins on July 1, 2019, and will run through June 30, 2024 (2019-2023).

In March of 2014, staff began a new process for conducting public forums with City Council regarding public input for preparing its Five-Year CDBG Consolidated Plan. This process involves direct City Council participation in the public input session(s). The City Council workshop is used as forum for public input. The City Council workshop will include the following:

1. Staff presentation on an overview of CDBG and HOME programs.
2. Staff presentation on the Consolidated (Strategic) Planning process.
3. A facilitated interactive discussion with the public and City Council regarding possible goal and priorities for the new Consolidated Plan for 2019-2023.

**This first public forum will only focus on the discussion of the goals and priorities for the new Five-year plan. The discussion for the specific projects that will be required for the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan will be scheduled for an additional public meeting once the City has been notified of its 2019/2020 CDBG and HOME allocations. The Annual Action plan public forums are normally held in February each as part of determining the projects for the coming year.**

Upon completion of the workshop, staff begin collecting and analyzing the data to create a draft a consolidated plan. Staff will then schedule a follow-up workshop with City Council and the public to review the results of data and to finalize the goals and priorities for the five-year plan. The next step would be to gather input to determine the 2019/20 Annual Action Plan projects.

This process of educating and having public input is critical to creating a new Five-Year Consolidated Plan, not because it is required by HUD, but it is an important mechanism for community engagement for the citizens of Ames.

**Workshop Meeting Agenda:**

**Staff has prepared the following tentative agenda for the December 4, 2018 workshop:**

1. Overview of the CDBG and HOME Programs.
2. Review of the Consolidated Planning Requirements.
3. Overview of the Five-year Goals and Priorities created in 2004, 2009 and 2014
4. Breakout small group discussions to review and discuss revised or new 5-year goals and priorities.
5. Reconvene large group and have each group report out their goals and/or priorities.
6. Tentative Timeline for next steps