



3-5 Year Strategic Plan

This document includes Narrative Responses to specific questions that grantees of the Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership, Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS and Emergency Shelter Grants Programs must respond to in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations.

GENERAL

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is optional, but encouraged. If you choose to complete it, please provide a brief overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that are proposed throughout the 3-5 year strategic planning period.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Executive Summary:

The City of Springfield as a federal Entitlement Community, receives annual allocations from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These funds are intended to benefit low and moderate income residents and improve areas of low and moderate concentration. The anticipated federal funds are Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

The Consolidated Plan, a HUD-required Planning document, identifies community need, establishes priorities, defines a strategy and guides resource allocations. This Consolidated Plan covers the period July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2010. The plan is developed with extensive public input received both through multiple public hearings and through ongoing consultation with residents, agencies, community-based organizations, and private businesses. A complete draft of this plan has been made available for public review and comment for the 30 day period beginning April 15, 2005.

Major initiatives identified within this Consolidated Plan can be categorized into three core components. Specifically:

1. Human Capital: Invest in residents to enable people at all income levels to lead healthy, productive lives. Offer support to households and build capacity of community-based organizations to better support vulnerable populations.
2. Neighborhoods: Enhance the quality of life in Springfield's neighborhoods including public places, infrastructures, and housing stock. Ensure neighborhoods are good places to live, work and recreate.

3. Economic Development: Expand economic opportunities, especially employment opportunities, for low and moderate income residents through efforts to attract, retain and expand small businesses in neighborhood business districts and larger commercial and industrial establishments throughout the City.

Available Funds:

The priorities and accomplishment goals outlines in this document are based on assumptions about future funding levels for the Consolidated Plan programs. In all cases the City of Springfield has presumed level funding for each program at Federal Fiscal year 2005 levels. Various factors including annual Congressional appropriations, potential changes in funding distribution formulas, and eligibility of certain activities may result in changes to planned activities and proposed accomplishments.

	CDBG	HOME	ADDI	ESG	HOPWA	TOTAL
Estimated Annual Entitlement	\$ 4,725,709	\$ 1,794,181	\$ 49,988	\$ 183,129	\$ 433,000	\$ 7,186,007
Estimated Annual Program Income	\$ 200,000	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 275,000
Estimated Annual Funds Available	\$ 4,925,709	\$ 1,869,181	\$ 49,988	\$ 183,129	\$ 433,000	\$ 7,461,007
Five Year Total Estimated Funds Available	\$ 24,628,545	\$ 9,345,905	\$ 249,940	\$ 915,645	\$ 2,165,000	\$ 37,305,035

Strategic Plan

Due every three, four, or five years (length of period is at the grantee's discretion) no less than 45 days prior to the start of the grantee's program year start date. HUD does not accept plans between August 15 and November 15.

Mission:

The mission of the City of Springfield is to provide safe, decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities to low and moderate income persons.

General Questions

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed.
2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) and the basis for assigning the priority (including the relative priority, where required) given to each category of priority needs (91.215(a)(2)).
3. Identify any obstacles to meeting underserved needs (91.215(a)(3)).

3-5 Year Strategic Plan General Questions response:

The City of Springfield has maintained a relatively consistent number of residents in the past twenty years. Today, the City is home to 152,082. Although the number of residents has remained consistent, the profile of residents has changed significantly.

Springfield Population

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Springfield Population	152,319	156,983	152,082

Source: United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

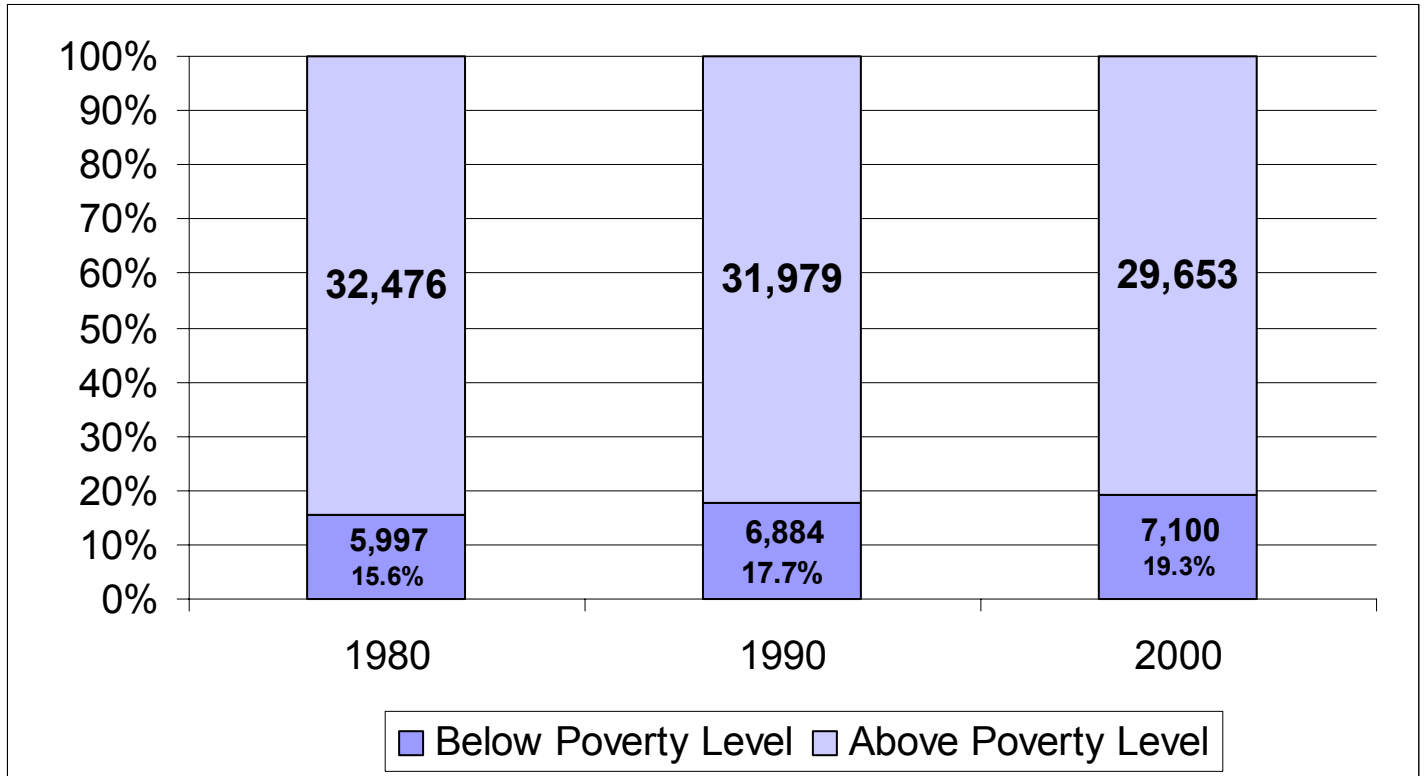
One of the greatest changes to Springfield's population is the number of residents who live in poverty. While the income of residents lagged behind the balance of the Commonwealth in 1980, the gap widened in the 1980s and 1990s. In 2000, Springfield's median family income was 58.8% of that for the Commonwealth. The median income of the City has not kept pace with that of the region or the Commonwealth. This widening income gap has significant implications on every aspect of life within the city.

Median Family Income	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Springfield	\$ 16,607	\$ 30,824	\$ 36,285
Hampden County	\$ 19,596	\$ 31,100	\$ 49,257
Massachusetts	\$ 21,166	\$ 44,367	\$ 61,664
% of Hampden County	84.7%	99.1%	73.7%
% of Massachusetts	78.5%	69.5%	58.8%
Per Capita Income			
Springfield	\$ 5,819	\$ 11,584	\$ 15,232
Hampden County	\$ 6,731	\$ 14,029	\$ 19,541
Massachusetts	\$ 7,459	\$ 17,224	\$ 25,952
% of Hampden County	86.5%	82.6%	77.9%
% of Massachusetts	78.0%	67.3%	58.7%

Source: United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The number of families living below the poverty line has increased significantly.

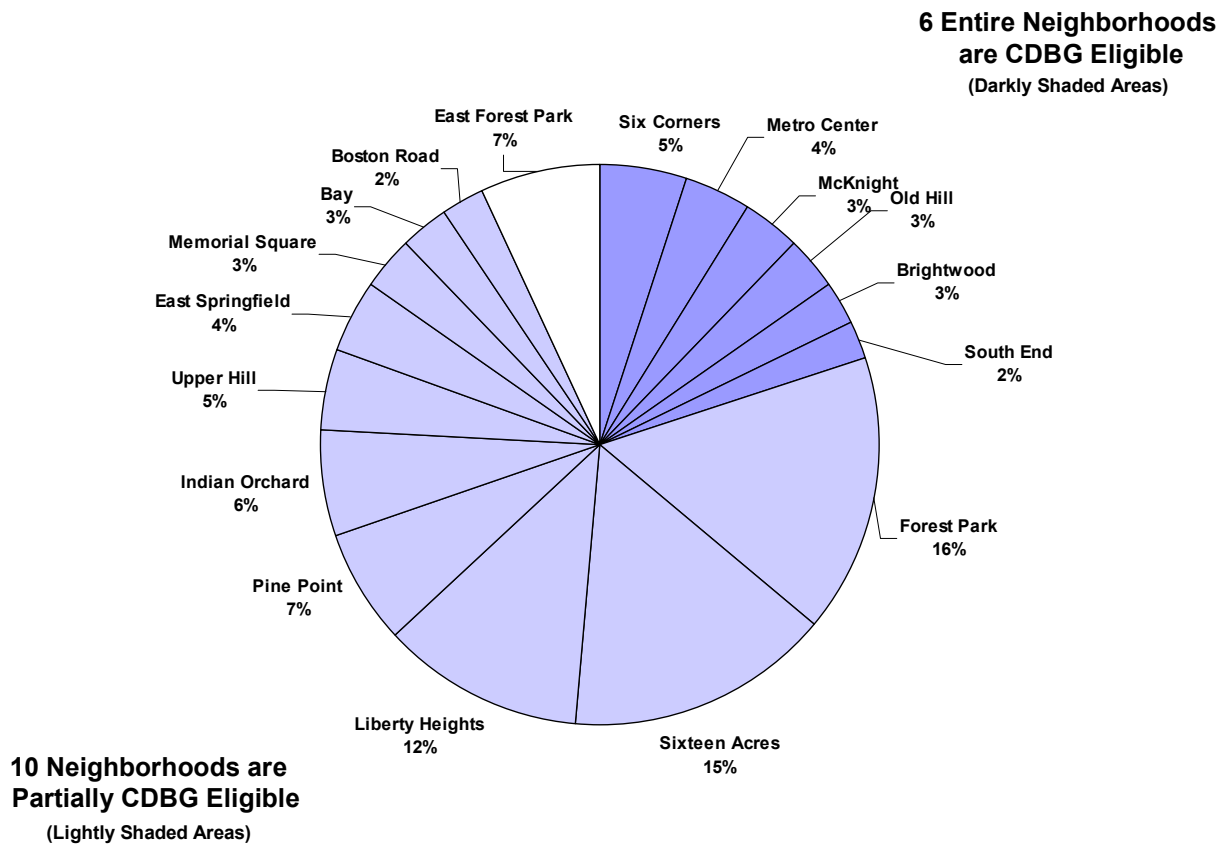
Figure A: Families with Income Below Poverty Level 1980-2000



Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 1980, 1999 and 2000 US Census

This increase in the number of families living below the poverty level has resulted in most areas of the city being predominately comprised of low- to moderate-income individuals. Of the 17 neighborhoods, 6 are entirely CDBG eligible and 10 are partially eligible.

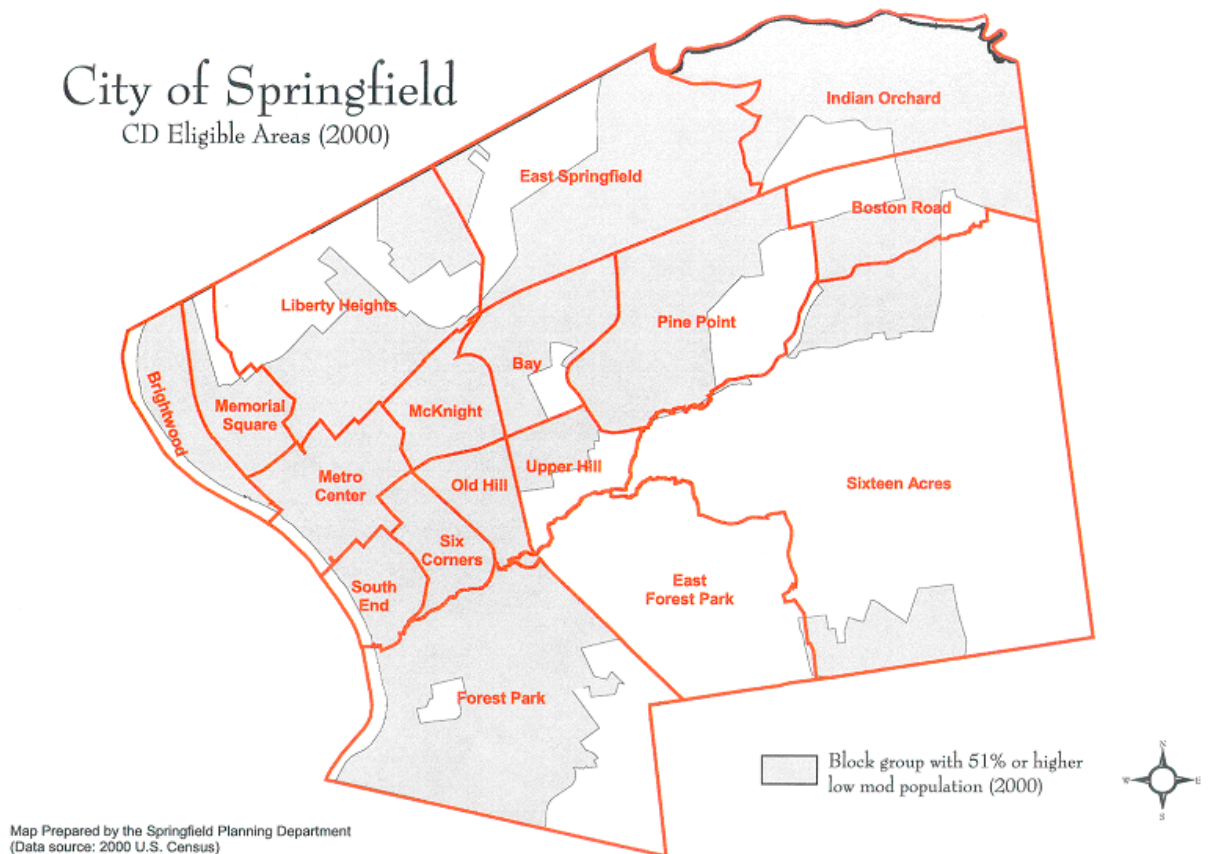
Figure B: Springfield Population in 2000 by Neighborhood: 152,082



Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census

The City of Springfield proposes to predominately expend its CDBG allocation with these target neighborhoods. Figure C maps the CDBG eligible areas. Furthermore, during the period covered by this Consolidated Plan Strategy, CDBG funds will be directly targeted to the census block tracks identified in Figure D.

Figure C



This eligible area includes the following block groups and census tracts:

FIGURE D

TRACT	NRSA	BLKGRP	LOWMOD PCT	TRACT	NRSA	BLKGRP	LOWMOD PCT	TRACT	NRSA	BLKGRP	LOWMOD PCT
8026.01		3	59.9	8018.00	X	6	85.7	8011.01	X	2	100.0
8026.01		4	55.8	8017.00		3	75.4	8009.00	X	1	86.0
8026.01		5	68.2	8017.00		4	64.0	8009.00	X	2	81.6
8023.00		1	56.2	8017.00		5	65.8	8009.00	X	3	95.2
8023.00		2	51.8	8017.00		6	67.4	8009.00		4	70.3
8023.00	X	4	82.8	8016.05		2	54.2	8009.00	X	5	89.9
8023.00		5	74.4	8016.03		1	52.3	8008.00	X	1	90.2
8023.00		6	75.4	8016.02		1	55.9	8008.00	X	2	84.0
8022.00		1	67.8	8015.03		1	63.5	8007.00	X	1	85.4
8022.00		2	65.2	8015.03		2	66.0	8007.00		2	75.4
8022.00		3	77.8	8015.02		1	56.3	8006.00	X	1	85.9
8021.00	X	1	78.6	8015.02		4	72.4	8006.00	X	2	96.6
8021.00	X	4	56.6	8015.01		3	71.4	8006.00	X	3	99.4
8021.00		6	53.1	8015.01		4	52.1	8005.00		1	61.1
8021.00		9	67.1	8014.02		1	57.1	8005.00		2	56.9
8020.00	X	1	85.7	8014.02		4	59.1	8004.00		2	53.8
8020.00	X	2	86.2	8014.01		5	74.3	8004.00		4	54.1
8020.00		3	79.1	8014.01		6	78.2	8004.00		5	62.7
8019.00	X	1	84.3	8013.00		1	75.2	8004.00		6	66.1
8019.00	X	2	84.3	8013.00	X	2	85.2	8003.00		1	59.0
8019.00	X	3	78.4	8013.00		3	63.2	8002.02		1	52.6
8019.00	X	4	81.7	8013.00		5	58.4	8002.01		3	58.6
8019.00	X	5	86.6	8012.00	X	1	92.7	8002.01		6	69.4
8019.00	X	8	83.0	8012.00	X	2	82.4	8001.00	X	1	80.6
8018.00	X	1	79.0	8012.00		3	63.4	8001.00		2	54.8
8018.00		2	64.4	8011.02	X	1	61.1	8001.00		4	74.4
8018.00	X	3	81.9	8011.02		2	84.3	8001.00		5	72.0
8018.00		5	68.9	8011.01	X	1	86.6	8001.00		8	65.1

Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census

Springfield's low and moderate income neighborhoods are very diverse as indicated on the following charts (Figures E, F and G) that overview respectively the racial and Hispanic composition of each neighborhood.

Figure E

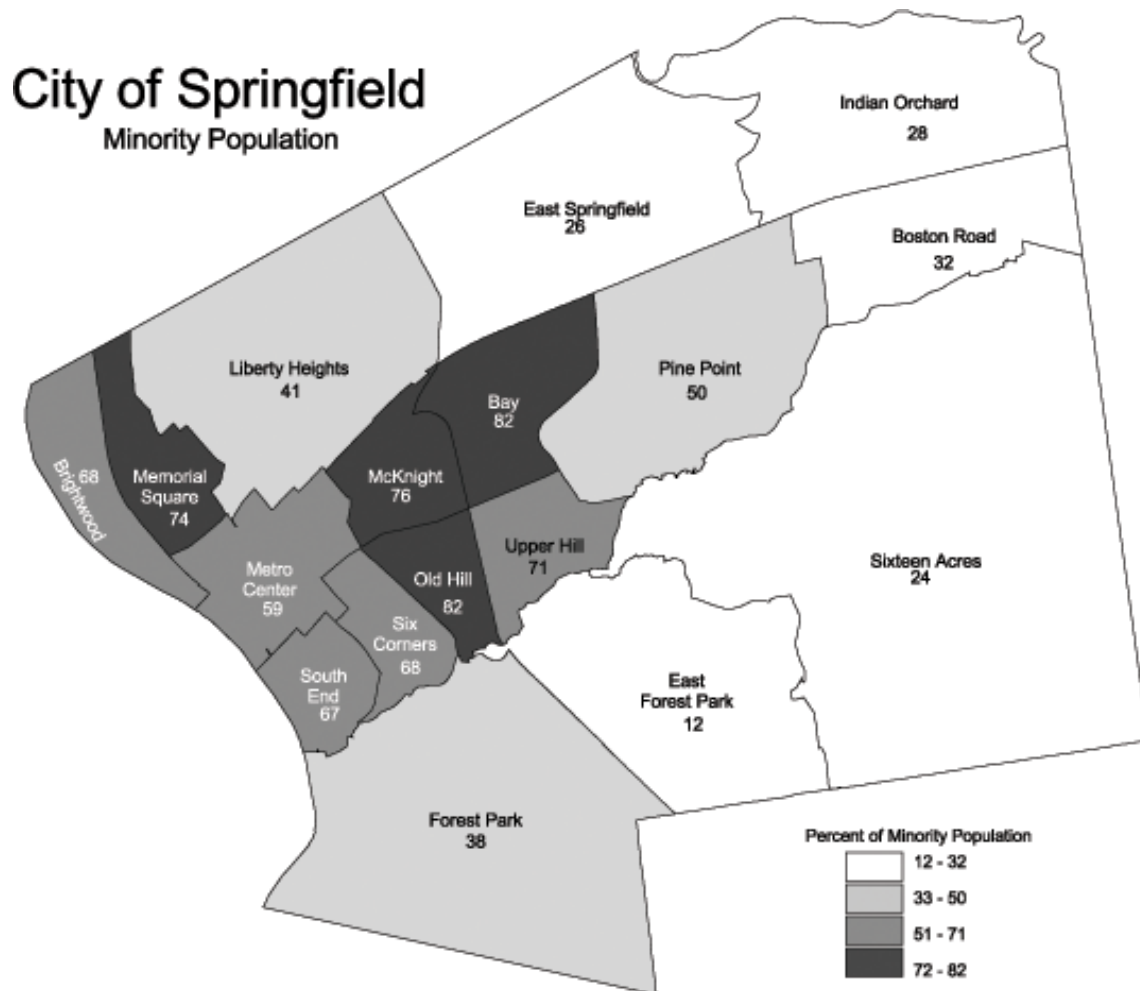
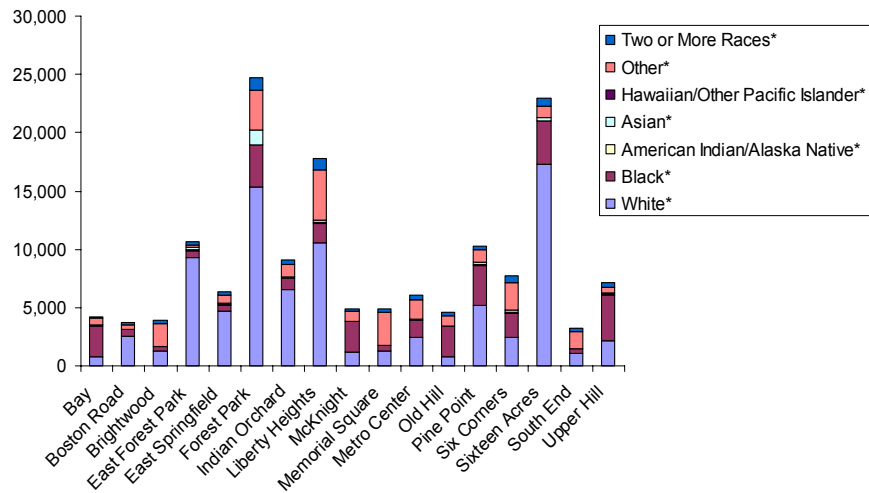


Figure F

Racial Composition of each of Springfield's Neighborhoods in 2000

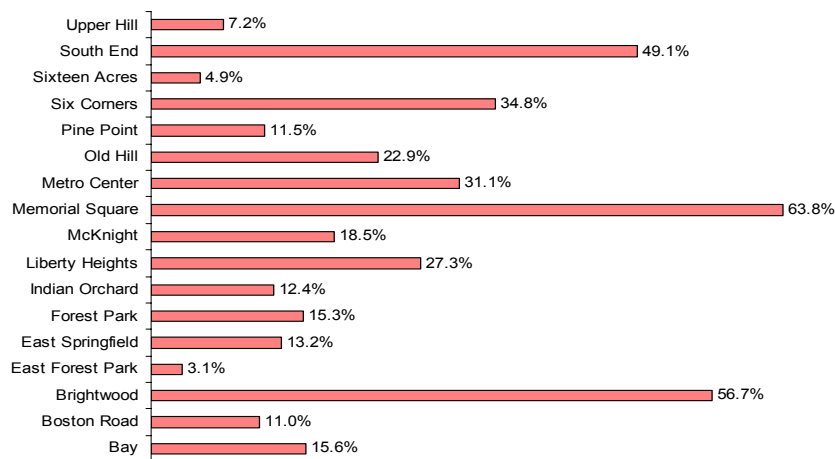


* Includes Hispanic

Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of the 2000 US Census (Data based on sample and subject to sampling variability.)

Figure G

Hispanic Population in each of Springfield's Neighborhoods in 2000



Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of the 2000 US Census (Data based on sample and subject to sampling variability.)

When depicted on a block group level (a subset of the census tracts used by the US Census department), low income and minority concentrations throughout the City are particularly evident. Called “areas of low-income concentration” and “areas of minority concentration”, the City defines these areas as block groups where the concentration of the respective income or minority group is higher than the percentage of the same demographic group in the overall city population.

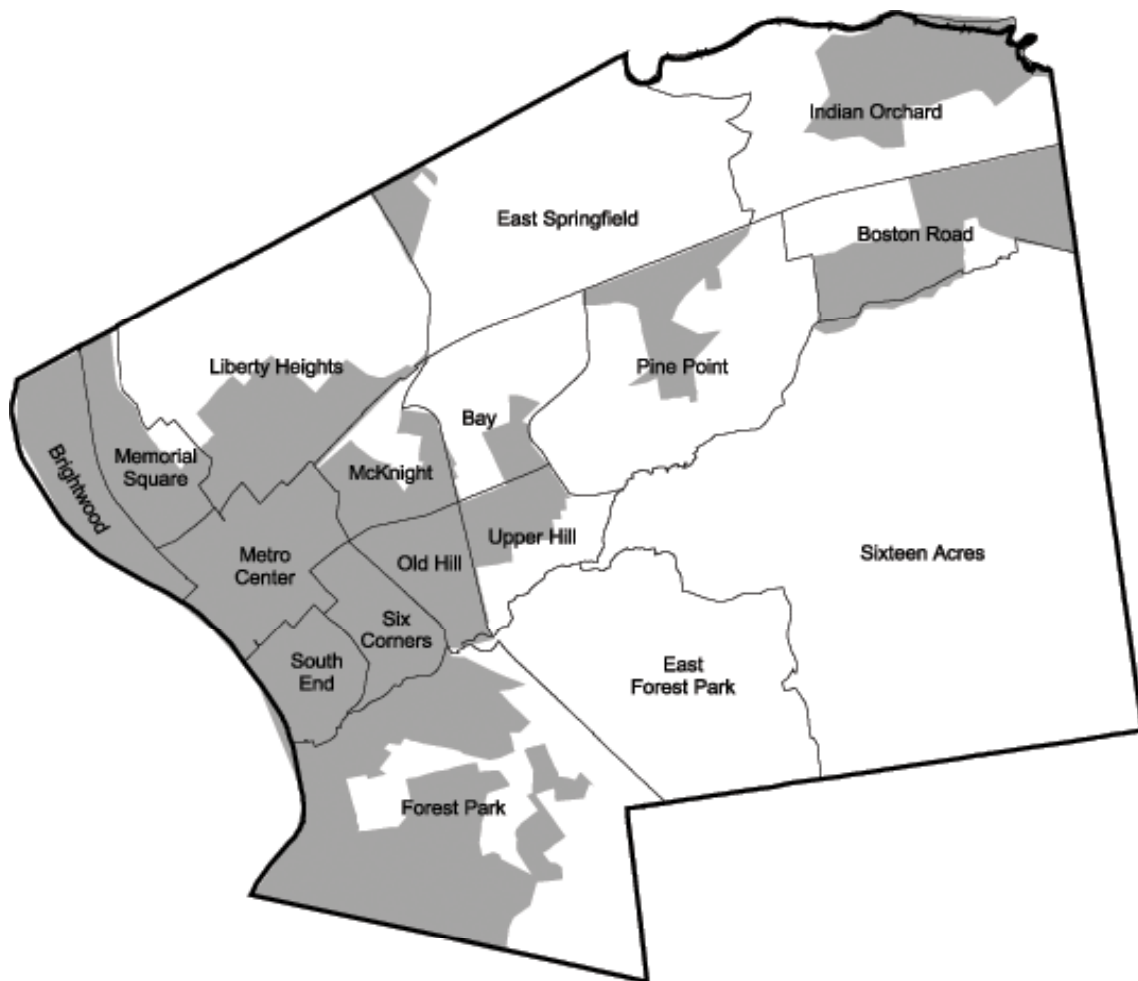
The following table overviews the percentages of citywide concentration that are used as the baseline in the maps that follow (Figures G through M). For reference, a blank map with the boundaries of all block groups in the City follows the maps mentioned above (Figure N).

	POPULATION	PERCENT OF TOTAL CITY POPULATION	FIGURE
INCOME			
Low or Moderate Income	87,056	59.4%	G
RACE			
Black and African American	31,472	20.7%	H
American Indian and Alaska Native	590	0.4%	I
Asian	2,859	1.9%	J
Other/Multi Racial	32,191	21.2%	K
Total Non White (incl. Black and African American, Asian, American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Other/Multi Racial)	67,204	44.2%	L
ETHNICITY			
Hispanic	41,359	27.2%	M

Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census Data and Low and moderate income data provided by HUD at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/systems/census/lowmod/ma/BlockGroup.xls>

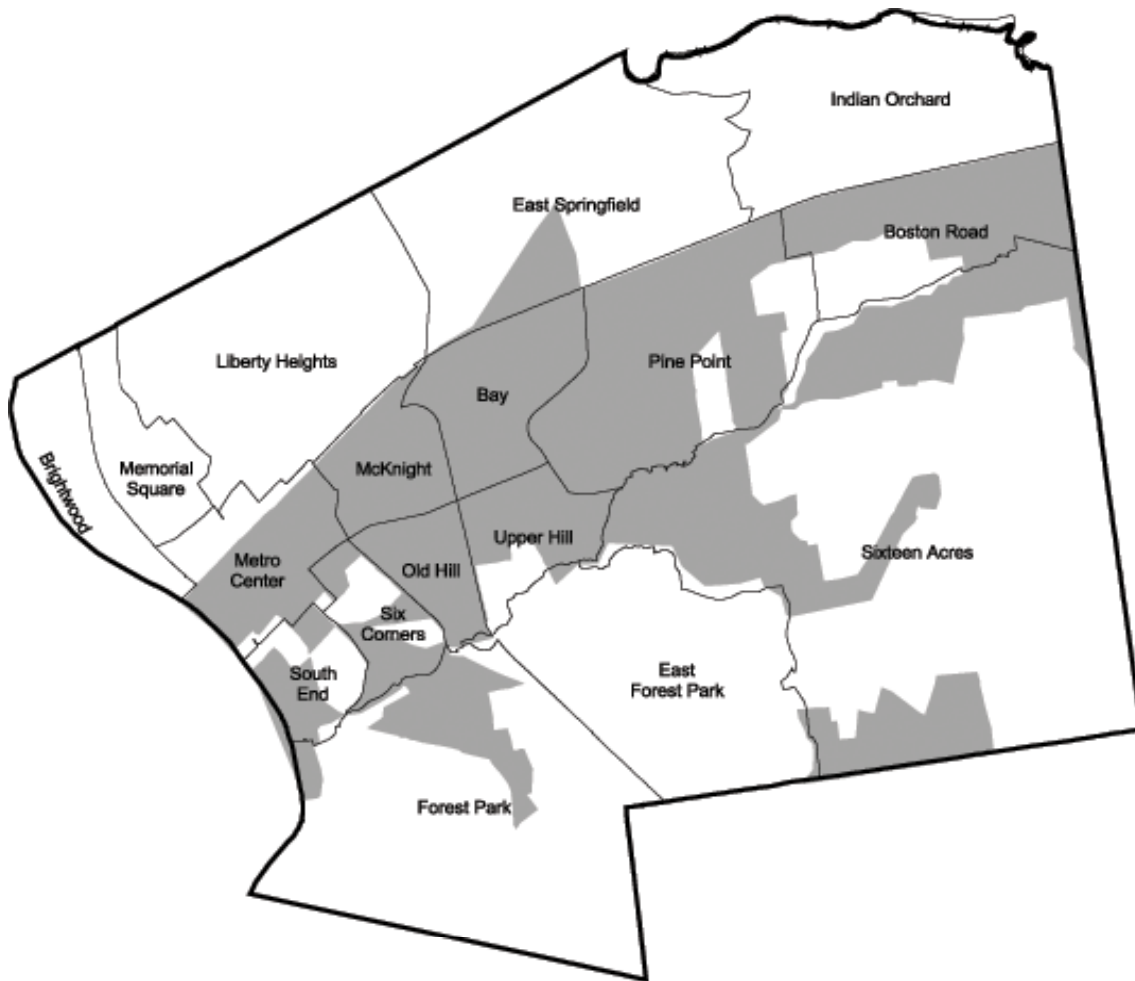
Note: In the “Race” category the total number of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders amounts to 98 or 0.1 percent of the Springfield population. Although there is no map for this category, the 98 persons are included in the Total Non White Concentration that contains an aggregate count of all non white racial groups.

Figure G: Areas of Low Income Concentration
(Greater than Citywide Percentage of 59.4%)



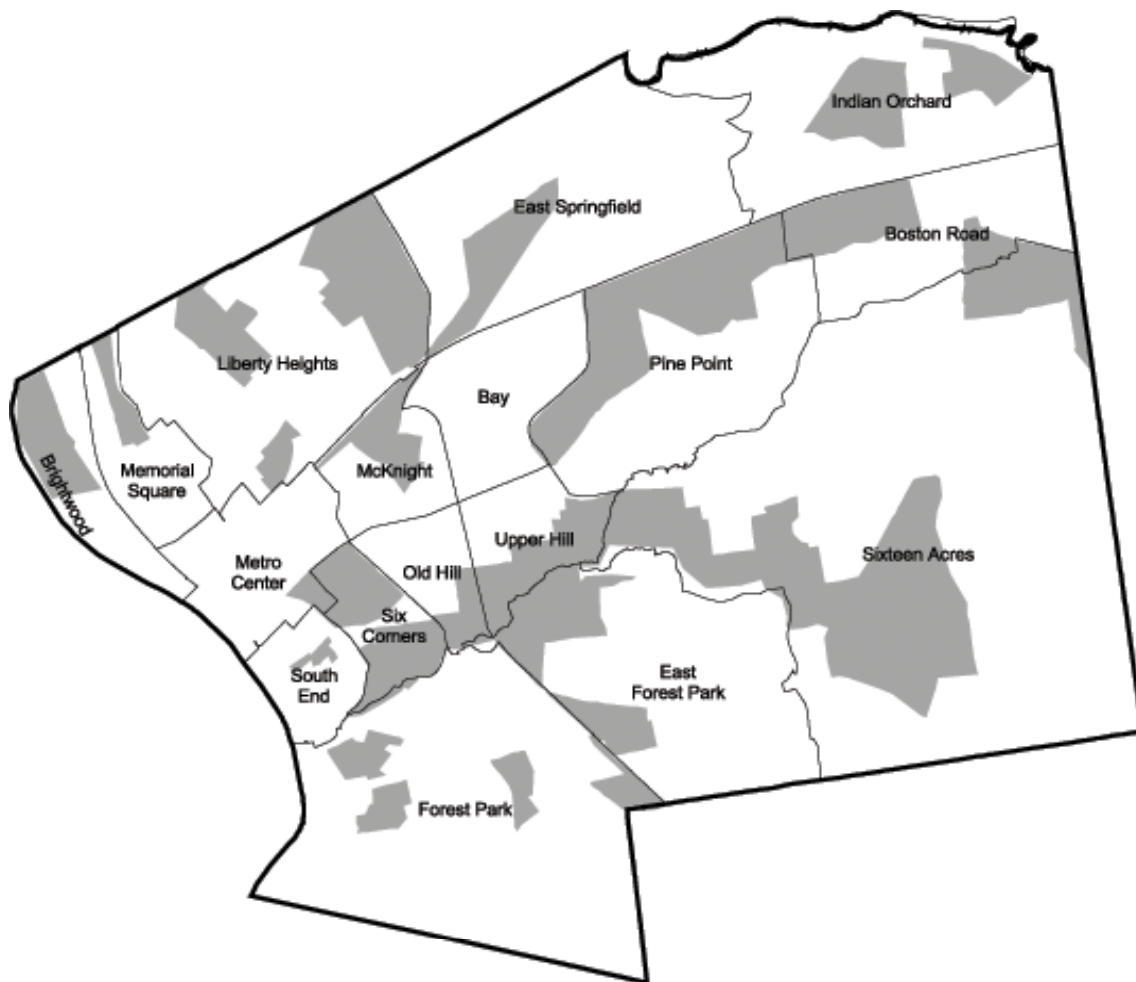
Source: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/systems/census/lowmod/ma/BlockGroup.xls>

Figure H: Areas of Black and African American Concentration
(Greater than Citywide Percentage of 20.7%)



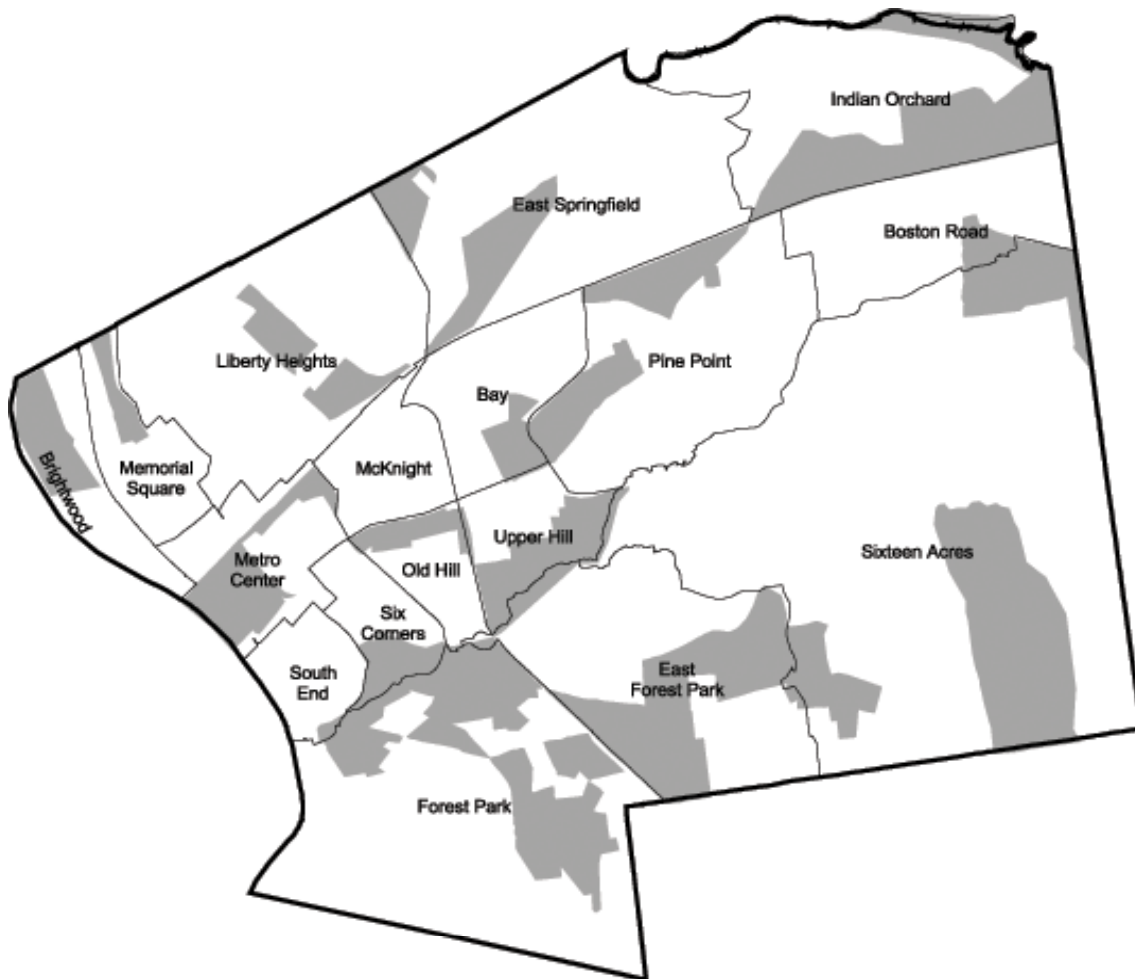
Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census data

Figure I: Areas of American Indian and Alaska Native Concentration
(Greater than Citywide Percentage of 0.4%)



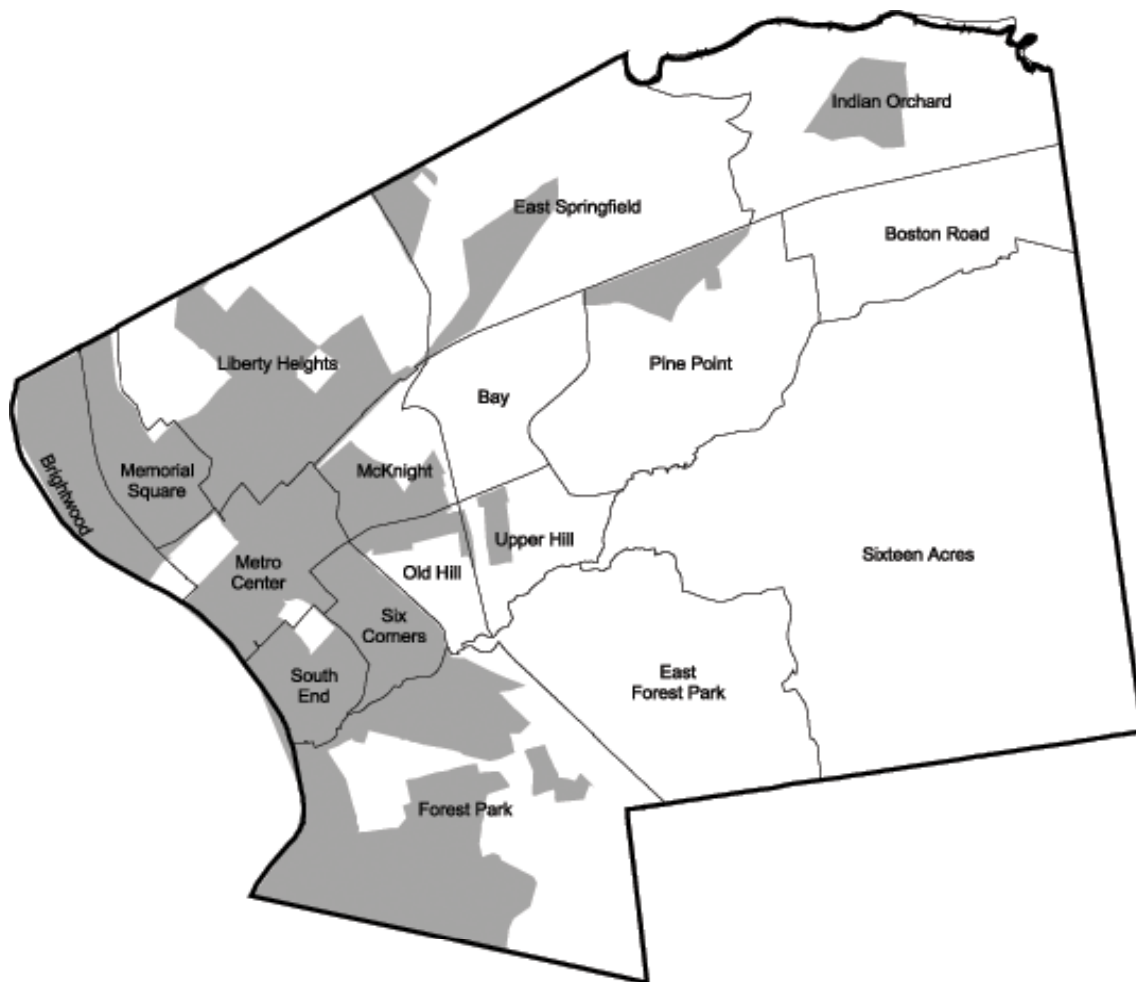
Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census data

Figure J: Areas of Asian Concentration
(Greater than Citywide Percentage of 1.9%)



Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census data

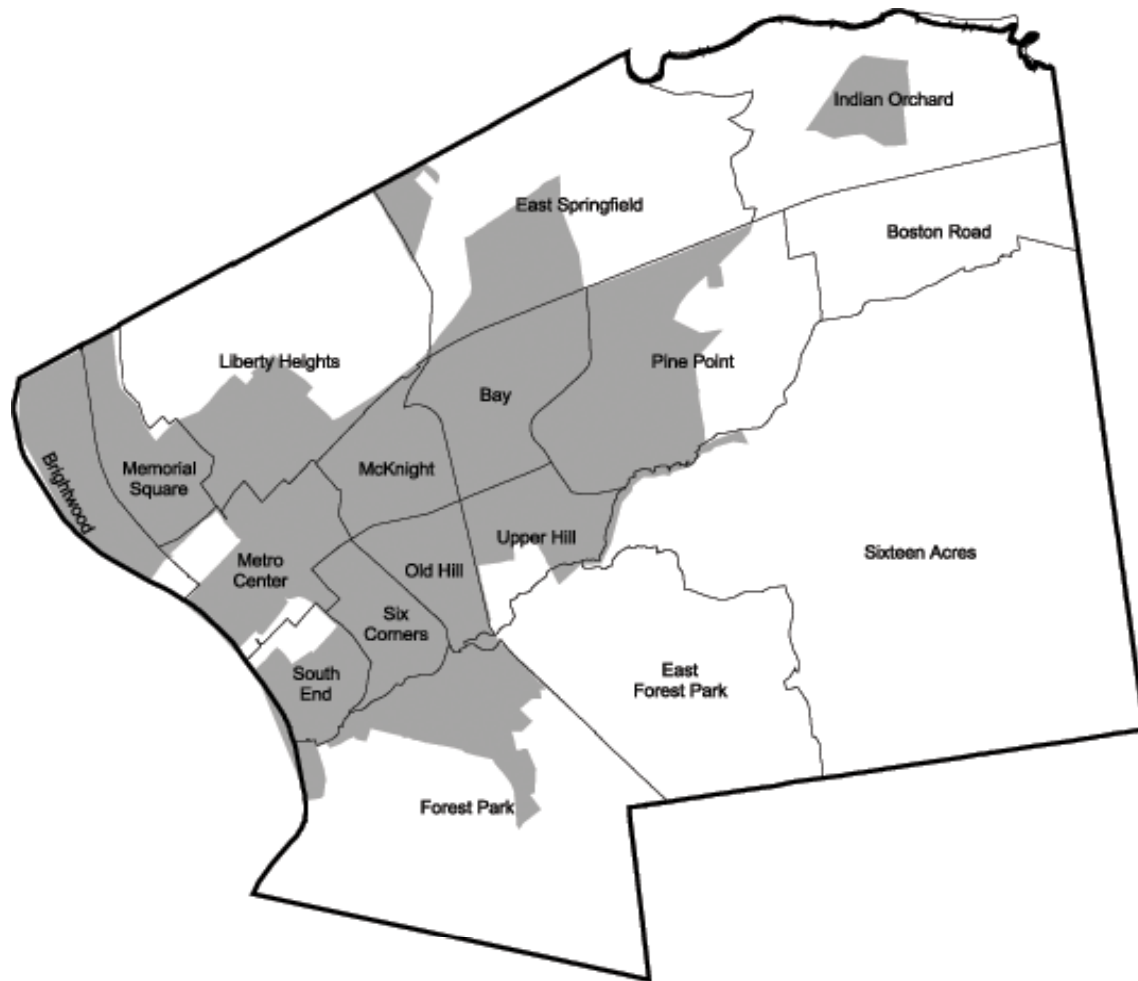
Figure K: Areas of Other/Multi Racial Concentration
(Greater than Citywide Percentage of 21.2%)



Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census data

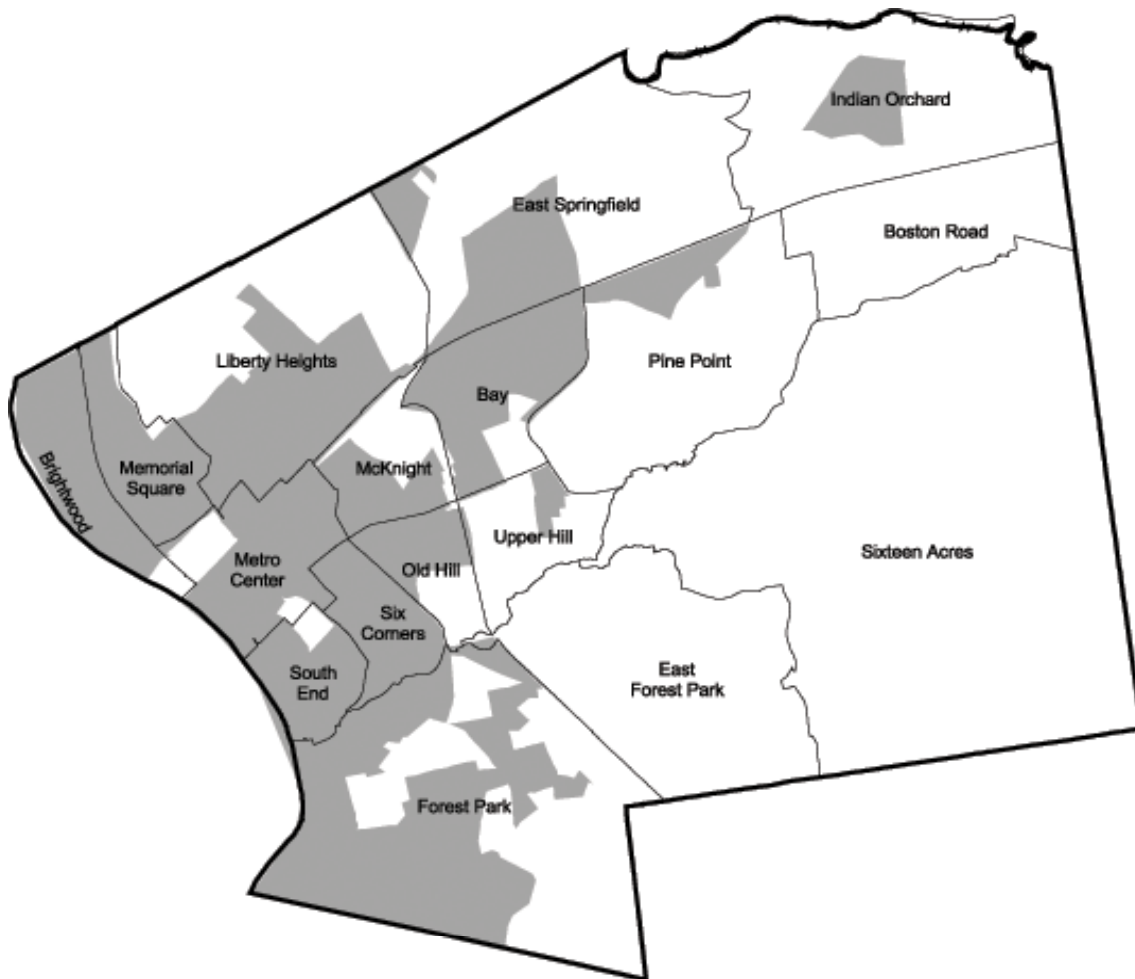
Figure L: Areas of Total Non White Concentration

(incl. Black and African American, Asian, American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Other/Multi Racial)
(Greater than Citywide Percentage of 44.2%)



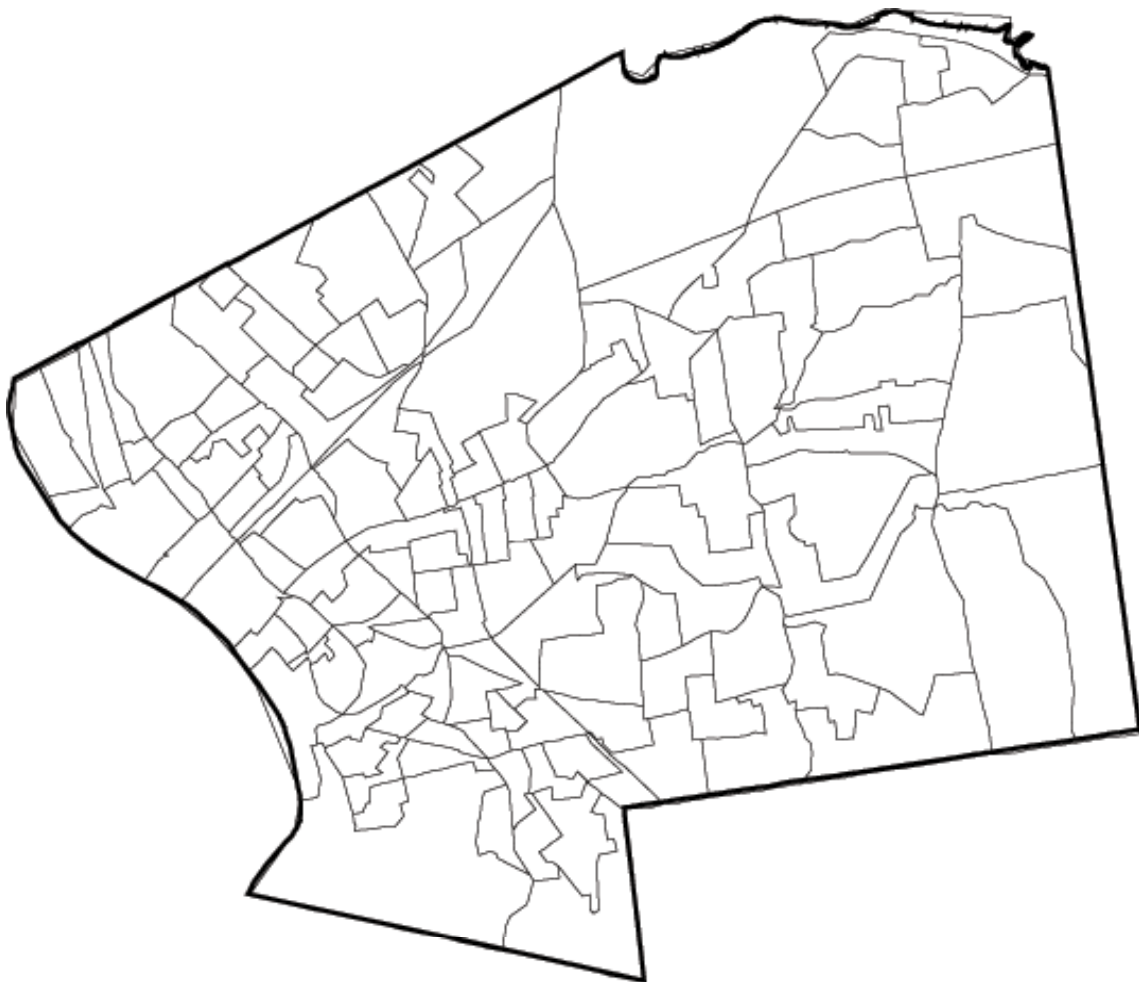
Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census data

Figure M: Areas of Hispanic Concentration
(Greater than Citywide Percentage of 27.2%)



Source: Springfield Planning Department analysis of 2000 US Census data

Figure N: Blank Map with Boundaries of All Springfield Block Groups



Source: Springfield Planning Department

Resources will be allocated to maximize the benefits to residents within the targeted areas. Public infrastructure, parks, and public facilities, typically thought of as “the brick and mortar” projects will be exclusively within target neighborhoods. Other expenditures will be targeted towards low to moderate income residents throughout the city. For example, HOME funds will be utilized to directly assist low income households to achieve homeownership, yet developer projects designed to improve housing stock will be predominately within the target areas.

ESG and HOPWA funds are targeted to meet the identified needs of the eligible populations within the geographic area. For ESG, the service area is the City of Springfield. Investments are made in accordance with relative priority and statutory spending caps. HOPWA funds are allocated throughout the EMSA which includes the tri-county area. HOPWA funds are allocated primarily to alleviate the housing cost burden for eligible households.

The establishment of priority needs for all funding sources is undertaken with community stakeholders, constituents, and service providers after a complete analysis of relevant data. While numerous obstacles inhibit the City’s work to meet underserved needs and subpopulations, the two primary obstacles are:

1. Uncoordinated resources from multiple funding sources across various agencies and providers.
2. Insufficient resources to engage and serve special needs subpopulations.

The City will work to overcome these obstacles by advocating for legislative change, when appropriate, hosting forums for special needs persons and providers to receive input on how to improve coordination and communication, and providing technical and financial assistance.

Managing the Process (91.200 (b))

1. Lead Agency. Identify the lead agency or entity for overseeing the development of the plan and the major public and private agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.
2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.
3. Describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies, and other entities, including those focusing on services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and homeless persons.

*Note: HOPWA grantees must consult broadly to develop a metropolitan-wide strategy and other jurisdictions must assist in the preparation of the HOPWA submission.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Managing the Process response:

A collaborative approach was utilized by the City to develop this Consolidated Plan Strategy. With the Office of Community Development as the lead agency, this Consolidated Plan has been completed with the direct involvement of a number of City departments and the State's Financial Control Board.

City Departments Involved in Development of Consolidated Plan

Office of Housing & Neighborhood Services	Department of Parks and Recreation
Department of Health and Human Services	Department of Economic Development
Department of Public Works	Department of Elder Affairs
Department of Planning	Code Enforcement Department
Buildings Department	

OCD and other City departments that implement community development programs worked together to solicit input for the City of Springfield's Consolidated Plan strategy. Outreach included consultations with residents, private industry and non-profit organizations, including Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOS).

The input received from a broad base of organizations enabled the City to identify its community development, housing, homeless and special needs objectives. The consultation with such a diverse constituency is directly responsible for the City's comprehensive approach to the three core components. The consultation process included recent public hearings, meetings of key City boards and commissions, and regular meetings of community-based organizations and human service providers. More specifically, in developing this Consolidated Plan the City consulted:

Housing Services, Homeless Services

- Service providers including organizations serving sub-populations
 - RiverValley Counseling (HIV)
 - New North Citizens Council (Anti-poverty)
 - Law Consortium (HIV, Low-Income)
 - Western Mass Legal Service (Low-Income)
 - YWCA (Battered Women)
 - Puerto Rican Outreach Center (Veterans)
 - Mental Health Association (Mental health/Dual Diagnosis)
 - Friends of The Homeless (homeless)
 - Mercy Hospital (homeless)
 - Springfield Partner's (Anti-poverty)
- Private Sector
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Springfield College
 - Regional Employment Board

- State Agencies
 - Office of Commonwealth Development
 - Department of Transitional Assistance
 - Department of Housing and Community Development

HOPWA Consultation

- Commonwealth's Department of Public Health
- City of Northampton, MA
- River Valley Counseling
- Law Consortium
- Mercy Hospital
- New North Citizen's Council
- Northern Education Services
- Ryan White Consortium
- Tapestry Health Systems
- Cooley Dickinson Hospital

Social Services

- The Regional Employment Board (REB), the organization that implements workforce development initiatives in the region;
- The New North Citizens Council, an organization that conducts family self – sufficiency programs;
- Holyoke-Chicopee-Springfield Head Start, Inc, which offers early education services throughout the region;
- The City of Springfield's Department of Adult Education
- The Citywide Violence Prevention Task Force
- The Mayor's Commission on Youth
- The Mayor's Office of Elder Affairs
- Greater Springfield Senior Service
- Hungry Hill Senior Center
- Pine Point Senior Center
- Mason Square Senior Center

Health Services

- Mercy Medical Center
- Baystate Medical Center
- Partners for a Healthy Community
- Willie Ross School for Deaf
- SIDS Association, Springfield Chapter
- American Heart Society, Springfield Chapter
- American Cancer Society, Springfield Chapter
- Northern Education Services
- New North Citizens Council
- The Springfield Health Coalition
- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, which sends Springfield data extrapolated from its state wide health indices system

- The Massachusetts Office of Emergency Preparedness
- The Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Lead Paint

- The City of Springfield is in regular consultation with the State's Department of Public Health/Childhood lead Poisoning Prevention Program. As grantees of HUD's Office of Health Homes and Lead Hazard Control, the City interacts monthly with CLPPP staff on public health and targeted abatement activities

Adjacent Government

- The City submitted the Draft Consolidated Plan to the Director of the Community Service Division at the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development and the Acting Chief of Staff of the Massachusetts Office of Commonwealth Development for review and comment.
- The City also notified and consulted with adjacent units of local government. Springfield Community Development commissioner sent copies of the Draft Consolidated Plan and the draft Action Plan were sent on May 6th to the Directors of the Community Development Departments in the cities of Chicopee, Westfield, West Springfield, and Holyoke for review and comment. The City also received and reviewed a copy of the Consolidated Plans and Action Plans for these cities. Although no formal comments were received, the Directors did determine that they will touch base on a quarterly basis regarding Consolidated Plan and Action Plan implementation.

Metro Planning Agencies

- The City of Springfield is an active member of the recognized regional planning agencies, including the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, West Mass Development Corporation, and the Economic Development Partners.

Through this membership, the City has consulted with these organizations. City staff participate as a member of the Board of Trustees of the "Plan for Progress", which is the region's ten year Economic Development Strategy. These monthly Board meetings also serve as forums to exchange information with all of the Economic Development practitioners throughout the Pioneer Valley region.

Public Housing Agencies

- The City of Springfield has been actively engaged with the Springfield Housing Authority during the development of the Consolidated Plan. Of particular interest were the implementation of a voucher program for homeless households and the expansion of the American Dream Down-payment Initiative.
- A regional public housing authority, Housing Allowance Project (HAP), was likewise consulted during the Consolidated Plan development. HAP plays an integral role through its development division, which is a certified CHDO.

The City will continue to solicit input from community development organizations in the area and will on an annual basis in our Annual Action Plan make adjustments to the City's community development program to reflect the input received.

Citizen Participation (91.200 (b))

1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.
2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.
3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.
4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

*Please note that Citizen Comments and Responses may be included as additional files within the CPMP Tool.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Citizen Participation response:

Understanding the importance of citizen input, it is the City of Springfield's goal to encourage citizen participation in the development of its five year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans, particularly from those citizens most affected by community development programs. This Citizen Participation Plan establishes the policies and procedures that the City of Springfield will follow to ensure that participation is as inclusive as possible.

Encouragement of Citizen Participation

The City of Springfield will encourage the input of low moderate income residents by (1) committing to an outreach campaign to generate public interest, (2) conducting a series of public hearings at various stages of the planning process, (3) disseminating information in an accessible and understandable format and (4) creating a formal system to accept and respond to citizen comments, oral testimony and complaints.

To ensure participation among low/moderate income residents and to public housing residents, the City will post notices and summaries of information at neighborhood councils, civic associations, and other places frequently patronized by residents, and the City will conduct hearings at locations within those areas, including at public housing complexes. When possible, the City will utilize the media, i.e., public access channel, radio stations, and computer technology to further its efforts of participation.

The City is committed to making information available and accessible to all interested parties. At a minimum, the City will provide information concerning proposed activities, including amount of assistance, range of activities to be undertaken and the amount that will benefit low/moderate income persons.

Anti Displacement Plan

The City is sensitive to displacement and the effect it has on surrounding areas. Therefore, prior to the commencement of a project funded through the City that could displace a person or persons, the Office of Community Development will consider the overall public benefit(s) of the project and discuss potential alternatives to determine whether the project should move forward. Authorization for

displacement will be given only when there is significant public benefit that outweighs the displacement. In the event that displacement will occur, the City will provide the necessary assistance to affected persons to minimize the trauma of displacement. Assistance would include: moving expenses, rental assistance, assistance with identifying other housing, etc. The actual type and level of assistance will be made on a case-by-case basis, but it will be sufficient to ease the transition for the displaced persons.

Publication of Materials/Notices of Hearings

At key element of citizen participation is information. To ensure that the City provides for maximum citizen participation and offers reasonable opportunity for examination and submission of contents, it will:

1. Publish legal notices in the Springfield newspaper at least fourteen (14) days prior to any public hearings and/or when and where documents will be available for public review. To accommodate non-English speaking residents, the legal notices will also be published in Spanish.
2. Notify a targeted list of organizations and interested parties of the purpose, date, time and place of hearings and public review periods of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, any substantial amendments and Performance Reports with an invitation to attend all events. Organizations are encouraged to invite the people they serve. For announcements about the review process, the notification will include a listing of locations where these documents will be made available for review.
3. Utilize the City's Home web site to publicize public hearings, periods of review, summaries of information, etc.

The City will continually review this policy and will modify accordingly.

Period of Review

The City's Draft Consolidated Plan, Draft Annual Action Plan and any substantial amendments will be made available for public review and comment for at least thirty (30) days prior to submission to HUD. The Performance Report(s) will be made available for public review and comment for at least fifteen (15) days prior to submission to HUD.

These documents will be available for review at multiple locations to increase the likelihood of citizen participation, including the Office of Community Development, 36 Court Street, Room 313; Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services, 1600 East Columbus Avenue, 1st Floor; Department of Health and Human Services; 95 State Street, Central Library, 220 State Street; Springfield Neighborhood Councils, including the: South End Citizens Council, New North Citizens Council, Hungry Hill Senior Center, Pine Point Senior Center, Old Hill Neighborhood Council, Indian Orchard Neighborhood Council.

The executive summary of the Consolidated Plan will be made available on the City's Webpage.

To further elicit comment, the City offers citizens the opportunity to present testimony at public hearings or, if they prefer, written commentary may be submitted. All citizen input received, either orally or in writing, is incorporated into the City's Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, Substantial Amendments and Performance Reports.

Public Hearings

The City will conduct a series of public hearings to address housing and community development needs during the development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. The City will hold at least two (2) hearings during this phase. These hearings will be held in neighborhoods where the majority of funding will be spent.

In order to receive input on the Draft Consolidated Plan and Draft Annual Action Plans, the City will hold a public hearing during the 30-day comment period. A synopsis of the public comments will be prepared at the conclusion of the 30-day public review period. Senior staff members of the Office of Community Development will review all input and recommend if any modifications should be incorporated into the final version of the Consolidated Plan. All oral and written comments received will be incorporated into the Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan, as will minutes of the meetings. If any comments are not accepted, the City will set forth the reasons within its Plan. A public hearing will be held to obtain comments on the City's Performance Reports.

To address the needs of residents with disabilities and language barriers, the City publishes materials in English and Spanish, holds meetings in accessible buildings and utilizes a translator for its Spanish residents during the public hearings.

Application for Funding

City departments provide input on the types of activities that should be addressed with federal funding. Furthermore, in an effort to develop best practices, Community Development officials consult with neighborhood organizations, non-profits, the business and housing community, and city departments regarding input into the Plan. Based upon that input, activities may be proposed for funding by the Commissioner. Where appropriate for the City to utilize area service providers and other potential subrecipients to implement components of this Consolidated Plan, a Request for Proposals (RFP) process will be utilized.

Amendments

Once the final Consolidated Plan has been submitted by the City of Springfield for HUD approval, significant changes to the accepted Plan will require citizen notification and comment. The criteria defining a significant change will include:

- a. activities which will require new goals/objectives for the current fiscal year;
- b. an activity which will require a funding change that exceeds 50% of the approval allocation for that activity.

If these actions occur within the fiscal year of the approved Plan, community development officials will seek public opinion for the proposed change. A notice (published in English and Spanish) will be placed in the local newspaper summarizing the significant change. The City of Springfield will make available at the aforementioned locations information describing the details of the change to the

Consolidated Plan. Public input will be solicited for a period of 30-days and reviewed at the conclusion of that time. The proposed change accompanied by a summary of the public comments will be submitted to the HUD regional office for review.

Complaints

Any citizen or interested party that has a complaint regarding the City's process or the policies and procedures concerning the federal programs, or with the content of the documents described within this section, may submit their grievance(s) in writing to the Commissioner of Community Development. The written complaint will be reviewed by appropriate staff, including. As is deemed necessary, other officials may be consulted. The City will respond to the complainant in a reasonable timeframe discussing the complaint and a proposed resolution, if necessary.

Although the City will accept oral complaints and will address them, it will not respond in writing to such complaint. However, the complainant will be informed of its option to submit a written grievance.

If the complainant is not satisfied with our written response, it will be required to submit further written comment to that effect. At the Commissioner's discretion, given the nature of the complaint, the complainant may be offered a forum to meet directly with officials to discuss the matter further.

Public Input

During the development of the Consolidated Plan Strategy the City held four (4) public hearings throughout the City to obtain input from residents and prioritize needs. The hearings were organized by the four topics that are the subject of this Strategic Plan. They were:

- **Community & Economic Development** at Indian Orchard Elementary School at 95 Milton Street on Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30PM.

Input received at the hearing included:

- Advertise the availability of tax title properties online
- Encourage residential uses near the new federal courthouse, so the area has a mix of residential and office users.
- Assist the homeless community in a manner that would eliminate the need for a “tent city” near the Classical Condominiums.
- Complete the redevelopment for the former Technical High School on State Street, include residential units in the redevelopment scenario.
- Renovate and convert the dilapidated Carriage House behind the Pioneer Valley Historical Museum into a Welcome Center.
- Develop and implement a plan to improve the south end that includes public infrastructure, housing and commercial space.
- Focus public service efforts involving youth in Springfield to achieve three main goals (1) eliminate gang violence, (2) get guns off the street and (3) support parents.
- Provide technical assistance to and increase funding for programs that support minority-owned micro-enterprises
- Continue to support programs that assist persons who are about to or just have been released from prison.

- Revitalize commercial districts in a manner that better meets the needs of the residents.
 - On a per person basis the level of services provided to residents of low and moderate income neighborhoods in Springfield is insufficient: develop an inventory of commercial properties and business in commercial districts throughout the City.
 - Increase the availability of education programs for low and moderate income Springfield residents, particularly those for whom English is a second language.
 - Target funding for adult education and training people how to get a job.
 - Target businesses for neighborhood commercial districts
 - Help businesses in incubators remain in the City when they outgrow the incubators
 - Coordinate meeting times so meetings don't overlap.
 - Direct funding toward programs that support low wage workers
 - Use language in request for proposals that indicates a preference for programs that support low wage workers
 - Identify employment alternatives for day laborers
 - Continue to provide funding for senior centers.
 - Combine the Public Service and Citizen Participation contracts for a portion of rent, electric, telephone, insurance, etc. for the Hungry Hill Neighborhood Council into one contract, as they each require separate reports and payment information.
 - Revitalize the Mill River corridor in Forest Park to address deteriorated housing and infrastructure, crime, and illegal dumping, address new development pressures such as the expansion of auto related uses, rehabilitate traffic islands at the intersection of Orange, Locust, Dickinson and Mill Streets, address sewer overflows and odor issues, increase the availability of pedestrian crossings and traffic control along the river corridor, increase awareness of the significant cultural history of the Mill River, and increase owner-occupancy rates for housing in the area.
- **Homeless Populations** at Chestnut Accelerated Middle School at 355 Plainfield Street in the North End on Thursday, January 20 at 6:30PM.

Input received at the hearing included:

- Prevention Services:
 - Expand capacity
 - Information sharing, including updating the United Way First Call directory.
 - Link/partner with schools
 - Coordinate programs and resources between public and private providers, including faith-based programs
 - Provide stabilization services
- Essential Services:
 - Expand capacity
 - Develop partnerships among providers

- Permanent Housing
 - Expand capacity
 - Use the Pathways to Housing/NYC model – “Housing First”
 - Utilize tax title property to create affordable housing
 - Produce affordable housing with set asides for homeless persons and families
 - Share information more effectively
- Transitional Housing
 - Coordinate housing services
 - Expand capacity
- Emergency Shelter
 - Expand non-DTA shelters
 - Expand existing shelter capacity in a manner that will eliminate the need for a “Tent City”
 - Identify a different location for “Tent City”
- Outreach
 - Establish additional day centers downtown
 - Provide more shower, laundry and storage facilities, explore the feasibility of creating a facility like the PATHMall in LA, which is a shopping mall with services for the homeless
 - Increase and improve information sharing
 - Create a centralized telephone number that homeless persons or persons at risk of becoming homeless may use when they are seeking services.
- **Special Needs Populations** at the Kasparian Professional Development Center at 60 Alton Street (behind Sci Tech High School) in Pine Point on Tuesday, January 25 at 6:30PM.

Input received at the hearing included:

- Address vision needs of low and moderate income persons in Springfield
- Increase accessibility, including using at least 14 point font on promotional materials and documents for community review
- Target resources toward programs for vision-impaired persons
- On local access channels display information being discussed so persons who are hard of hearing and persons who are vision impaired may access the information.
- Increase the availability of transportation for the frail elderly, particularly for those needed non-emergency medical attention.
- Increase outreach to the elderly population
- Provide more housing options to the elderly
- Publish a list of support groups for special needs populations
- Tax credits and tax breaks for the elderly
- Support and training for caretakers of persons with special needs
- Encourage developers and service businesses to locate retail and other services in low and moderate income neighborhoods; very little is available within walking distance in most areas.

- Educate the public about HIV/AIDS, particularly information about how it is transmitted.
 - Increase the availability of support groups and education to the public
 - Increase the capacity of the alcohol and drug treatment system.
- **Affordable Housing** at the Gentile Apartments at 85 William Street in the South End on Thursday, January 27 at 6:30PM.
 - Target funding for affordable housing, particularly single family housing, to projects that will also contribute to revitalizing neighborhoods and bringing life back to abandoned buildings and vacant lots.
 - Develop a plan for an area of the city that needs revitalization and had concentrations of abandoned buildings and vacant lots
 - Take back abandoned properties that are tax delinquent and make them available for redevelopment through an appropriate process based on careful criteria for redevelopment
 - Include architectural criteria to ensure that new buildings are appropriate to the existing streetscapes, building styles and any historic nature of the neighborhood.
 - For abandoned rental blocks,
 - Evaluate which can be saved and which should be demolished.
 - Establish a pool of funds for demolition activities

The Draft Consolidated Plan and Action Plan were available from Thursday, April 14 through Friday, April 13th.

Copies of the Draft Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan were available at the Office of Community Development, 36 Court Street, Room 313; Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services, 1600 East Columbus Avenue, 1st Floor; Department of Health and Human Services; 95 State Street, Central Library, 220 State Street; Springfield Neighborhood Councils, including the: South End Citizens Council, New North Citizens Council, Hungry Hill Senior Center, Pine Point Senior Center, Old Hill Neighborhood Council, Indian Orchard Neighborhood Council.

A public hearing to obtain comments on the Draft Annual Action Plan was held on Tuesday, April 26th at 6:00 PM in room 220 in City Hall.

A notice about this review period, the availability of the draft plan, and the public hearing about the draft plan was published in the Republican on March 30th, and a save the date flyer was mailed to the Office of Community Development Office's mailing list.

Comments at the hearing focused on the citizen participation process, namely different ways it may be strengthened to reach more residents and elicit more constructive feedback, including the use of email to notify interested residents about hearings and draft review periods, the provision of information about draft availability on all flyers distributed including save the date flyers, decreasing the time between draft availability and the time it takes to post the document on the City's website, and the possibility of holding more than one hearing during the review period due to the fact that persons at the hearing felt that they did not have the opportunity to review the documents prior to the hearing.

Additional comments were submitted to the Office of Community Development in writing. Two separate comments from two City residents pertained to the “readability” of the document, particularly for persons who are new to the entitlement funding planning process.

A third set of comments submitted by the Hungry Hill Community Development Corporation, a neighborhood CDC that focuses on housing rehabilitation, pertained to a recommendation to not fund the organization in the 2006 Draft Action Plan. A copy of this letter is attached to the end of this document.

A fourth set of comments received during the month long review period was submitted by Western Massachusetts Legal Services. Comments in this submittal related to housing, shelter, and service needs in the City of Springfield and their position on the City’s necessary planning and spending priorities. A copy of this submission is attached to the end of this document.

The City worked to increase the availability of information regarding this planning process. For the second time, the City advertised the topical public input hearings and on Spanish language radio stations, including WACM 1490 (Radio Popular) on January 6th; WSPR 1270 (La Power), January 6th; WSTCC 90.7, January 10th), and the City sent notices in English and Spanish to not for profits in the City, existing sub-recipients, members of the business community and other interested parties in addition to the versions published in print (Springfield Republican newspaper and the Reminder).

The City also utilized its neighborhood councils and libraries to distribute and collect information, and it worked hard to utilize technology to make the plan more available and to make it available in a cost effective way, including the use of CD ROMs versus paper copies of the plans and posting the plan online in addition to making it available in paper form at the locations listed above. The City will continue to strive to make the document accessible through several mediums in a timely manner to ensure maximum citizen participation.

Institutional Structure (91.215 (i))

1. Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan, including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.
2. Assess the strengths and gaps in the delivery system.
3. Assess the strengths and gaps in the delivery system for public housing, including a description of the organizational relationship between the jurisdiction and the public housing agency, including the appointing authority for the commissioners or board of housing agency, relationship regarding hiring, contracting and procurement; provision of services funded by the jurisdiction; review by the jurisdiction of proposed capital improvements as well as proposed development, demolition or disposition of public housing developments.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Institutional Structure response:

The Office of Community Development (OCD) uses the same structure to administer and implement programs described in the Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans as it used to manage the development of the Plans.

Key Staff includes: Commissioner of Community Development
 Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services
 Director of Administration and Finance

To implement the City's strategy, during this five year period the City will utilize private industry, non-profit organizations, including CBDOs, CHDOs, and City departments. Organizations will include those with experience serving homeless, at-risk and other vulnerable populations.

The utilization of such a broad base of organizations enabled the City to address its community development, housing, homeless and special needs objectives. However, while the number and abilities of the organizations and departments involved are an institutional strength, the City constantly works to coordinate the projects and programs. Such coordination is integral to the success of the Plan.

Recently reorganized as a cabinet of departments that includes OCD, OHNS, OED, Planning and Buildings, the City will commence this five year period with a coordinated approach that will be particularly evident through the inter-departmental and inter-agency efforts to develop and implement a ten year strategy to reduce homelessness and a citywide initiative to utilize public property—including properties acquired through tax title, SRA parcels and brownfield sites--to achieve community development goals and objectives.

The delivery system for public housing has experienced significant challenges over the past few years. Plagued by scandal, key long-term managers of the Springfield Housing Authority have resigned. The past Executive Director has been indicted on numerous counts. A federal corruption probe continues while the organization undertakes significant management reform.

The Springfield Housing Authority is governed by a five member Board. Four of the Board members are appointed by the Mayor; one by the governor. The City has no role in the SHA's hiring contracting and procurement. The City and the SHA have effectively partnered in the provision of services. Additionally the City annually reviews the SHA's plan for consistency with the City's Consolidated Plan. Through this annual review, the City is able to ensure the SHA's actions are consistent with the Consolidated Plan.

Monitoring (91.230)

1. Describe the standards and procedures the jurisdiction will use to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Monitoring response:

OCD, through its Administration Division, has an established monitoring plan that governs the oversight of all subrecipient and interdepartmental contract agreements including:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)
American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI)
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
McKinney-Vento

OCD has contractual agreements with subrecipients of the program funds that require compliance with programmatic statutes and regulations. OCD is responsible for ensuring that subrecipients comply with all regulations governing their administrative, financial and programmatic operations and confirm that the subrecipients are achieving their performance objectives within the contractual schedule and budget and performance measurement system. Per HUD's recommendation, OCD utilizes a coordinated project monitoring process, including coordinated fiscal and program on-site monitoring visits.

Main program files for CDBG funded programs and projects are maintained within OCD's central file system, but the programs and projects are managed by program delivery staff within their respective departments.

In acknowledgement of CPD's recommendation that monitoring functions be consolidated in one location, the Director of Administration and Finance has primary responsibility for long-term compliance with program and comprehensive planning requirements. In addition, OCD staff will oversee the fiscal monitoring of all activities funded through CDBG, HOME, ESG, ADDI, and HOPWA.

OCD monitors CDBG contracts with organizations, and inter-departmental agreements with other City departments.

The monitoring process includes these essential components:

a. Progress Reports

All subrecipients are required to submit status reports to their Program Monitor. Reports are reviewed by Program Monitors to ensure that subrecipients are undertaking the activities contained within the Scope of Service and that they have achieved or are making diligent efforts to achieve the goals and objectives contained within the contract.

b. Invoicing

Requests for payment are submitted on a reimbursement basis. The Subrecipient submits a Requisition Form accompanied by all source documentation totaling the amount of the request. Source documentation includes: time sheets, invoices, canceled checks, purchase orders, and other sufficient documentation to justify the expenditures. In addition to source documentation, all requests for payment must include a status/progress report.

The Administrative Division will review the request for payment to determine it is reasonable, appropriate and in accordance with the contract. If source documentation and monitoring are satisfactory, the request will be scheduled for payment. If deficiencies are found, the Subrecipient is notified immediately.

OCD is unable to process any requests for payment that do not include source documentation and a current progress report. Payment is contingent on: 1) expenditures being in accordance with the contract and 2) satisfactory monitoring with no other outstanding issues.

c. Monitoring Schedule

The Compliance Division maintains a master contract schedule to track the dates and results of monitoring for all subrecipients and inter-departmental contracts. The schedule measures each contract against six risk factors.

RISK FACTOR 1: Subrecipient is new to the program

RISK FACTOR 2: Turnover of key staff

RISK FACTOR 3: Prior compliance or performance problems

RISK FACTOR 4: Subrecipient is carrying out a high risk activity (e.g. economic development)

RISK FACTOR 5: Multiple CDBG Contracts for the first time

RISK FACTOR 6: Reports not turned in on time

Any contract not included in the program monitoring schedule is subject to "bench monitoring." This process involves contract scope review and review of monthly report forms and monthly narratives submitted by the subrecipient.

d. On-Site Monitoring

A notification letter is sent to the subrecipient confirming the date and the scope of the monitoring and a description of the information that will be required at the visit.

At the visit the monitor will review project filed to verify (1) that the activities undertaken by the subrecipient are appropriate to satisfy the contractual obligations and (2) the accuracy of the information contained within the monthly progress reports, and (3) that the subrecipient is properly administering and implementing the program within federal guidelines. In addition, the Monitor is ensuring that the subrecipient is achieving or making diligent efforts to achieve the goals and objectives stated in the contract.

e. Follow-up

As a follow-up to a monitoring visit, the monitor will send a determination of compliance letter notifying the subrecipient of the monitoring results. The letter will detail the purpose of the visit, provide feedback, and address areas for improvement, if necessary. This letter will be reviewed by the appropriate party prior to being sent to the subrecipient.

If the monitor identified findings, the corrective action will be recommended to the subrecipient. If the monitor has any concerns, specific recommendations will be provided to the subrecipient. The subrecipient will be required to provide to OCD a written response describing how the subrecipient will resolve any findings and correct any deficiency identified in the letter.

Upon receipt of the subrecipient's response to identified findings or concerns, the Monitor will determine if a follow-up site visit is necessary to ensure that (1) corrective action was taken and (2) the agency is now complying and performing in accordance with its contract.

f. Long Term Compliance

Projects that have long-term compliance requirements are monitored annually to ensure compliance with funding terms.

Priority Needs Analysis and Strategies (91.215 (a))

1. Describe the basis for assigning the priority given to each category of priority needs.
2. Identify any obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Priority Needs Analysis and Strategies response:

The establishment of priority needs for all funding sources is undertaken with community stakeholders, constituents, and service providers after a complete analysis of relevant data.

Performance Measurement System

The City of Springfield is committed to the implementation of a performance measurement system during the period of this Consolidated Plan. The performance measurement system will be utilized to determine each initiative productivity and impact.

In preparation for the implementation the City has researched HUD's Consolidated Plan Improvement Initiative, the pilot performance measurement projects, and results oriented performance based budgeting. The City under the directive of the Commonwealth's Financial Control Board is implementing a city-wide performance-based budgeting. The City's budget for Fy '06 will include goals, objectives, and key performance indicators.

In the first year of the Consolidated Plan, the City will implement performance measures in pilot projects. These pilot projects are within the activities for;

- Suitable Living Environment/Neighborhood Revitalization
- Affordable Housing
- Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS

Subsequent action plans will further define the implementation activities.

Obstacles to Meeting Underserved Needs

While numerous obstacles inhibit the City's work to meet underserved needs and subpopulations, the two primary obstacles are:

1. Uncoordinated resources from multiple funding sources across various agencies and providers.
2. Insufficient resources to engage and serve special needs subpopulations.

The City will work to overcome these obstacles by advocating for legislative change, when appropriate, hosting forums for special needs persons and providers to receive input on how to improve coordination and communication among service providers and funding sources, and providing technical and financial assistance.

Lead-based Paint (91.215 (g))

1. Estimate the number of housing units that contain lead-based paint hazards, as defined in section 1004 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, and are occupied by extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families.
2. Outline actions proposed or being taken to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards and describe how lead based paint hazards will be integrated into housing policies and programs.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Lead-based Paint response:

Springfield continues to be defined as a "high risk" community for lead poisoning by the Commonwealth's Department of Public Health. Springfield has a total of 61,172 housing units, of these 36.3% were built prior to 1940. A full 89.9% were built pre-1979 and are therefore likely to contain lead-based products.

Springfield's population of 152,082 includes 20,083 children less than six years of age (Census, and DPH). According to the 2000 U.S. Census, nearly 60% of the City's households are low or moderate income. According to U.S. Census data, there are 7,100 households living in poverty in Springfield or roughly 20% of the population.

The Lead Hazards section of Environmental Defense "Scorecard", which is co-sponsored by the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning, ranks census tracts by the potential lead hazards. When evaluated by "children under 5 living in poverty" half of the census tracts within the proposed Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area rank in the top 50, including the top ranked tract in the state. "Scorecard's" summary of Lead Hazards clearly documents the unmet need.

SUMMARY OF LEAD HAZARDS – CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

Neighborhood	Number Of Units at High Risk*	Units Built Pre 1950	Units With Low Income	Children Under 5 Living In Poverty
Sixteen Acres	216	850	709	344
Six Corners	730	1,800	1,200	590
Bay	240	700	450	200
Brightwood	194	650	840	292
East Springfield	160	1,300	300	160
Forest Park	1,282	6,330	1,828	771
Indian Orchard	314	1,770	643	249
Liberty Heights	575	3580	1,350	563
McKnight	380	1,100	550	200

Memorial Square	301	540	911	410
Metro Center	530	1,330	920	200
Old Hill	320	910	510	300
Pine Point	235	1,480	650	432
South End	470	1,260	740	341
Upper Hill	260	1,500	330	270
TOTAL	6,207	25,100	11,931	5,322

Source: Scorecard/Environmental Defense

*This measure is the number of housing units that were built before 1950 and are occupied by families living below the poverty level.

Specific actions the City will take to evaluate lead-paint hazards during the Consolidated Plan period will include:

- 1) Utilization of the City's Code Enforcement inspectors to evaluate potential hazards and to enforce remediation in compliance with Massachusetts lead laws. Federal and local funds are used to conduct inspections, which all include lead hazard evaluation.
- 2) Evaluation by Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services staff inspectors of every property during the application/underwriting process for any assistance program.
- 3) Mandatory pre-rehabilitation lead testing including soil samples for all HOME-funded project-based homeownership and multi-family production programs.

Specific actions to reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards will include:

- 1) Mandatory remediation within rehabilitation specifications for all project-based and multi-family projects.
- 2) Administration of a state-funded lead abatement program for existing homeowners.
- 3) Operation of a federal Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control grant to abate hazards in privately owned rental housing. In compliance with Title X, the City has integrated lead hazard controls into our housing policies and programs. The federal requirements for evaluating and remediating lead hazards are fully incorporated into the City's protocol for housing rehabilitation.

HOUSING

Housing Needs (91.205)

*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook

1. Describe the estimated housing needs projected for the next five year period for the following categories of persons: extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income families, renters and owners, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, including persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, single persons, large families, public housing residents, families on the public housing and section 8 tenant-based waiting list, and discuss specific housing problems, including: cost-burden, severe cost- burden, substandard housing, and overcrowding (especially large families).
2. To the extent that any racial or ethnic group has a disproportionately greater need for any income category in comparison to the needs of that category as a whole, the jurisdiction must complete an assessment of that specific need. For this purpose, disproportionately greater need exists when the percentage of persons in a category of need who are members of a particular racial or ethnic group is at least ten percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in the category as a whole.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Housing Needs response:

While the City of Springfield has a relatively affordable housing market, the City struggles to meet the housing needs of its low and moderate income residents. Limited household income and an aged housing stock create an enormous demand for safe, affordable housing. The estimated housing needs are characterized by percentage of median income in the charts that follow.

The charts are based primarily on data from HUD's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) from the 2000 census. There clearly exists a cost burden for many low-income households. Among households in the less than 30% of area median income the cost burdens often impact more than 50% of the population. This is especially true for small, related households.

Additionally, steep housing costs also affect persons in Springfield who have HIV/AIDS. Although not indicated in the CHAS report, the most recent report from the CDC on the number of AIDS cases by metropolitan area and age category indicates that through 2002 there were 1,921 reported AIDS cases in the Springfield NECMA (New England County Metropolitan Area). Of these 1,896 were adults or adolescents and 25 were children ages 13 or less. In 2002, 81 cases were reported in this NECMA, which was down from 90 in 2001.

Cost burdens are not the only housing problem experienced by low and moderate income families. Among large related families, issue of overcrowding must be addressed. Among elderly homeowners, the ability to maintain their homes and to make required adaptations is sources of housing problems. According to the 2000 US Census, 5.2 percent of housing units in Springfield have occupancies greater than 1.01 persons per room and 1.7 percent have occupancies greater than 1.51 persons per room. In 2000, 1.3 percent of occupied housing units lacked complete plumbing facilities, 1.1 percent lacked complete kitchen facilities, and 2.3 percent had no telephone service. In addition, substandard rental units are prevalent in Springfield, with 9,495 of the 28,638 units or 33.2 percent of occupied rental units reported as substandard in CHAS.

Estimated Housing Needs
Households Earning Less than 30% of the Area Median Income

			Current % of House- holds	Current Number of House- holds	Priority Need	Plan to Fund?	Fund Source
Renter		NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	2,497			
		Any housing problems	53.9	1,346	L	N	--
		Cost Burden > 30%	52.6	1,313	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	31.6	789	L	N	--
		NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	4,175			
		With Any Housing Problems	75.7	3,160	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	71.3	2,977	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	54.0	2,255	L	N	--
		NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	1,265			
		With Any Housing Problems	85.8	1,085	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	78.3	990	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	54.0	683	L	N	--
		NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	3,029			
		With Any Housing Problems	64.5	1,954	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	62.5	1,893	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	63.6	1,926	L	N	--
Owner	Elderly	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	1,244			
		With Any Housing Problems	78.7	979	H	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden > 30%	78.7	979	H	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	40.6	505	L	N	--
		NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	450			
		With Any Housing Problems	77.8	350	H	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden > 30%	74.4	335	H	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden >50%	74.4	335	H	N	--
		NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	133			
		With Any Housing Problems	94.0	125	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	94.0	125	H	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden >50%	78.9	105	M	N	--
		NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	354			
		With Any Housing Problems	78.8	279	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	78.8	279	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	59.3	210	L	N	--

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

Households with a Disabled Member	Number of Households	100%	4,665
	With Any Housing Problems	69.4%	3,238

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

Estimated Housing Needs
Households Earning 30-50% of the Area Median Income

			Current % of House- holds	Current Number of House-holds	Priority Need	Plan to Fund?	Fund Source
Renter	Elderly	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	1,137			
		With Any Housing Problems	39.8	453	L	N	--
		Cost Burden > 30%	39.4	448	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	9.2	105	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	2,434			
		With Any Housing Problems	61.0	1,485	M	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden > 30%	54.4	1,324	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	12.5	304	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	838			
		With Any Housing Problems	72.0	603	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	47.5	398	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	8.2	69	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	1,050			
		With Any Housing Problems	61.9	650	M	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden > 30%	61.0	641	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	15.7	165	L	N	--
Owner	Elderly	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	1,770			
		With Any Housing Problems	45.8	811	M	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden > 30%	45.2	800	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	16.9	299	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	764			
		With Any Housing Problems	79.1	604	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	79.1	604	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	51.6	394	M	Y	HOME
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	202			
		With Any Housing Problems	85.6	173	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	83.7	169	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	54.0	109	M	Y	HOME
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	273			
		With Any Housing Problems	72.9	199	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	72.9	199	H	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	45.4	124	M	Y	HOME

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

Households with a Disabled Member	Number of Households	100%	2,423
	With Any Housing Problems	54.3%	1,316

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

Estimated Housing Needs
Households Earning 50-80% of the Area Median Income

			Current % of House- holds	Current Number of House-holds	Priority Need	Plan to Fund?	Fund Source
Renter	Elderly	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	839			
		With Any Housing Problems	33.3	279	L	N	--
		Cost Burden > 30%	32.1	269	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	4.1	34	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	2,175			
		With Any Housing Problems	27.6	600	L	N	--
		Cost Burden > 30%	21.6	470	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	1.4	30	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	735			
		With Any Housing Problems	44.9	330	M	N	--
		Cost Burden > 30%	12.9	95	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	0.0	0	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	1,640			
		With Any Housing Problems	27.4	449	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	23.5	385	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	0.6	10	L	N	--
Owner	Elderly	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	2,399			
		With Any Housing Problems	16.0	384	M	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden > 30%	16.0	384	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	3.3	79	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	1,704			
		With Any Housing Problems	59.5	1,014	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	59.3	1,010	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden >50%	11.7	199	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	650			
		With Any Housing Problems	62.3	405	M	Y	HOME
		Cost Burden > 30%	45.4	295	L	N	--
		Cost Burden >50%	6.9	45	L	N	--
	[REDACTED]	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	100%	794			
		With Any Housing Problems	61.0	484	M	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden > 30%	59.7	474	M	Y	OTHER
		Cost Burden >50%	20.7	164	L	N	--

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

Households with a Disabled Member	Number of Households	100%	2,514
	With Any Housing Problems	39.1%	983

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

In addition to the need demonstrated on the tables above, the public housing and tenant-based Section 8 certificate waiting lists are strong indicators of the need for affordable housing that exists in the City.

The SHA oversees a total of 2,387 public housing units and an additional 2,675 units under contract through rental assistance programs. An additional 169 units under contract are currently under construction or under substantial rehabilitation. The SHA waiting list currently contains 2,602 families, approximately 89.5 percent of which are considered to be extremely low-income families.

The data clearly identifies a rent burden for the majority of lower income rental households. In some categories, nearly 80% of the households experience a cost burden. Very low income elderly household are also likely to have disproportional housing costs. To meet these needs as well as those of vulnerable populations including the needs of the persons with HIV/AIDS and persons with disabilities, the City will target its housing resources towards the development of additional affordable rental units.

Where appropriate, the City will seek to develop service enriched housing to better meet the needs of certain sub-populations. Additionally, the City will seek to expand resources available to assist lower-income homeowners, especially elders to maintain their housing. Such resources are needed to continue operating energy conservation, homeowner rehabilitation, and housing modification/accessibility.

To the issue of racial or ethnic disproportion, the table below documents the proportions of all households in Springfield with housing needs identified by HUD's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) Data is presented for various household income levels relating to the area median household income. The final column presents the thresholds over which minority groups would be identified as having a disproportionate housing need relative to the population as a whole.

Median Family Income	Total Households	Households with Any Housing Problem	% with Any Housing Problem	Disproportionate Need Threshold
< 30% MFI	13,147	9,282	70.6%	80.6%
30.01-50% MFI	8,468	4,979	58.8%	68.8%
50.01-80% MFI	10,936	3,948	36.1%	46.1%
> 80.01% MFI	24,519	2,354	9.6%	19.6%

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

The following table presents CHAS housing need data for ethnic and racial groups in Springfield.

Median Family Income	Total Minority Households	Households with Any Housing Problem	% with Any Housing Problem	Disproportionate Need Threshold Exceeded?
BLACK NON-HISPANIC HOUSEHOLDS				
< 30% MFI	2,765	1,861	67.3%	No
30.01-50% MFI	1,850	1,265	68.4%	No
50.01-80% MFI	2,160	870	40.3%	No
> 80.01% MFI	4,030	472	11.7%	No
ASIAN NON-HISPANIC HOUSEHOLDS				
< 30% MFI	170	135	79.4%	No
30.01-50% MFI	98	79	80.6%	Yes
50.01-80% MFI	110	45	40.9%	No
> 80.01% MFI	359	60	16.7%	No
HISPANIC HOUSEHOLDS				
< 30% MFI	5,333	3,792	71.1%	No
30.01-50% MFI	2,354	1,389	59.0%	No
50.01-80% MFI	1,943	820	42.2%	No
> 80.01% MFI	2,835	570	20.1%	Yes

Source: CHAS Data; 2000 US Census

Based upon an analysis of HUD's CHAS data, two income groups of minority households were determined to have disproportional housing needs. These two groups, as illustrated in the chart above, are Asian, non- Hispanic households with incomes between 30-50% of median and Hispanic households with incomes over 80% of median. Unfortunately, data is limited and does not provide sufficient information to determine the nature of the housing problems.

Anecdotal information suggests that for these income groups the issues may include access to credit, discrimination, lack of desirable housing stock, or difficulties in purchasing a home. The City of Springfield will continue efforts to work with the impacted minority households to reduce housing problems. Such efforts will include homebuyer education and counseling; fair housing education, and credit counseling.

Priority Housing Needs (91.215 (b))

1. Identify the priority housing needs in accordance with the categories specified in the Housing Needs Table (formerly Table 2A). These categories correspond with special tabulations of U.S. census data provided by HUD for the preparation of the Consolidated Plan.
2. Provide an analysis of how the characteristics of the housing market and the severity of housing problems and needs of each category of residents provided the basis for determining the relative priority of each priority housing need category.
3. Describe the basis for assigning the priority given to each category of priority needs.
4. Identify any obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Priority Housing Needs response:

Based on an analysis of housing needs and market forces, the City has prioritized the following housing needs.

Activity	Priority	Funding Source
Homebuyer Education/Counseling	M	CDBG
Homebuyer Assistance	H	HOME, Private
Existing Homebuyer Assistance	M	HOME, Public, Private
Affordable Housing Development	H	HOME, Public, Private
Permanent Supportive Housing Development	M	HOME, McKinney
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	M	HOME, HOPWA
Rehabilitation of Distressed Housing	H	HOME, CDBG, Public, Private

The data illustrates that there exists an overwhelming housing burden among the majority of non-elderly, low-income renter households. In direct response to this need, the City will dedicate significant resources towards the development of additional affordable rental units. The investment in existing housing stock to provide quality affordable housing stock as well as the production of “new” units through the redevelopment of abandoned properties are therefore rated high priorities. Additionally, the provision of tenant-based rental assistance is another mechanism to reduce cost burden for very-low income households. The city intends to utilize this mechanism for vulnerable populations such as chronic homeless, HIV/AIDS, and other permanent supportive housing models. The use of TBRA is rated slightly lower than the creation of long-term affordable units.

In response to the data and in furtherance of the city’s core development goals of investing in residents and reducing poverty, the city has prioritized the provision of education and financial assistance to potential homebuyers. Lack of knowledge of the home buying process and savings for down payment and closing cost are well recognized barriers to homeownership. Overcoming these barriers to enable low- and moderate-income households to achieve housing stability while building equity is a priority for the City of Springfield.

The greatest obstacles to meeting the identified needs are the resources required to redevelop properties. The amount of public funds required to acquire and rehabilitate multifamily properties is high. The average per unit development cost has been in excess of \$75,000. Without significant public resources, the projects could not be undertaken.

Likewise the resources required for project-based homeownership are essential. The total development costs of a single family home exceed the ultimate value/sales price. The cost to build a new home on a vacant lot often exceeds the value of the home by more than \$40,000.

Housing Market Analysis (91.210)

*Please also refer to the Housing Market Analysis Table in the Needs.xls workbook

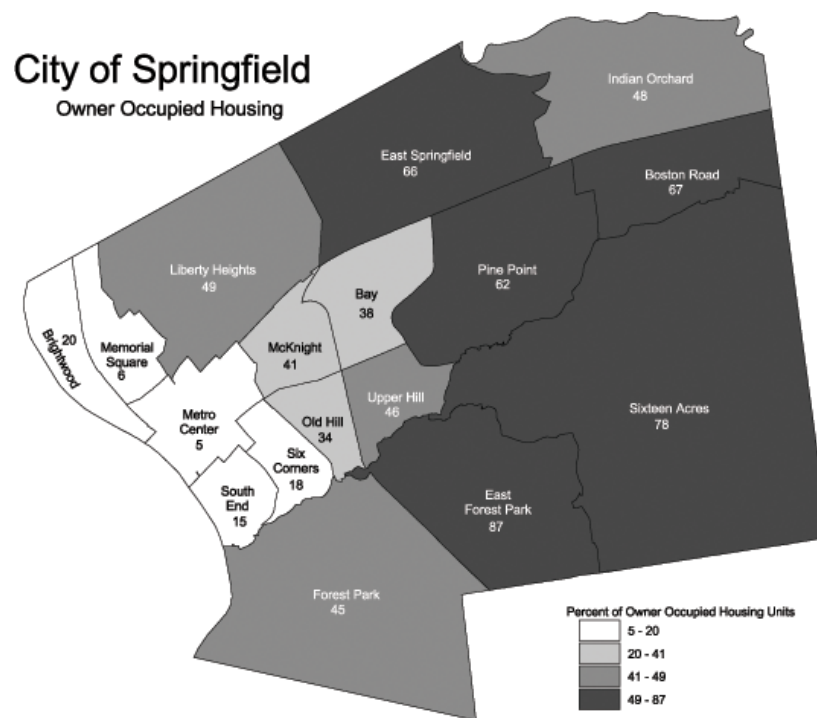
1. Based on information available to the jurisdiction, describe the significant characteristics of the housing market in terms of supply, demand, condition, and the cost of housing; the housing stock available to serve persons with disabilities; and to serve persons with HIV/AIDS and their families.
2. Describe the number and targeting (income level and type of household served) of units currently assisted by local, state, or federally funded programs, and an assessment of whether any such units are expected to be lost from the assisted housing inventory for any reason, (i.e. expiration of Section 8 contracts).
3. Indicate how the characteristics of the housing market will influence the use of funds made available for rental assistance, production of new units, rehabilitation of old units, or acquisition of existing units. Please note, the goal of affordable housing is not met by beds in nursing homes.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Housing Market Analysis responses:

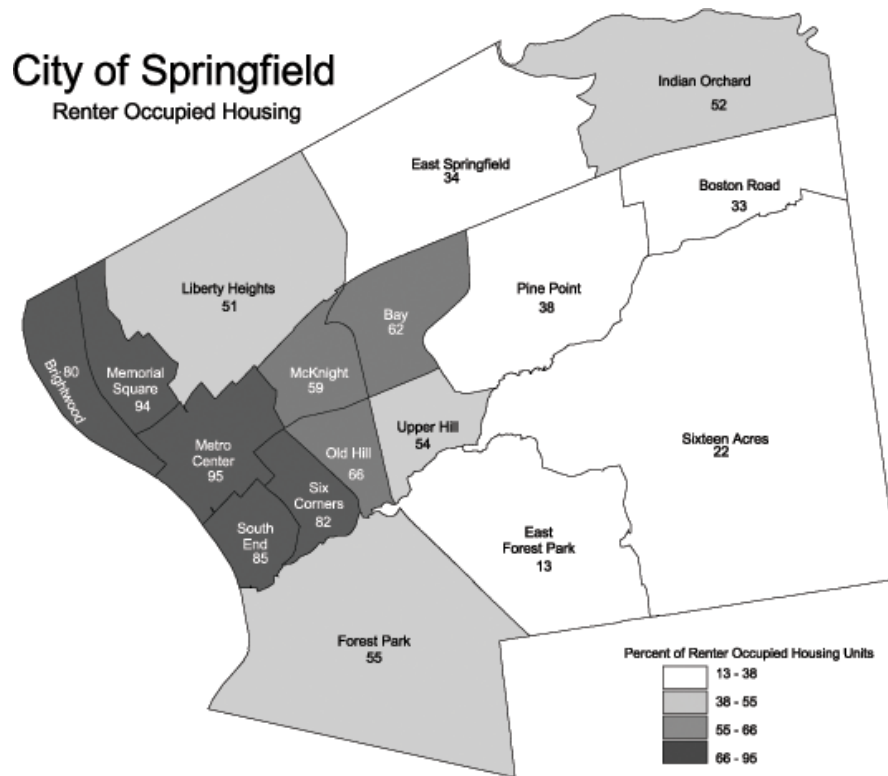
The City of Springfield, known as the City of Homes, has 61,172 units. An analysis of this stock would lead to the realization that Springfield truly has two distinct housing markets.

Overall 49% of Springfield housing stock is single family housing. Yet in some neighborhoods that percentage exceeds 80; while in the older more urban neighborhoods that rate falls to below 20%.

Homeownership rates mirror this pattern with the older urban neighborhoods averaging 5-20% of owner-occupancy vs. 67-86 % in outlying neighborhoods. Housing values and occupancy affordability correlate directly with these factors of stock and owner-occupancy.



Rental stock within Springfield is primarily pre-1940 stock in larger multi-family apartment blocks. Generally these properties are in need of modernization and in some cases significant rehabilitation. This stock has limited utility as housing for persons with disabilities.



The demand for affordable single family homes in stable neighborhoods has resulted in a significant increase in median sales prices.

Median Sales Price, Residential Units Springfield MA			
Calendar			
Year	1-Family	Condo	All Sales
2005*	126,500	66,000	133,000
2004	118,900	89,414	124,000
2003	105,000	78,500	105,000
2002	92,000	78,950	90,000
2001	84,900	74,113	80,500
2000	76,000	73,200	74,000
%Change 2000-2004	56.4%	22.2%	67.6%

Source: The Warren Group

Springfield**Housing Market Analysis**

Housing Stock Inventory	Vacancy Rate	0 & 1 Bedroom	2 Bedrooms	3+ Bedrooms	Total	Substandard Units
Affordability Mismatch						
Occupied Units: Renter		9,205	11,549	7,884	28,638	9,495
Occupied Units: Owner		1,056	7,355	20,088	28,499	1,311
Vacant Units: For Rent	3%	575	999	379	1,953	--
Vacant Units: For Sale	1%	8	140	215	363	--
Total Units						
Occupied & Vacant		10,844	20,043	28,566	59,453	10,806
Rents: Applicable FMRs (in \$s)		\$509 (0BR) \$609 (1BR)	\$772	\$923 (3BR) \$1062 (4BR)		
Rent: Affordable at 30% of 50% of MFI (in \$s)		\$553 (0BR) \$593 (1BR)	\$711	\$822 (3BR) \$917 (4BR)		
Public Housing Units						
Occupied Units	0%	1,130	549	708	2,387	0
Vacant Units	0%	0	0	0	0	0
Total Units Occupied & Vacant		1,130	549	708	2,387	0
Rehabilitation Needs (in \$s)		\$ 35,000,000	\$ 100,000,000	\$ 251,000,000	\$ 386,000,000	

Note: The 59,452 units listed in the chart above as being the total number of occupied and vacant does not include units for seasonal, recreational or occasional use units rented or sold but not occupied. It also does not include boarded up units. The City includes these approximately 1,730 units in its unit count.

Currently affordable units serving low-income person exist through assistance provided by local, state and federal programs. Specifically:

Complex	Funding	# of units
Price Street	LIHTC	4
41-43 Baldwin	LIHTC	5
Liberty Hill	HUD	88
Linden Towers	2211d4	249
Carpe Diem	667	75
Sullivan Apt.	Pub Hsg	96
Stephen Collins Apt.	Pub Hsg	200
St. James Manor	LIHTC	48
Christopher Court	Pub Hsg	96
Dwight Man.	MHFA Sec. 8	30
Mem Parish Hse	LIHTC	23
MemSquare Bldg.	MHFA Sec. 8	40
Morgan Court	Pub Hsg	52
Patton Apts.	236	12
Patton St. Apts.	LIHTC	24
Villa Borenquen	MHFA Sec. 8	57
Villa Nueva Vista	221d4	110
Villa Taino	FMHA 515	30
Arch Street	689	25
Scattered	Pub Hsg	14
Bay State Place	LIHTC	346
Cumberland Village	LIHTC	76
Jefferson Ave.	LIHTC	43
Bel Air Homes	LIHTC	16
Laurel Apts.	LIHTC	8
32 Church	LIHTC	2

Complex	Funding	# of units
Pynchon Terrace	236	250
Riverview	Pub Hsg	360
Edgewater	LIHTC	366
Scattered	Pub Hsg	6
Chestnut Park	236/LIHTC	489
City Vue 1&11	236	174
Worthington SRO	HIF/LIHTC	57
Summit Hill	SHARP	127
Symphony Apts.	LIHTC	31
Tri Towers	Pub Hsg	288
Maple Commons	LIHTC	173
Seniority House	LIHTC	168
Chateau	LIHTC	65
Hotel Worthy	LIHTC	91
Rainville	LIHTC	47
Belle Street	LIHTC	47
290 Franklin	LIHTC	8
Highland House	202	42
Kenyon/College	221d4	34
Bergen Circle	236/LIHTC	201
Cathedral Hill	236	48
Hogan Apts.	667	32
Orange Apts.	236	12
Bay State Apts.	LIHTC	8
Gunn Sqare	LIHTC	56
Van Der Hayden	MHFA Sec	45
Tapley Court	LIHTC	30
Reed Village	Pub Hsg	200
Hunter Place	LIHTC	80
Claredon Court	Pub Hsg	96
Laurel Apts.	LIHTC	16
Bay Meadows	MHFA Sec 8	148
Morris Apts.	667	64
Egan Drive	689	8
Manilla Apts.	Pub Hsg	34
Robinson Gdns.	Pub Hsg	136
Independence Hse.	LIHTC	150
460 Wilbraham Rd.	LIHTC	1
Eastbrook	LIHTC	160
Allen Park	221d3/LIH	264
Colonial Estates	236	270
Springmeadow	236	270
Scattered Sites	Pub Hsg	9
Rutland Realty	LIHTC	11
State Terrance	LIHTC	56
St. James Commons	221d4	42

Complex	Funding	# of units
Walnut Apts.	236	16
Jones Apt.	LIHTC	
Pendleton Apts.	LIHTC	
Scattered Sites	Pub Hsg.	79
Twin Terraces	LIHTC	489
Spring Hill	LIHTC	37
Eastern Ave. Co-op	LIHTC	24
Indian Motorcycle	LIHTC	139
Scattered Sites	LIHTC	101
Avon Place	202	160
Garand Court	221d4	115
Maple Court	HIF	8
Pine Renee	Pub Hsg	48
Johnny Appleseed	Pub Hsg	60
347 Central	Pub Hsg	44
Pine/James	Pub Hsg	48
100 Ashley	Pub Hsg	16
Scattered	Pub Hsg	10
425 Central	Pub Hsg	8
Hill Homes	LIHTC	50
Spring Hill	LIHTC	34
Scattered Subsidized	LIHTC	35
Concord Apts.	236	104
Marble Apts.	Pub Hsg	48
Gentile Apts.	Pub Hsg	102
Union House	202	11
Hollywood	LIHTC	164
Northern Heights	LIHTC	148
Wendell/Marbleton	LIHTC	64
Acushnet School	LIHTC	24
Belmont/Kenwyn	LIHTC	28
Forest Park Manor	667	116
Pat Harrigan	Pub Hsg	32
Laurel Apts.	LIHTC	36
City View II	LIHTC	64
18-24 Coombs	LIHTC	16
70-74 Granada	LIHTC	16
47 White St.	LIHTC	316

A substantial number of units of local, state and federally funded housing is set aside for families, veterans and persons with special needs, including:

Complex	# of Units	TYPE
347 Central Street	44	Elderly
Ashley Apartments	16	Family
Barrier Free Project	10	Physically Handicapped
Central Street Apartmetns	8	Family
Christopher Court	96	Elderly
Forest Park Manor	116	Elderly
Gandara Mental Health Center/29/33 Arch Street	25	Mental Health
Gentile Apts.	102	Elderly
John J. Duggan Park	196	Veterans
Johnny Appleseed	60	Elderly
Jones Apt.	32	Elderly
Manhattan Apts.	16	Barrier Free Family Project for Physically Handicapped
Manilla Apts.	34	Family
Marble Apts.	48	Family
Morgan Court Apts.		Family
Morris Apts.	64	Elderly
Orchard Manor	40	Elderly
Pat Harrigan	32	Elderly
Pendleton Apts.	19	Family
Pine Renee	48	Family
Pine/James	48	Family
Riverview	360	Family and Elderly
Robinson Gardens	136	Veterans
Scattered Site	2178	Family
Scattered Site	409	Family
Scattered Site	38	Family
Sullivan Apt.	96	Family
Tri Towers	288	Elderly

No loss of public housing units is anticipated. The SHA has no projects identified as distressed and therefore eligible for HOPE VI.

Characteristics of the Housing Market influence the use of funds in the following ways:

- 1) As Springfield's Rental Stock is predominately pre-1940 stock, there exist many poor or marginal properties. Funds will be utilized to improve the quality of this housing while restricting the future occupancy to targeted populations.
- 2) The affordability of Springfield's Housing Market lends itself to homeownership programs. The extent of blighting single family properties and vacant lots create additional opportunities for homeownership infill housing. Funds will be utilized to provide down-payment assistance and to financial underwrite project-based acquisition rehabilitation.
- 3) As Springfield struggles to appropriately serve homeless and at-risk persons through the "Housing First" model, funds will be utilized to provide tenant based rental assistance.

Specific Housing Objectives (91.215 (b))

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve over a specified time period.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the strategic plan.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Specific Housing Objectives response:

Activity	Funding Source(s)	Accomplishment	Outcome Goals
Homebuyer Education/Counseling	CDBG Private	Households	250
Direct Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance	HOME ADDI	Households	75
Provide rehabilitation financing to Existing homeowners	HOME Other-Private	Units	75
Increase energy efficiency for existing Homeowners	HOME Other-Public	Units	1000
Redevelop blighting properties into Homeownership opportunities	HOME Other-Public and private	Units	50
Produce additional affordable rental units	HOME Other-Public and private	Units	250
Develop special needs housing units	HOME McKinney Other-Public and private	Units	40
Provide tenant based rental Assistance to homeless and other vulnerable populations	HOME McKinney HOPWA	Households	175
Evaluate and eliminate lead based Paint hazards	CDBG HOME Other-Public	Units	2500

Needs of Public Housing (91.210 (b))

In cooperation with the public housing agency or agencies located within its boundaries, describe the needs of public housing, including the number of public housing units in the jurisdiction, the physical condition of such units, the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing projects within the jurisdiction, and other factors, including the number of families on public housing and tenant-based waiting lists and results from the Section 504 needs assessment of public housing projects located within its boundaries (i.e. assessment of needs of tenants and applicants on waiting list for accessible units as required by 24 CFR 8.25). The public housing agency and jurisdiction can use the optional Priority Public Housing Needs Table (formerly Table 4) of the Consolidated Plan to identify priority public housing needs to assist in this process.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Needs of Public Housing response:

The Springfield Housing Authority (SHA)'s mission is to promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity, and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

As indicated on the table below, SHA oversees a total of 2,387 public housing units. The SHA waiting list currently contains 2,602 families, approximately 89.5 percent of which are considered to be extremely low-income families.

HOUSING UNITS UNDER MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT												
		PROJECT NO.	DATE OF OCCUPANCY	TOTAL UNITS	BEDROOM DISTRIBUTION							
					SRO	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
						BR.	BR.	BR.	BR.	BR.	BR.	BR.
SHA AS OWNER AND OPERATOR												
FAMILY												
Reed Village	State	Spfld. 200-1	1949	150			1	105	44			
Reed Village/HUD Section 8 Acc#B153, MAO6-HO52-045	Federal/MA developed	Spfld. 200-1/Sec. 84	1981	50			8	32	10			
John J. Duggan Park	State	Spfld. 200-2	1952	196			10	96	80	10		
John I. Robinson Gardens	State	Spfld. 200-3	1951	136			8	481	80			
Riverview Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-1	1963	40				2		30	81	
John L. Sullivan Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-3	1970	96				24	36	36		
Pine -James Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-6	1970	421				42				
Manilla Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-7	1970	34				81	18	8		
Moxon Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-8	1972	52				15	24	91	41	
Pine-Renee Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-9	1972	48				20	24	41		
Pendleton Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-10	1975	19					11	8		
Marble Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-11	1971	48					48			
Scattered Site HUD Sect 8 ACC #B1598, MAO6-HO52-058	Federal/MA developed	Spfld. 705-1/Sec. 8	1982	20					101	10		
Handicapped Accessible *	State	Spfld. 689-1	1983	10					10			
Egan / Manhattan Streets	State	Spfld. 689-2	1989	16		16						
Arch Street	State	Spfld. 689-3	1990	25		25						
425 Central Street	Federal	Mass. 35-22	1983	8				81				
100 Ashley Street	Federal	Mass. 35-22	1983	16				51	41	7		
Clarendon Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-22	1983	16				9	7			
Scattered Site	State	Spfld. 705-2	1986	20					10	10		
Scattered Site	State	Spfld. 705-3	1992	8					4	4		
TOTAL FAMILY UNITS				1,050	0	41	27	414	420	136	12	0
ELDERLY												
Riverview Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-1	1963	24			8	16				
Riverview Towers (50 years and older)	Federal	Mass. 35-1	1983	280			35	105	140			
Stephen J. Collins Twin Towers	Federal	Mass. 35-2	1968	200		4	192	4				
Stephen J. Collins Tri - Towers	Federal	Mass. 35-24	1985	88			88					
Patrick W. Harrigan Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-5	1970	32		12	20					
Kathryne Jones Apatments	Federal	Mass. 35-12	1972	32			32					
Central Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-13	1972	44			44					
Christopher Court	Federal	Mass. 35-14	1972	96			96					
Morgan Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-15	1972	52			52					
Johnny Appleseed Apartments	Federal	Mass. 35-16	1972	60			60					
Carpe Diem Homes	State	Spfld. 667-1	1957	75			75					
Harry P. Hogan Apartments	State	Spfld. 667-2	1961	32			32					
Forest Park Manor	State	Spfld. 667-3	1964	116			116					
Indian Orchard Manor	State	Spfld. 667-4	1966	40			40					
B1228, MA06-HO52-016	Federal/MA developed	Spfld. 667-5/Sec. 8	1978	102			95	7				
Morris School Apartments	State	Spfld. 667-6	1988	19		1	15	3				
Moms School II	State	Spfld. 667-7	1992	45			45					
TOTAL ELDERLY DEVELOPMENTS				1,337	0	17	1,045	135	140	0	0	0
* Note: There are a total of 91 (51 elderly and 40 family), handicap accessible units in all other developments												
TOTAL FAMILY, ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED CONVENTIONAL UNITS				2,387	0	58	1,072	549	560	136	12	0
Prepared by: SHA 6/29/2004												

The Capital Fund summary charts demonstrate SHA's capital needs and a proposed five year implementation schedule.

Capital Fund Program				
Part I: Summary				
				MA035COI
PHA Name:			X Original 5-Year Plan	
SPRINGFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY			Revision No: 1	
Development Number/Name/ HA-Wide	FFY Grant: 2006	FFY Grant: 2007	FFY Grant: 2008	FFY Grant: 2009
	PHA FY:	PHA FY:	PHA FY:	PHA FY:
MA35-1 Riverview	\$220,000	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$305,000
MA35-2 Twin Towers	\$75,000	\$45,500	\$124,400	\$12,000
MA35-03 Sullivan	\$95,000	\$484,000	\$10,000	\$86,000
MA35-05 Harrigan	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$345,000
MA35-06 Pines James	\$100,000	\$142,000	\$120,000	\$80,000
MA35-07 Manilla	\$192,000	\$0	\$0	\$37,000
MA35-08 Maxon	\$52,000	\$30,000	\$52,000	\$52,000
MA35-09 Pine-Renee	\$40,000	\$240,000	\$80,000	\$8,000
MA35-10 Pendleton	\$60,000	\$0	\$245,100	\$25,000
MA35-11 Marble	\$0	\$160,000	\$80,000	\$65,000
MA35-12 Kathryne Jones	\$20,000	\$60,000	\$52,000	\$0
MA35-13 Central	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
MA35-14 Chris Court	\$0	\$125,000	\$15,000	\$75,000
MA35-15 Morgan	\$52,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$15,000
MA35-16 Appleseed	\$20,000	\$65,000	\$0	\$0
MA35-22 Turnkey	\$175,500	\$0	\$161,303	\$357,000
MA35-24 Tri-Tower	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$144,000
HA-Wide Physical Activities	\$759,632	\$358,871	\$605,667	\$424,071
HA-Wide Non-Physical Activities	\$414,938	\$415,700	\$345,700	\$351,000
HA-Wide Contingency @ 8%	\$202,267	\$202,266	\$187,167	\$147,266
CFP Funds Listed for 5-year planning	\$2,528,337	\$2,528,337	\$2,528,337	\$2,528,337
Replacement Housing Factor Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Source: Springfield Public Housing Authority

Note: Due to the fact that SHA's Strategic Plan covers fiscal years 2005 through 2009, information regarding their capital plan for 2010 is currently unavailable.

Housing Needs of Families on the Waiting List			
	# of families	% of total families	Annual Turnover
Waiting list total	2602		
Extremely low income <=30% AMI	2330	89.5	
Very low income (>30% but <=50% AMI)	240	9.2	
Low income (>50% but <80% AMI)	32	1.2	
Families with children	1591	61.1	
Elderly families	186	7.1	
Families with Disabilities	862	33.1	
Race/ethnicity (White)	434	16	
Race/ethnicity (Black)	446	17	
Race/ethnicity (Hispanic)	1666	64	
Race/ethnicity (Other)	56	2	
Characteristics by Bedroom Size (Public Housing Only)			
1BR	855	32	530
2 BR	1049	40	535
3 BR	597	22.9	530
4BR	91	3.4	76
5 BR	9	0.3	6
5+ BR	1	0.03	2

Source: Springfield Public Housing Authority

Public Housing Strategy (91.210)

1. Describe the public housing agency's strategy to serve the needs of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families residing in the jurisdiction served by the public housing agency (including families on the public housing and section 8 tenant-based waiting list), the public housing agency's strategy for addressing the revitalization and restoration needs of public housing projects within the jurisdiction and improving the management and operation of such public housing, and the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate families residing in public housing.

2. Describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing and activities it will undertake to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership. (NAHA Sec. 105 (b)(11) and (91.215 (k))
3. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction shall describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance in improving its operations to remove such designation. (NAHA Sec. 105 (g))

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Public Housing Strategy response:

The Springfield Housing Authority is committed to take all actions necessary to correct past deficiencies in the administration of the SHA and will make every effort to restore the public trust and confidence in the administration of public housing programs.

The SHA strategic plans strategy is to improve within its functional areas:

Admissions Department

1. Explore new ways to streamline the application process for keeping applicants apprised of waiting list position and approximate waiting time;
2. Explore new ways to allow applicants to access their positions on the waiting list easily and efficiently;
3. Provide assistance to applicants while on waiting list to address emergency situations (referrals to shelters, social service agencies);
4. Conduct outreach to elderly applicants through additional advertising;
5. Provide training to SHA staff on customer service techniques.

Rental Assistance

1. Assess department staffing plan and make changes if warranted to increase productivity and efficiency;
2. Create new handbook for Section 8 participants;
3. Create a new video for Section 8 participants.

Public Housing Management

1. Decentralize public housing function. Create 5 public housing management offices on site in public housing developments with staff dedicated to the oversight of portfolio of 400 – 500 units. This initiative is expected to enhance the ability of public housing residents to communicate with the SHA regarding issues that may affect tenancy such as employment/job training, crime, security and maintenance of units.

Concentrate on efforts to improve specific management functions:

(list; e.g., public housing finance; voucher unit inspections)

- The following measures are currently being undertaken:
 1. Expansion of cost saving electronic data interchange to eliminate redundant clerical work;
 2. Further expansion of automated office (use of email, networking) to reduce office supply consumption;

3. Expansion of use of Internet in order to reduce expense of delivery of reports;
4. Utilization of scanning equipment for reduction of document storage costs, to improve longevity of storage and facilitate document retrieval.

Implement measures to deconcentrate poverty by bringing higher income public housing households into lower income developments:

The SHA has implemented flat rents to promote a broad range of incomes in its developments.

The SHA intends to encourage the establishment of Neighborhood Watch Groups and resident initiatives through interaction with its resident councils and advisory committees. The SHA has entered into a contract with the Springfield Police Department and now has two full time officers assigned to SHA developments. The SHA plans to supplement the two full time officers with additional overtime funding for special initiatives as needed.

Increase the number and percentage of employed persons in assisted families:

Currently the SHA has an in-house training/apprenticeship program providing residents with hands-on experience in the field of maintenance. The SHA also plans to offer computer training to residents.

Provide or attract supportive services to improve assistance recipients' employability:

The SHA plans to operate an educational center designed to teach computer skills to residents.

Provide or attract supportive services to increase independence for the elderly or families with disabilities.

The SHA has a memorandum of agreement with the Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc. to attract services for elderly residents. Further, the SHA works closely with the Stavros Center for Independent Living, the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, the City of Springfield's Office of Elder Affairs and the City of Springfield's Office of Disabilities to provide services to increase the independence for families with disabilities. The SHA will continue to seek out additional resources to expand programs.

The City intends to help address the needs of public housing residents through a number of targeted activities including:

- 1) Expansion of homeownership programs through the American Dream Downpayment program coupled with Section 8 homeownership.
- 2) Within our NRSA, build capacity of neighborhood residents to participate meaningfully in management and neighborhood groups.

The Springfield Housing Authority has not been deemed "troubled" by HUD.

Barriers to Affordable Housing (91.210 (e) and 91.215 (f))

1. Explain whether the cost of housing or the incentives to develop, maintain, or improve affordable housing are affected by public policies, particularly those of the local jurisdiction. Such policies include tax policy affecting land and other property, land use controls, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limits, and policies that affect the return on residential investment.
2. Describe the strategy to remove or ameliorate negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing, except that, if a State requires a unit of general local government to submit a regulatory barrier assessment that is substantially equivalent to the information required under this part, as determined by HUD, the unit of general local government may submit that assessment to HUD and it shall be considered to have complied with this requirement.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Barriers to Affordable Housing response:

The City of Springfield has a successful track record in overcoming traditional barriers to affordable housing in order to increase the availability of decent affordable housing for all individuals. According to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Housing and Community Development, Springfield ranks 5th in the state, with 17.4% of its housing stock dedicated to affordable housing. Springfield policies of zoning, land use, and public financing greatly encourage affordable housing.

Zoning ordinances allow for the creation of multi-family structures in four different zoning areas. Combined, these areas comprise more than a third of all residential zoned parcels in the city, affording developers ample opportunity to develop affordable housing throughout the City's 17 neighborhoods.

The redevelopment of parcels likewise encourages affordable housing. Through its tax title foreclosure program, the City of Springfield forecloses on tax delinquent property and auctions these parcels off at a public auction as affordable housing options.

Finally, the City maximizes its federal and state funding to produce and preserve affordable housing. Private resources are extensively leveraged.

The City has also taken the following steps to remove barriers to affordable housing:

The City has prioritized the redevelopment and/or new construction of family units. Utilizing its' federal entitlement funds, HOME Investment Partnership Program, the City financially assists projects that create or preserve family housing units. Through this assistance, the City shall increase the number of deed restricted affordable housing units. Springfield utilizes long-term deed restrictions to foster affordability.

- The City continues to dedicate and seek funds to apply towards rehabilitation integrated with lead abatement. In excess of 60% of the multi-family housing units were constructed pre-1940 and are presumed to contain lead hazards.

Quality lead free units are increasingly difficult to locate even if rental assistance is provided.

In addition to increased rehabilitation efforts in Springfield, the City is also seeing an increase in the number of new units constructed. Springfield has experienced a steady increase in the number of building permits issued for residential construction over the last four years.

Specifically, the building permits for single-family construction have increased steadily since the submission of the last Consolidated Plan.

Program Year	# of permits
July 1, 1999 – June 30, 2000	62
July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001	73
July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2002	96
July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003	96
July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004	—

Many of these permits involve properties qualified as affordable housing.

HOMELESS

Homeless Needs (91.205 (b) and 91.215 (c))

*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook

Homeless Needs— The jurisdiction must provide a concise summary of the nature and extent of homelessness in the jurisdiction, (including rural homelessness where applicable), addressing separately the need for facilities and services for homeless persons and homeless families with children, both sheltered and unsheltered, and homeless subpopulations, in accordance with Table 1A. The summary must include the characteristics and needs of low-income individuals and children, (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered. In addition, to the extent information is available, the plan must include a description of the nature and extent of homelessness by racial and ethnic group. A quantitative analysis is not required. If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Homeless Needs response:

A point in time enumeration of homeless persons in the City of Springfield was conducted on January 25, 2005. These count which included street outreach identified 355 unduplicated persons in emergency shelter and an additional 16 unsheltered singles. The enumeration conducted by the City's Continuum of Care solicited information of chronic homeless, various service needs, gender, and community of origin, income source, and discharge from public institution of care.

While these data elements far exceed HUD's requirements, the CoC will utilize the information to plan program development and to guide resource allocations.

Reliable data on race and ethnicity was not obtained. The federal reclassification of Hispanics from a race to an ethnicity continues to present challenges. The CoC has also not attempted a quantification of at-risk populations, as a methodology to ensure unduplicated counts has not been determined.

Continuum of Care Homeless Population and Subpopulations Chart

Part 1: Homeless Population				Sheltered				Un-sheltered	Total	Jurisdiction												
				Emergency		Transitional				Data Quality												
1. Homeless Individuals				260				140	29	429	(N) enumerations											
2. Homeless Families with Children				33				43	3	79												
	2a. Persons in Homeless with Children Families			95				128	16	239												
Total (lines 1 + 2a)				355				268	45	668												
Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations				Sheltered				Un-sheltered	Total	Data Quality												
1. Chronically Homeless				94						18	112	(N) enumerations										
2. Severely Mentally Ill				56				0	56													
3. Chronic Substance Abuse				79				0	79													
4. Veterans				14				0	14													
5. Persons with HIV/AIDS				30				0	30													
6. Victims of Domestic Violence				7				0	7													
7. Youth (Under 18 years of age)				0				0	0													
Part 3: Homeless Needs Table: Individuals				Needs	Currently Available	Gap	5-Year Quantities								Total			Priority 101	Priority 202	Data Source 2023 2024-2025 2026		
							Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Total					
							Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal				Actual	% of Goal
							Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Actual	% of Goal					
Beds	Emergency Shelters			160	112	48	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	48	0	0%	M	Y	ESG	
	Transitional Housing			207	152	55	5	0	16	0	0	0	24	0	10	0	55	0	0%	M	Y	OTHER
	Permanent Supportive Housing			238	166	72	0	0	12	0	10	0	0	0	10	0	32	0	0%	H	Y	HOME, HOPWA
	Total			605	430	175	5	0	28	0	58	0	24	0	20	0	135	0	0%			
Chronically Homeless																			H	Y	OTHER, HOME	
Part 4: Homeless Needs Table: Families				Needs	Currently Available	Gap	5-Year Quantities								Total			Priority 101	Priority 202	Data Source 2023 2024-2025 2026		
							Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Total					
							Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal				Actual	% of Goal
							Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Actual	% of Goal					
Beds	Emergency Shelters			80	65	15	0	0	8	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	20	0	0%	L	Y	ESG
	Transitional Housing			75	50	25	4	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0%	H	Y	OTHER	
	Permanent Supportive Housing			25	0	25	0	0	10	0	10	0	5	0	0	0	25	0	0%	M	Y	HOME, OTHER
	Total			180	115	65	4	0	18	0	20	0	17	0	0	0	59	0	0%			

Completing Part 1: Homeless Population. This must be completed using statistically reliable, unduplicated counts or estimates of homeless persons in sheltered and unsheltered locations at a one-day point in time. The counts must be from: (A) administrative records, (N) enumerations, (S) statistically reliable samples, or (E) estimates. The quality of the data presented in each box must be identified as: (A), (N), (S) or (E).

Completing Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations. This must be completed using statistically reliable, unduplicated counts or estimates of homeless persons in sheltered and unsheltered locations at a one-day point in time. The numbers must be from: (A) administrative records, (N) enumerations, (S) statistically reliable samples, or (E) estimates. The quality of the data presented in each box must be identified as: (A), (N), (S) or (E).

Sheltered Homeless. Count adults, children and youth residing in shelters for the homeless. "Shelters" include all emergency shelters and transitional shelters for the homeless, including domestic violence shelters, residential programs for runaway/homeless youth, and any hotel/motel/apartment voucher arrangements paid by a public/private agency because the person or family is homeless. Do not count: (1) persons who are living doubled up in conventional housing; (2) formerly homeless persons who are residing in Section 8 SRO, Shelter Plus Care, SHP permanent housing or other permanent housing units; (3) children or youth, who because of their own or a parent's homelessness or abandonment, now reside temporarily and for a short anticipated duration in hospitals, residential treatment facilities, emergency foster care, detention facilities and the like; and (4) adults living in mental health facilities, chemical dependency facilities, or criminal justice facilities.

Unsheltered Homeless. Count adults, children and youth sleeping in places not meant for human habitation. Places not meant for human habitation include streets, parks, alleys, parking ramps, parts of the highway system, transportation depots and other parts of transportation systems (e.g. subway tunnels, railroad car), all-night commercial establishments (e.g. movie theaters, laundromats, restaurants), abandoned buildings, building roofs or stairwells, chicken coops and other farm outbuildings, caves, campgrounds, vehicles, and other similar places.

Priority Homeless Needs

1. Using the results of the Continuum of Care planning process, identify the jurisdiction's homeless and homeless prevention priorities specified in Table 1A, the Homeless and Special Needs Populations Chart. The description of the jurisdiction's choice of priority needs and allocation priorities must be based on reliable data meeting HUD standards and should reflect the required consultation with homeless assistance providers, homeless persons, and other concerned citizens regarding the needs of homeless families with children and individuals. The jurisdiction must provide an analysis of how the needs of each category of residents provided the basis for determining the relative priority of each priority homeless need category. A separate brief narrative should be directed to addressing gaps in services and housing for the sheltered and unsheltered chronic homeless.
2. A community should give a high priority to chronically homeless persons, where the jurisdiction identifies sheltered and unsheltered chronic homeless persons in its Homeless Needs Table - Homeless Populations and Subpopulations.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Priority Homeless Needs response:

The priority needs table below details the relative priorities of the traditionally accepted components of a Continuum of Care. These components include emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. The City of Springfield while recognizing the need to expand the capacity of year round emergency shelter, especially for singles, has prioritized the provision of housing. Therefore the housing-based categories of transitional housing and permanent housing are prioritized.

HOUSING CONTINUUM CATEGORY	INDIVIDUALS	FAMILIES	FUNDING SOURCE
Emergency Shelter	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	ESG, CDBG
Transitional Housing	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	ESG, CDBG, HOPWA
Permanent Supportive Housing	HIGH	HIGH	HOME
Chronically Homeless	HIGH	HIGH	ESG, CDBG, HOME

In keeping with HUD’s priority of ending chronic homelessness, the city of Springfield has highly prioritized housing and services to this sub-population. Within the January 2005 enumeration, a total of 112 chronically homeless individual were identified. The CoC has identified the creation of permanent supportive housing including a “housing first” model as a high priority.

The City has continued to work on homeless prevention in partnership with property-owners, the legal community, service providers, and the Western Mass Housing Court. Through these coordinated efforts, the CoC has developed two innovative prevention programs. Continued support for these model programs and exploration of additional opportunities to stabilize at-risk households is a high priority.

The City of Springfield has accepted the Inter-agency Council on Homelessness’s goal of the creation of a Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. The City has expanded its original intent and has undertaken the development of a plan to reduce homelessness city-wide. The effort which actively involves private businesses, City officials, providers, the faith-based community, homeless persons, foundations, and educational institutions has completed preliminary work. The draft of the committees recommendations are anticipated by July 05.

C.O.C. Planning Process Participants

Specific Names of Organizations/Persons (Geographic area represented)	Geographic Area	Sub-populations Represented	Level of Participation (Activity and Frequency)
STATE AGENCIES:			
MA Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD)	Springfield		Attends Main Plenary meetings
MA Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)	Springfield		Attends Main Plenary meetings
Federal Department of Veterans Affairs	Springfield	VETS	Attends Plenary meetings, Attends meeting infrequently
MA Dept. of Transitional Assistance	Springfield		Attends Discharge Planning Committee meetings.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:			
Office of Housing & Neighborhood Services	Springfield		Convenor – Attends all COC meetings, (Plenary and committee)
Community Development Department	Springfield		Attends Plenary meetings. Participates in Needs Assessment.
Health & Human Services	Springfield		Attends Plenary meetings. Attends all Ten-Year Plan meetings.
Veterans Office	Springfield		Attends meetings infrequently. Member of Respite Shelter sub-committee. Attends Ten-Year Plan meetings.
PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES:			
Springfield Housing Authority	Springfield		Attends meetings infrequently.
Housing Allowance Project	Springfield		Attends meetings infrequently. Participates in Point-in-Time Count. Attends HMIS sub-committee meetings.
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:			
New England Farm Workers Council (NEFWC)	Springfield	VETS	Attends Plenary meetings. Participates in Point-in-Time Count.
New North Citizens Council	Springfield	HIV/AIDS	Attends meetings regularly. Participates in Point-in Time
YMCA	Springfield	Y	Attends Plenary Meetings. Attends meetings infrequently.
Children's Study Home	Springfield	VETS	Attends meetings frequently. Attends HMIS sub-committee meetings.
Massachusetts Career Development Institute	Springfield		Attends all Plenary meetings. Attends meetings frequently. Serves on Ten-year Plan Sub-committee
Mental Health Association of Greater Springfield	Springfield	SMI	Attends all Plenary meetings. Attends meetings frequently. Chairs Main Stream Resources Committee. Serves Ten-Year Planning.
Friends of the Homeless	Springfield	SA	Attends all Plenary meetings. Attends meetings frequently. Serves Ten-Year Planning.
River Valley Counseling Center, Inc.	Springfield	HIV/AIDS	Attends all Plenary meetings. Attends meetings frequently. Serves on HMIS Sub-committee.
Health Care for the Homeless	Springfield	SMI	Attends Plenary meetings. Attends meetings frequently. Chair Respite Shelter
Western Mass Legal Services	Springfield	SA	Attends Plenary meetings. Attends meetings regularly.
Puerto Rican Veteran's Association	Springfield	VETS	Attends meetings frequently. Serves Ten-Year Planning meeting.

C.O.C. Planning Process Participants, continued

Specific Names of Organizations/Persons (Geographic area represented)	Geographic Area	Sub-populations Represented	Level of Participation (Activity and Frequency)
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, continued:			
YWCA	Springfield	DV	Attends meetings frequently
Human Resource Unlimited	Springfield	SMI	Attends all Plenary meetings. Attends frequently. Serves on Mainstream Resource and HMIS Sub-committee.
Open Pantry	Springfield	SA	Attends meetings frequently. Serves on Mainstream Resource Sub-committee.
		SMI	Attends Ten-Year Planning meetings.
		DV	
HIV/AIDS Law Consortium	Springfield	HIV/AIDS	Attends Plenary meetings regularly
Springfield Community Action	Springfield	Y	Attends meetings regularly.
Gray House	Springfield	Y	Attends meetings regularly.
Martin Luther King Center	Springfield	DV	Attends meetings frequently. Attends Ten-Year Planning meeting.
		Y	
Springfield Rescue Mission	Springfield	SA	Attends meetings infrequently. Participates in Point-in-Time Count.
Northern Educational Services	Springfield		Attends meetings Infrequently
NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS:			
Concerned Citizens for Springfield	Springfield		Participates in public hearings/twice annually.
Hungry Hill Development Corp.	Springfield		Participates in public hearings/twice annually.
Armoury/Quadrangle Civic Association	Springfield		Participates in public hearings/annually.
The Urban League of Springfield	Springfield		Participates in public hearings/twice annually.
BUSINESSES:			
Springfield Chamber of Commerce	Springfield		Attends meetings frequently. Chair of Ten-Year Planning Committee
Greater Springfield Rental Housing Association	Springfield		Attends meetings infrequently.
Hampden County Educational & Training Con.(HCETC)	Springfield		Attends meetings frequently.
Springfield Day Nursery	Springfield	Y	Attends meetings frequently.
Banknorth	Springfield		Attends Ten-Year Planning meetings.
HOMELESS/FORMERLY HOMELESS PERSONS:			
ARISE for Social Justice	Springfield		Participates in public hearings.
Homeless/Formerly Homeless Resident Organizations	Springfield		Serves in Ten-Year Planning meetings. Attends meetings regularly. Serves on HMIS Sub-committee.
HOSPITALS/MEDICAL:			
Mercy Hospital	Springfield	HIV/AIDS	Attends Plenary meetings. Participates in Ten-Year Planning meeting.
Southwest Community Health Care	Springfield		Participates in planning through Con Plan Process.
LAW ENFORCEMENT:			
Springfield Police Department	Springfield		Attends meetings frequently. Serves in Ten-Year Planning meeting.
Hampden County Sheriff's Department	Springfield		Attends meetings regularly. Participates in discharge planning.

C.O.C. Planning Process Participants, continued

Specific Names of Organizations/Persons (Geographic area represented)	Geographic Area	Sub-populations Represented	Level of Participation (Activity and Frequency)
PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS:			
United Way	Springfield		Attends meetings frequently. Attends Ten-Year Planning meeting.
Davis Foundation	Springfield		Attends meetings infrequently. Attends Ten-Year Planning meeting.
Community Foundation	Springfield		Attends meetings infrequently.
FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY:			
Greater Springfield Council of Churches	Springfield		Attends meetings frequently. Serves Ten-Year Planning meeting.
St. John's Congregational Church	Springfield		Attends meetings infrequently. Serves in Ten-Year Planning meeting.
Salvation Army	Springfield	SA	Attends meetings regularly. Serves in Ten-Year Planning meeting.
Catholic Charities/Catholic Diocese	Springfield		Attends meetings frequently. Serves Ten-Year Planning.

Homeless Inventory (91.210 (c))

The jurisdiction shall provide a concise summary of the existing facilities and services (including a brief inventory) that assist homeless persons and families with children and subpopulations identified in Table 1A. These include outreach and assessment, emergency shelters and services, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, access to permanent housing, and activities to prevent low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) from becoming homeless. The jurisdiction can use the optional Continuum of Care Housing Activity Chart and Service Activity Chart to meet this requirement.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Homeless Inventory response:

Fundamental Components in CoC system (Housing Activity)

Fundamental Components in CoC System - Housing Inventory Chart

EMERGENCY SHELTER											
Provider Name	Facility Name	HMIS	Geo Code ☒	Target Populations 2004 Year-Round Units/Beds					2004 All Beds		
				A	B	Family Units	Family Beds	Individual Beds	Year-Round	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Current Inventory											
Friends of the Homeless	Emergency Shelter	P-12/04	252340	SM				48	48		20
Children's Study Home	Horizon Shelter	P-2/05		FC		5	12		12		
Open Pantry	Jefferson Avenue Shelter	C		FC		8	18		18		2
N.E.F.W.C.	Scattered Site Fam. Emer. Shelter	N		M		15	30		30		
N.E.F.W.C.	Veteran's Shelter Program	N		M	VET	2	6	4	10		
YWCA of Western MA	ARCH	N		M	DV	12	30		30		
Springfield Rescue Mission	Sober Shelter	N		SM				40	40	18	
Friends of the Homeless	Women's Shelter	P-12/04		SF				18	18		14
Center for Human Development	Safe Zone	P-2/05		YMF				2	2		
Hampden Hampshire Hsng. Part	Prospect House Shelter	P-9/04		FC		9	22		22		
Open Pantry	Teen Living	P-9/04		FC		14	28		28		
Various	Warming Place	N		SMF						40	
				SUBTOTAL		65	146	112	258	58	36
Under Development											
YWCA	Battered Women	P-2/05		M		24	48		48		
				SUBTOTAL		24	48		48		

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING											
Provider Name	Facility Name	HMIS	Geo Code ☒	Target Populations 2004 Year-Round Units/Beds					2004 All Beds		
				A	B	Family Units	Family Beds	Individual Beds	Year-Round	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Current Inventory											
Friend's of the Homeless	Transitional Living Program	P-12/04		M				60	60		
P.R. Veteran's Association	Jorge Otero-Barreto Transitional Home for Homeless Vets.	N		VET	VET			11	11		
Children's Study Home	Project Permanency	P-2/05		FC		32			32		
Mental Health Association	Women's Track	P-9/04		SF				4	4		
Mental Health Assn. of Greater Springfield	Avon Place	P-9/04		M				8	8		
Mental Health Assn. of Greater Springfield	Young Adult Program	P-9/04		M				6	6		
Mental Health Assn. of Greater Springfield	MASS Brain Injury Transitional House	P-9/04		M				9	9		
MCDI	Annie's House	P-10/04		SF				16	16		
Gandara Mental Health	GARP	N		SM				10	10		
Gandara Center	Serenity	N		M				22	22		
MCDI	Family Housing Program	P-10/04		FC		8	18		18		
Open Pantry	Rutledge House I	C		SF				6	6		
MCDI	Majestic Program	P-10/04		M		10	24		24		
				SUBTOTAL		50	42	152	226		
Under Development											
YWCA	Transitional Housing	P-2/05		FC	DV	48	96		96		
				SUBTOTAL		48	96		96		

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING											
Provider Name	Facility Name	HMIS	Geo Code ☒	Target Populations 2004 Year-Round Units/Beds					2004 All Beds		
				A	B	Family Units	Family Beds	Individual Beds	Year-Round	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Current Inventory											
Mental Health Association	Safe Havens	P-9/04		M				6	6		
Mental Health Association	Shelter Care Plus	P-9/04		M				48	48		
Mental Health Association	ATARP	P-9/04		M				12	12		
Rainville Hotel	Single Room Occupancy	N		M				40	40		
YMCA	Veterans	N		M	VET			26	26		
Friends of the Homeless	501 Apartments	P-12/04		M				18	18		
Human Resource Unlimited	Next Step	P-10/04		M				7	7		
RiverValley	HIV / AIDS	P-11/04		M	AIDS			9	9		
				SUBTOTAL				166	166		
Under Development											
				SUBTOTAL				0	0		

EXHIBIT 1: CONTINUUM OF CARE – SERVICE ACTIVITY CHART OF

COMPONENT: ***Supportive Services***

Services in place:

CASE MANAGEMENT/LIFE SKILLS

DAY CENTER – A non-threatening drop-in center for homeless individuals. Provides counseling, case management and referrals. Operated by Friends of the Homeless.

VETERAN'S CARE CENTER – Provides case management and support services to homeless veterans. Center is operated by Veteran's Medical Services.

OPEN PANTRY COMMUNITY SERVICES – Provides case management and referrals to appropriate services through contracts with the Department of Health and Human Services.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE/TREATMENT

ALCOHOL DRUG SERVICES offer an array of programs (in-patient, detox, and counseling) to individuals with substance issues. Programs are operated by Baystate Health Systems.

OPEN DOOR SERVICES – Alcohol and drug counseling, referrals to treatment programs – operated by Open Pantry.

MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION – Operates a range of programs that conduct assessments and deliver services to persons with mental health issues. Many of the programs are funded by the Department of Mental Health.

HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS - operated by Mercy Hospital provides psychosocial assessments, interventions, referrals and transport as needed.

GANDARA, INC. - operates an array of mental health programs for DMH eligible clients. Programs provide case management, therapy counseling and crisis intervention.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NETWORK - Provides clinical assessment and intervention for mental health clients.

EXHIBIT 1: CONTINUUM OF CARE – SERVICE ACTIVITY CHART OF

COMPONENT:

Supportive Services (continued)

Services in Place: (continued)

AIDS-RELATED TREATMENT

RIVER VALLEY COUNSELING CENTER provides testing, counseling, support services and housing resources to families impacted by HIV/AIDS.

MERCY HOSPITAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS provides education testing and referrals to homeless persons on a variety of health issues including HIV/AIDS.

NEW NORTH CITIZENS COUNCIL - operates short-term rental assistance program as well as public health programs for testing and counseling.

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT

HETP (HOMELESS EDUCATION AND TRAINING) is operated by Mass Career Development Institute provides GED, job training, job development and world of work seminars.

ESTEEM MACHINE - A pre-G.E.D. program that assists individuals with very low educational levels to prepare for transitional G.E.D. and training programs. Program is operated by Mass Career Development Institute.

ADULT EDUCATION AND E.S.L. - offered by the Springfield School System for adult learners, the program is offered at scattered sites across the city.

CHILDCARE, TRANSPORTATION, MISCELLANEOUS

THE GREY HOUSE operates after-school programs, a summer day camp as well as emergency food and clothing programs.

GREATER SPRINGFIELD HELP operated by Springfield Partners for Community Action provides home furnishings and for basic household items.

Services planned:

- 1) Improve integration Mainstream Programs into the Continuum (on-going)
- 2) Develop a program-funded by WIA that prioritizes training of employment ready homeless persons.
- 3) Expand AA & NA meetings at shelters and day center.

How homeless persons access/receive assistance:

Homeless persons access services through self-referral, or referral from a service provider.

EXHIBIT 1: CONTINUUM OF CARE – SERVICE ACTIVITY CHART OF

COMPONENT:

Services in place:

Prevention

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

COURT PLUS – Western Mass Legal Services provides a team of legal professionals conduct counseling, assessments, referrals and mediation services with individuals and/or families facing evictions at Housing Court, Homelessness has been successfully averted by reestablishing tenancies with the evicting landlord, linking client to essential services, and/or assisting with housing search to more appropriate housing.

LEGAL CLINICS Western Mass Legal Services operates legal clinics where households at risk of eviction can gain access to assistance to fill the necessary court responses.

HIV LAW CONSORTIUM - Provides legal assistance and advocacy to individuals facing discrimination, wrongful eviction denial of benefits. Lawyers also assist in landlord remediation.

ADVOCACY

Western Mass Legal Services provides advocacy and legal representation to homeless clients who have been denied, received reduced or been terminated from public benefits.

NEW NORTH CITIZENS COUNCIL - Provides advocacy to individuals who have been denied services, especially due to language barriers and/or discrimination.

RENTAL/MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE – Provides through the Department of Transitional Assistance, the EA fund provides financial assistance for arrears in rental or utilities. In addition a number of private charities/organizations provide one-time assistance. Providers include: Catholic Charities, the Council of Churches, and New England Farm Workers.

NEW ENGLAND FARM WORKERS COUNCIL - provides housing assistance to stabilize tenants at risk of eviction. If appropriate, NEFWC assists with relocation to more affordable housing.

EXHIBIT 1: CONTINUUM OF CARE – SERVICE ACTIVITY CHART OF

PREVENTION CONTINUED

LICENSE TO OCCUPY

Landlord initiative to provide trial-basis occupancy of apartment for at-risk families and/or formerly homeless families. License to Occupy permits homeless and at-risk families with fewer service needs, a "second chance"-opportunity to prove themselves to be good tenant material for permanent housing.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

TENANCY PRESERVATION PROJECT - Mental Health Association operates a program that identifies persons at eminent risk of homelessness due to mental health and/or dual diagnosis issues. Comprehensive assessment, links to mainstream providers, and landlord mediation are provided.

Services planned:

- 1) To continue to expand License to Occupy with additional property owner participation.
- 2) To expand existing prevention activities through expanded interaction with Western Mass Housing Court.
- 3) To implement housing stabilization program, which addresses persons at-risk due to condition of housing.

How homeless persons access/receive assistance:

The networks between service providers, landlords and the Housing Court system has permitted prevention programs to flourish. The Court Plus and Tenancy Preservation Project have expanded the number and type of points of entry in the City of Springfield's COC by catching people on the verge of homelessness, and initiating service delivery and referral to mainstream services.

At-risk households receive services through self or provider referral.

For housing stabilization, households are referred by the City's Code Enforcement when condemnation appears likely due to poor housing conditions.

EXHIBIT 1: CONTINUUM OF CARE – SERVICE ACTIVITY CHART OF

COMPONENT:

Outreach

Outreach in place for persons living on the streets:

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM - a multi- disciplinary collaborative effort that insures system access for those reluctant to utilize existing system. Outreach Team conducts street canvassing. The program is operated by Mental Health Association of Greater Springfield.

OVERFLOW SHELTER - A low demand congregate emergency shelter that provides emergency shelter for all singles seeking it (unless history of violence). Men and women facilities are separate. The shelters are operated by Friends of the Homeless.

DAY CENTER - Provides non-threatening drop-in center for homeless individuals and families, with access to laundry facilities, shower facilities, phones and mail service to homeless persons who might otherwise never find their way to traditional program sites. The Day Center is operated by Friends of the Homeless.

COMMUNITY CARE CENTER, operated by Veteran's Center, is a drop-in center with an array of programs and referrals for veterans.

Connection to services and housing

The programs listed above offer low-demand interactions in an effort to build a relationship with homeless persons. Yet each program is able to immediately offer services (tangibles) to individuals such as health care, showers, etc. This initial connection establishes a relationship. From there, individuals are assisted in accessing mainstream services (SSI, SSDI, etc) and placed in appropriate housing (often, Safe Havens or Shelter Plus Care).

EXHIBIT 1: CONTINUUM OF CARE – SERVICE ACTIVITY CHART OF

COMPONENT:

Outreach (continued)

Outreach for other homeless:

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (Gandara, MHA) provide crisis counseling and services at local hospital and medical centers.

RIVER VALLEY COUNSELING CENTER provides an array of counseling and support services to persons with HIV/AIDS and their families. The programs are funded by Title I Ryan White funds and the Commonwealth's Department of Public Health.

HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS operated by Mercy Hospital provides testing and referrals for homeless persons.

ARCH HOTLINE is a life line for women homeless due to issues of domestic violence, ARCH provides crisis intervention, counseling and emergency services. ARCH is operated by the YWCA.

OPEN PANTRY (on-going): the City's Soup Kitchens and Food Pantries conducting outreach to identify homeless persons who are in need of emergency shelter.

SLOAN CLINIC operated by Baystate Medical's Division of Alcoholism and Drug Services. Clinic offers outpatient services, individual and group counseling and referrals for in-patient services.

NORTH END DROP-IN CENTER operated as partnership of YMCA and New North Citizen's Council. The center services at-risk homeless youths through a variety of educational and social programs.

The YWCA provides outreach, support service, and referrals for teen parents.

See Multi-Disciplinary outreach, Over Flow shelter, and DayCenter above, which also serve "other homeless"

Outreach planned for persons living on streets

- 1) To continue success of existing programs with an emphasis on abandoned buildings and bus station.
- 2) To expand capacity of DayCenter as part of the expansion of the Friends of Homeless Emergency Shelter expansion.
- 3) To provide training to Community Police on resource to avoid arrests of "street people".

Outreach planned for other homeless persons

- 1) To expand access for victims of domestic violence as part of the YWCA Shelter, which is fully funded and in development.
- 2) To expand capacity of DayCenter. (see above)

Homeless Strategic Plan (91.215 (c))

1. Homelessness— Describe the jurisdiction's strategy for developing a system to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless persons and families (including the subpopulations identified in the needs section). The jurisdiction's strategy must consider the housing and supportive services needed in each stage of the process which includes preventing homelessness, outreach/assessment, emergency shelters and services, transitional housing, and helping homeless persons (especially any persons that are chronically homeless) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. The jurisdiction must also describe its strategy for helping extremely low- and low-income individuals and families who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
2. Chronic homelessness—Describe the jurisdiction's strategy for eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012. This should include the strategy for helping homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. This strategy should, to the maximum extent feasible, be coordinated with the strategy presented Exhibit 1 of the Continuum of Care (CoC) application and any other strategy or plan to eliminate chronic homelessness. Also describe, in a narrative, relationships and efforts to coordinate the Conplan, CoC, and any other strategy or plan to address chronic homelessness.
3. Homelessness Prevention—Describe the jurisdiction's strategy to help prevent homelessness for individuals and families with children who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
4. Institutional Structure—Briefly describe the institutional structure, including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions, through which the jurisdiction will carry out its homelessness strategy.
5. Discharge Coordination Policy—Every jurisdiction receiving McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care, or Section 8 SRO Program funds must develop and implement a Discharge Coordination Policy, to the maximum extent practicable. Such a policy should include "policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent such discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for such persons." The jurisdiction should describe its planned activities to implement a cohesive, community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy, and how the community will move toward such a policy.

3-5 Year Homeless Strategic Plan response:

Springfield has adopted a multi-prong strategy towards eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012 and reducing the incidence of homelessness. Through work of the Ten Year Planning Committee, it is anticipated that the formal strategy will guide future program development and resource allocations.

Component of the City's Homeless strategy include:

1. Effective Outreach

Outreach is the initial step towards engaging the homeless and reconnecting them to needed housing and support services. While this process is often lengthy, it is critical. Even the most experienced, highly qualified outreach worker can spend months establishing a relationship that leads to reintegration of chronic homeless persons.

2. A Range of Housing Options

Linking housing with needed supportive services is essential in breaking the cycle of homelessness, especially for the chronic homeless who standardly have compounding contributory factors. The range of options must include emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing needs. The sheer number of compounding factors that lead to homelessness require a range of housing and service models.

3. Utilization of Mainstream Resources

Homelessness is rarely exclusively function of poverty, therefore affordable housing alone can exclusively not solve the problem. The extent and cost of services including income sources and support services demand a joint consolidated effort.

4. Prevention Programs

Housing retention efforts are key to resolving homelessness. The City will continue to support programs which provide mediation, legal advocacy, short-term assistance and crisis intervention.

The City has committed to the eliminating of chronic homelessness by 2012. Towards that end a Ten-Year Planning Committee has been established which will create the policy document to guide our efforts.

Until the finalization of this plan, the City through its COC has committed to the following goals.

Goal: End Chronic Homelessness	Action Steps
Goal 1: To complete the creation of a Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness	1) Convene on-going meetings of Ten-Year Planning Committee. 2) Achieve consensus on objectives and required actions.

Goal 2: Utilizing baseline data on chronic homeless, identify housing and service needs required to address chronic homelessness.	1) Conduct needs assessment utilizing recent Point-in-Time Count. 2) Quantify needs for planning and resource allocation. 3) Commit resources within Consolidated Plan
Goal 3: Expand availability of appropriate housing units through the development of additional permanent supportive housing.	1) Establish permanent supportive housing as a priority for City administered funding resources (HOME, HOPWA, LHEAP). 2) Obtain mainstream resource commitment for required services. 3) Undertake development of housing units.

Discharge Coordination Policy

In recognition that effective discharge planning must be contractually coordinated by the funding source, the City initiated involvement in evaluating and revising (as needed) the Commonwealth's existing discharge policies.

Although the Commonwealth has an on-going practice of evaluating its systems, the City was invited to participate in a series of policy meetings designed to develop effective policies to prevent discharge from institutions and health care facilities that result in homelessness.

The Commonwealth provides for appropriate discharge planning across programs through the inclusion of discharge specifications in contracts. The state's Operational Services Division, the agency responsible for overseeing the Massachusetts Purchase of Service system has developed discharge planning specifications for Request for Proposals (the method for state procurement of services including all human services). The language aims to ensure consistency in discharge planning among vendors and to establish an effective discharge planning policy and system statewide.

During the past year's annual homeless enumeration, discharge data was compiled. The data reflects that 20% of homeless were known to have been discharged from public institutions. This data will be utilized to engage the relevant agencies and funding sources in the development of discharge protocols.

In addition to the work done at the State level, the Springfield COC has initiated policy meetings with the Hampden County Sheriff's office. These meetings have resulted in the development of units by the Sheriff for releasees.

While progress has been made, the City and the Commonwealth have made a commitment to continue to revise and improve the existing discharge system. Towards that end of series of policy meetings have been scheduled at which all relevant Commonwealth Departments and City will participate.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan ESG response:

N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development (91.215 (e))

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), – i.e., public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.
2. Describe the basis for assigning the priority given to each category of priority needs.
3. Identify any obstacles to meeting underserved needs.
4. Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

NOTE: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Community Development response:

The City's priority non-housing community development needs may be grouped into three main categories.

1. Human Capital: Invest in residents to enable people at all income levels to lead healthy, productive lives. Offer support to households and build capacity of community-based organizations to better support vulnerable populations.

Based on Springfield's poverty rate and the severity of unmet needs expressed by residents in the public hearings held in various sections of the city, funding directed toward human-capital related programs and projects will yield significant and positive community outcomes. The three priority areas identified through the Consolidated Planning process are youth services, senior services, and disabled persons. Primary among these three priorities is the need to improve the educational and health outcomes of youth who are living in the proposed NRSA area.

In this category CDBG and other funds will be directed toward additional programs, including those that serve homeless persons, single parent families seeking affordable childcare, and programs for individuals with insufficient or no health insurance coverage. Funding will also be used to improve the efficacy of the outreach conducted and programs implemented by neighborhood groups for low and moderate income persons

2. Neighborhoods: Enhance the quality of life in Springfield's low and moderate income neighborhoods including, public places, infrastructures, and housing stock. Ensure neighborhoods are good places to live, work and recreate.

Funding allocated pursuant to this category will contribute toward the cost of rebuilding parks and recreational areas, the reconstruction of crumbling roads and sidewalks, and the clearance and demolition of dilapidated and blighted structures in low and moderate income neighborhoods. Funds utilized to support programs and projects in this category will also be directed toward additional programs and projects, including housing rehabilitation programs, code enforcement activities and homeownership and lead paint removal assistance programs.

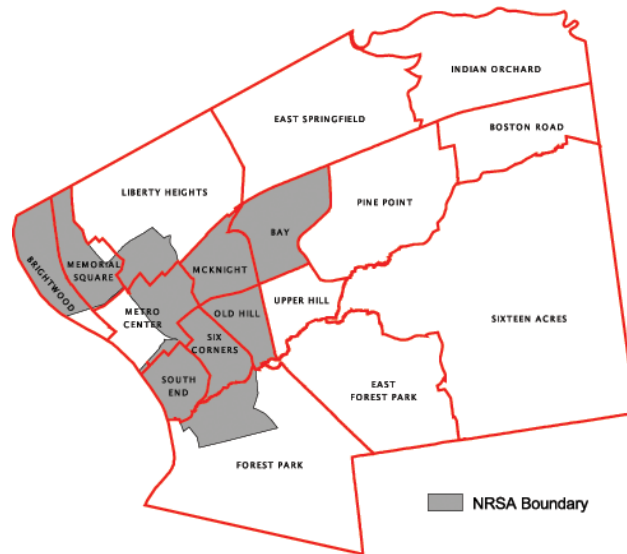
3. Economic Development: Expand economic opportunities, especially employment opportunities, for low and moderate income residents through efforts to attract, retain and expand small businesses in neighborhood business districts and larger commercial and industrial establishments throughout the City.

This assistance will be in the form of improvements to the physical conditions of neighborhood commercial districts, the provision of technical assistance to businesses located or seeking to locate in these districts and support for projects that will lead to the creation of jobs for the low and moderate income people residing in these neighborhoods.

As part of attraction and retention efforts and the technical assistance provided to growing neighborhood businesses, programming and project goals will be

geared toward meeting the needs of residents in low and moderate income neighborhoods who are disproportionately burdened by lack of access to basic businesses and services in their neighborhood commercial districts, including supermarkets, dry-cleaners, full service banks and non-fast food restaurants.

Consistent with these priorities, the City of Springfield anticipates the designation of a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). Initiatives implemented in this area will be more clearly focused and directed toward a key target portion of the City where needs are most clearly defined. While a thorough description of the City's NRSA strategy is located at the end of this Consolidated Plan document, the map below overviews the boundaries of this NRSA.



These boundaries contain the following block groups:

LOWMOD			LOWMOD		
TRACT	BLKGRP	PCT	TRACT	BLKGRP	PCT
8001	1	80.6	8013	2	85.2
8006	1	85.9	8018	1	79
8006	2	96.6	8018	3	81.9
8006	3	99.4	8018	6	85.7
8007	1	85.4	8019	1	84.3
8008	1	90.2	8019	2	84.3
8008	2	84	8019	3	78.4
8009	1	86	8019	4	81.7
8009	2	81.6	8019	5	86.6
8009	3	95.2	8019	8	83
8009	5	89.9	8020	1	85.7
8011.01	1	86.6	8020	2	86.2
8011.01	2	100	8021	1	78.6
8011.02	1	61.1	8021	4	56.6
8012	1	92.7	8023	4	82.8
8012	2	82.4	ENTIRE NRSA		84.1

Economic indicators also point to the need to pursue initiatives in these three main categories:

- **Unemployment rates are high, and incomes are low.**

	Springfield	Massachusetts	U.S.
2004	6.5%	5.1%	5.5%
2003	8.5%	5.8%	6.0%
2002	7.4%	5.3%	5.8%
2001	5.4%	3.7%	4.8%
2000	4.4%	2.6%	4.0%
1999	5.0%	3.2%	4.2%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Labor

- **Income and wealth levels are significantly lower than those for the state and federal government.**

		Springfield	Massachusetts	U.S.
Median Age				
	2000	31.9	36.5	35.3
	1990	30.6	33.6	32.9
	1980	29.9	31.2	30.0
Median Family Income				
	2000	\$ 36,285	\$ 61,664	\$ 50,046
	1990	30,824	44,367	35,225
	1980	16,607	21,166	19,908
Per Capita Income				
	2000	\$ 15,232	\$ 25,952	\$ 21,587
	1990	11,584	17,224	14,420
	1980	5,819	7,459	7,313

Source: United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

- The City of Springfield has a service based economy; employment in Springfield is heavily concentrated in the Trade, Transportation and Utilities and the Education and Health Services sectors.

Industry	Calendar Year Average			
	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Construction	2,309	2,192	1,943	1,726
Manufacturing	6,455	5,622	5,141	5,230
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	14,965	14,309	13,966	13,482
Information	2,299	2,083	2,255	2,018
Financial Activities	8,689	8,498	8,293	8,060
Professional and Business Services	7,757	7,277	6,348	6,310
Education and Health Services	24,755	25,610	26,369	26,728
Leisure and Hospitality	5,350	5,462	5,670	5,582
Other Services	3,983	4,394	4,869	5,054
Public Administration	3,363	3,308	3,047	2,877
Total Employment	79,925	78,755	77,901	77,117
Number of Establishments	4,316	4,764	5,235	5,459
Average Annual Wage	\$37,115	\$38,288	\$39,649	NA
Total Wages	\$2,966,429,396	\$3,015,400,588	\$3,088,673,412	\$1,582,442,029*

*Data for 2004 is for the first 6 months of the calendar year.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Employment and Training, Series ES 202; data is not seasonally adjusted. Data is based on place of employment not place of residence.

- Private employment in Springfield during the first 6 months of 2004 made up approximately 83.6 percent of total employment in the city.
- A comparison of private employment in Springfield during the first six months of 2003 and the same data for the same period in 2004 indicates that total private employment decreased by 0.5 percent. However, the total number of private firms in Springfield increased by 12.4 percent during the same period.

	Average Private Employment January -June				Private Firms			
			%				%	
	2003	2004	% of Total 2004	Change 2003 to 2004	2003	2004	% of Total 2004	Change 2003 to 2004
Construction	1,606	1,504	2.3%	-6.4%	149	153	2.9%	2.7%
Manufacturing	5,246	5,230	8.1%	-0.3%	154	150	2.8%	-2.6%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	11,339	10,972	17.0%	-3.2%	709	713	13.3%	0.6%
Information	2,265	1,929	3.0%	-14.8%	41	45	0.8%	9.8%
Financial Activities	8,377	8,043	12.5%	-4.0%	329	334	6.2%	1.5%
Professional and Business Services	6,343	6,310	9.8%	-0.5%	552	551	10.3%	-0.2%
Education and Health Services	19,809	20,226	31.4%	2.1%	464	464	8.7%	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	5,043	5,180	8.0%	2.7%	315	320	6.0%	1.6%
Other Services	4,736	5,050	7.8%	6.6%	2,053	2,626	49.0%	27.9%
TOTAL	64,763	64,443	100.0%	-0.5%	4,766	5,356	100.0%	12.4%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Employment and Training, Series: ES 202. Data is not seasonally adjusted; data is based on place of employment not place of residence.

- Employment trends also indicate that small businesses will be the source of job opportunities for Springfield residents.
- Although they make up 20% of the total number of businesses in the City, Springfield-based minority-owned businesses are not growing at the same rate as the overall small business community with total sales and receipts coming in at

	Massachusetts, 1997			Springfield, 1997		
	Minority Only	Total	Percent of Total	Minority Only	Total	Percent of Total
Total Establishments						
Establishments	39,039	537,150	7.3%	1,582	7,914	20.0%
Total Sales and Receipts (\$1, 000)	6,980,154	517,291,479	1.3%	116,508	17,052,367	0.7%
Sales and Receipts per Establishment (\$000)*	\$ 179	\$ 963		\$ 74	\$ 2,155	
Establishments with Employees						
Establishments	7,641	135,309	5.6%	102	2,683	3.8%
Total Sales and Receipts (\$1, 000)*	6,133,900	498,376,149	1.2%	90,626	16,868,908	0.5%
Sales and Receipts per Establishment (\$000)*	\$ 803	\$ 3,683		\$ 888	\$ 6,287	
Employees	53,243	2,852,762	1.9%	668	75,930	0.9%

Source: US Economic Census, 1997 (note: More current data (2002 survey) will not be available until late 2005)

- The only additions to the inventory of industrial properties in the greater Springfield area are "build to suits." As a result, the vacancy rate in industrial property has decreased from 10 percent in 2002 to 9 percent in 2003 and continues to decline in 2004.

In the year 2004, the lion share of building sales, land sales, lease activity and facility updates are taking place in suburban locations, ringing the City of Springfield, which is largely due to the lack of developable industrial/commercial land in the City.

Source: CB Richard Ellis, Industrial Property Report, Springfield, 2004

The priorities for individual Community Development needs identified in this plan are derived from the input obtained from numerous outreach efforts, surveys and consultations used to identify community needs and establish the priorities in this Consolidated Plan. The prioritization process included consideration the feasibility of projects, the impact of the costs of larger projects on other priorities, the anticipated funding levels for the CDBG program, and other sources of funding that may be available to address established needs.

Activities labeled as "High" priorities in the tables below and elsewhere in this plan are those which will receive Consolidated Plan funding assuming level funding of the City's formula grants over the next five years. Activities identified as "Medium" priorities are those which will likely receive Consolidated Plan funding if the applicable formula grants to the City of Springfield are increased during the next five years and may also receive funds if particularly strong projects are identified.

Activities that receive a “Low” priority will not receive Consolidated Plan funding over the next five years without an amendment to this Consolidated Plan.

A “Low” rating does not necessarily diminish the importance of these activities or indicate that there is no need for them in Springfield. Many activities that are assigned a “Low” priority for CDBG funding are nevertheless important needs for the community or high priorities for other sources of funding. Some activities receive “Low” ratings if the funds that are potentially available under the Consolidated Plan programs would be insufficient to have a meaningful impact on these needs or adequately funding them would result in minimal output or outcome accomplishments relative to the amount of funds expended at the cost of other priority programs.

Activities for which a matrix code has been assigned but are not listed in the table below are either not applicable to Springfield or have not been identified as a priority need to be supported by Consolidated Plan funds over the next five years.

The following chart identifies the relative priority of community development activities identified for the consolidated plan period. Planning, program administration, and HOPWA-specific activities have not been included in these tables.

1) Invest in Residents “Human Capital”

ACTIVITY	Matrix Code	Priority	Fund Source
Public Facilities and Improvements	3	M	CDBG, Public
Senior Centers	03A	M	CDBG, Public
Homeless Facilities	03C	H	ESG, Private, Public
Youth Centers	03D	M	Private
Parks, Recreational Facilities	03F	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Public Services (General)	5	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Senior Services	05A	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Handicapped Services	05B	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Youth Services	05D	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Substance Abuse Services	05F	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Battered and Abused Spouses	05G	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Employment Training	05H	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Fair Housing Activities	05J	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Childcare Services	05L	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Health Services	05M	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Mental Health Services	05O	M	Private, Public
CDBG Non-profit Organization Capacity Building	19C	H	CDBG, Private, Public

2) Neighborhood Enhancement

ACTIVITY	Matrix Code	Priority	Fund Source
Acquisition of Real Property	1	M	CDBG, Public
Disposition	2	H	CDBG, Private
Parks, Recreational Facilities	03F	H	CDBG, Public, Private
Street Improvements	03K	H	CDBG, Public
Sidewalks	03L	M	Public
Tree Planting	03N	M	Public
Clearance and Demolition	4	H	CDBG, Public
Homeownership Assistance	05R	H	CDBG, HOME
Direct Homeownership Assistance	13	H	HOME
Rehab; Single Unit Residential	14A	H	HOME, Public, Private
Rehab; Multi Unit Residential	14B	H	HOME, Public, Private
Acquisition	14G	H	HOME, Public, Private
Lead Based/Lead Hazard Test/Abatement	14I	H	HOME, Public
Code Enforcement	15	H	CDBG, Public
Residential Historic Preservation	16A	M	CDBG, HOME
CDBG Operation and Repair of Foreclosed Property	19E	H	CDBG

3) Economic Development

ACTIVITY	Matrix Code	Priority	Fund Source
Disposition	2	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Clearance and Demolition	4	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Clean-up of Contaminated Sites	04A	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Relocation	8	M	Public
CI Land Acquisition/Disposition	17A	H	CDBG, Private, Public
CI Infrastructure Development	17B	H	CDBG, Public
CI Building Acquisition, Construction, Rehabilitation	17C	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Other Commercial/Industrial Improvements	17D	M	CDBG, Private, Public
Direct Financial Assistance to For-Profits	18A	M	CDBG, Private, Public
ED Technical Assistance	18B	H	CDBG, Private, Public
Micro-Enterprise Assistance	18C	H	CDBG, Private, Public

Obstacles to Meeting Underserved Needs

The establishment of priority needs for all funding sources is undertaken with community stakeholders, constituents, and service providers after a complete analysis of relevant data. While numerous obstacles inhibit the City's work to meet underserved needs and subpopulations, the two primary obstacles are:

1. Uncoordinated resources from multiple funding sources across various agencies and providers.

2. Insufficient resources to engage and serve special needs subpopulations.

The City will work to overcome these obstacles by advocating for legislative change, when appropriate, hosting forums for special needs persons and providers to receive input on how to improve coordination and communication, and providing technical and financial assistance.

Specific Long and Short Term Objectives

1) Invest in Residents "Human Capital"

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT	
	UNITS	GOAL
Homeless Facilities	01 People	7,000
Public Services (General)	01 People	24,950
Senior Services	01 People	1,125
Handicapped Services	01 People	225
Youth Services	01 People	3,425
Substance Abuse Services	01 People	100
Battered and Abused Spouses	01 People	500
Employment Training	13 Jobs	250
Fair Housing Activities	01 People	700
Childcare Services	01 People	15
Health Services	01 People	1,000
Mental Health Services	01 People	200
CDBG Non-profit Organization Capacity Building	09 Organizations	

2) Neighborhood Enhancement

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Acquisition of Real Property	10 Housing Units	100
Disposition	10 Housing Units	150
Parks, Recreational Facilities	11 Public Facilities	3
Street Improvements	12 Feet of Public Utilities	25,000
Sidewalks	12 Feet of Public Utilities	1,000
Tree Planting	10 Housing Units	50
Clearance and Demolition	10 Housing Units	100
Homeownership Assistance	04 Households	300
Construction of Housing	10 Housing Units	30
Direct Homeownership Assistance	04 Households	75
Rehab; Single Unit Residential	10 Housing Units	75
Rehab; Multi Unit Residential	10 Housing Units	250
Acquisition	10 Housing Units	100
Lead Based/Lead Hazard Test/Abatement	10 Housing Units	500
Code Enforcement	10 Housing Units	500
Residential Historic Preservation	10 Housing Units	10
CDBG Operation and Repair of Foreclosed Property	10 Housing Units	150

3) Economic Development

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Disposition	8 Businesses	20
Clearance and Demolition	8 Businesses	5
Clean-up of Contaminated Sites	13 Jobs	40
Relocation	8 Businesses	2
CI Land Acquisition/Disposition	13 Jobs	200
CI Infrastructure Development	12 Feet of Public Utilities	2200
CI Building Acquisition, Construction, Rehabilitation	13 Jobs	250
Direct Financial Assistance to For-Profits	8 Businesses	5
ED Technical Assistance	8 Businesses	50
		75
Micro-Enterprise Assistance	8 Businesses	100
	13 Jobs	25

Antipoverty Strategy (91.215 (h))

1. Describe the jurisdiction's goals, programs, and policies for reducing the number of poverty level families (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and revised annually). In consultation with other appropriate public and private agencies, (i.e. TANF agency) state how the jurisdiction's goals, programs, and policies for producing and preserving affordable housing set forth in the housing component of the consolidated plan will be coordinated with other programs and services for which the jurisdiction is responsible.
2. Identify the extent to which this strategy will reduce (or assist in reducing) the number of poverty level families, taking into consideration factors over which the jurisdiction has control.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan Antipoverty Strategy response:

The City of Springfield's Anti-Poverty Strategy is multi-faceted with clearly defined jurisdictional goals, programs, and policies for reducing the number of families living in poverty; no one factor but rather a combination of factors are responsible for the high level of families living in poverty.

Like most cities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Springfield is faced with an alarmingly high percentage of families living on or below the poverty level as defined by the office of Management and Budget, which is revised annually.

Almost 27% of Springfield households live in poverty (\$15,020 for a family of three in 2002). Over a third (33.9%) of children under 18 live in poverty, giving the City one of the highest child poverty rates in the state (Census 2000). The rate is higher for Latino families, with 58% of children under 18, and 74% of children under five living in poverty. Of all household types, single-parent households headed by women are the poorest, with 62% with children under age five living in households with poverty-level incomes. In addition 87% of students in the City's Public Schools are classified as low income.

According to standards developed by the Boston based Women's Educational and Industrial Union and Wider Opportunities for Women in 1998, a Springfield household consisting of an adult, one preschooler, and one school-age child, for example, needs and hourly income of \$15.17 (\$32,040 per year) to pay for the basic necessities of housing, child care, food, clothing, transportation, health care expenses beyond those covered by an employer-provided health plan, and taxes.

There continues to be a strong connection between the issue of literacy (early childhood education, k-12, and adult education) and the incidence of poverty. Many poor families are headed by parents who have not finished high school, and cannot compete for better-paying jobs. In Springfield, 26.6% of adults age 25 and over have not completed high school or earned a GED; only 15.4% have earned a bachelor's degree. Without further education, many low-income parents are unlikely to earn incomes that will support their families. According to the Commonwealth MassINC "The State of the American Dream in Massachusetts, 2002" there is a strong relationship between people's literacy skills and their success in today's economy.

The City will utilize the skills and services of its' Office of Community and Economic Development, Department of Housing and Neighborhood Services, Planning Department, and the Department of Health and Human Services independently and collaboratively to assist in reducing the number of poverty level families.

However, the City of Springfield fully realizes that its departmental resources cannot solve all of these poverty related issues. The City, therefore, will partner with the diverse group of community based organizations, private sector partners, state and federal social services, economic development agencies and not for profit service providers that serve impacted residents of Springfield.

By directing resources to serve CDBG eligible areas, which are also those areas hardest hit by poverty, the City will focus its work to reduce the number of low and moderate income persons and families living in poverty in Springfield in the following two strategic areas:

To address the issue of literacy the City will work very closely with organizations such as the Holyoke, Chicopee, Head Start, Inc. a leader in Early Childhood Education committed to providing low-income children and their families with a beacon of hope and source of support for a brighter future. They strive to do so by providing high quality comprehensive child development services to enrolled children and empowering families to achieve stability in their home environment.

Their program options include; full and part-day programs, Early Head Start (eligible children ages 0-3), Head Start (eligible children ages 3-5), Child Care (eligible children from 2 years, 9 months to 5).

The City of Springfield working in collaboration with its public schools will continue to be proactively involved with initiatives that are geared towards the successful completion of grades K-12.

In keeping with the federal mandate of leaving no child behind, the City is involved in the following initiatives:

- Step up for Springfield
- Cherish Every Child
- Culture of Achievement
- Pupil Progression Plan

The City feels very strongly, that our partnership with the public school system in support of their K-12 programs will have a positive affect on the chronically high drop-out rate, which is a major factor in promulgating the circle of poverty.

The City will also place strong emphasis on developing partnerships with entities whose mission is to raise the educational and occupational skills levels of the workforce and improve economic self-sufficiency for low and moderate income families.

Springfield's Adults Education Center bridging the gap between education and meaningful employment with programs specifically geared to:

- Help obtain a GED Certificate, providing instruction and pre-testing both in English and Spanish.
- Alternative High School Diploma Program

The Regional Employment Board (REB) which coordinates among others the following programs and initiatives in support of the City's goal of reducing poverty:

- Work Force Investment Act (WIA) providing pre-employment, training and job placement services to more than 900 low-income youth and adults annually.
- Pathways to Success by 21, which focus on increasing the employment rate of youth 16-24, and increases the educational attainment levels and post-secondary education participation rates of dropout youth 16-24 focusing especially on Latino and African American Youth.
- Education, Training and Job Placement for TAFDC Recipients a program design to serve more than 180 TAFDC recipients enter unsubsidized employment.

Hampden County Employment and Training Consortium (HCETC) and Massachusetts Career Development Institute (MCDI), both involved in administering programs designed to provide job training and counseling to unemployed/underemployed as well as educational training.

In addition to supporting programs that provide employment and employment training to assist in reducing poverty, the City will also maintain solid partnerships with programs and organizations that are taking a lead in providing literacy and self-sufficiency programs such as Read-Write-Now, neighborhood councils (NNCC), Puerto Rican Cultural Center, Urban League of Greater Springfield, Vietnamese American Civic Association, and the Martin Luther King Center among others.

Programs that strengthen the family's abilities to manage income, obtain, maintain, or improve housing arrangements; reduce or eliminate an emergency need; improved or maintain nutrition; obtain access or links to services; improved or maintain physical or behavioral health are of particular importance regarding fighting poverty in Springfield. To this end, the City of Springfield will continue to identify opportunities to support the work of Springfield Partners for Community Action regarding its work to assist city residents through programs to assist with weatherization, telephone reassurance, community food and nutrition, community health advocacy, volunteer income tax assistance, financial literacy and awareness, individual development accounts, childcare, food distribution and community market programs.

The City knows that its strength is as strong as its weakest link and that the success of the anti-poverty strategy will depend on the strength and ability of the partnerships to holistically service and assist families break the cycle of poverty.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Coordination (91.315 (k))

1. (States only) Describe the strategy to coordinate the Low-income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) with the development of housing that is affordable to low- and moderate-income families.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan LIHTC Coordination response:

Not Applicable

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS

Specific Special Needs Objectives (91.215)

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve over a specified time period.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the strategic plan.

3-5 Year Non-homeless Special Needs Analysis response:

1. Specific Special Needs Objectives

Due to limited funding, the City of Springfield anticipated supporting only those activities identified as "High" priorities among non-homeless special needs. If additional funding is available or a particularly strong project is proposed, "Medium" priorities may also be considered.

Special Needs Category	Housing	Supportive Services
Elderly and Frail Elderly	M	H
Disabled (Develop. or Physical)		H
Persons w/ HIV/AIDS	H	M

2. Use of Available Resources

The City of Springfield has a significant number and range of housing available to special needs, non-homeless households. Housing options include public housing elderly and disabled units; group homes sponsored by Department of Mental Retardation and Mental Health; sober housing models for disabled persons with substance disorders; tenant-based rental assistance for persons with HIV /AIDS.

Many public service activities that have traditionally been funded through the CDBG program in Springfield serve the priority special needs populations identified above. The City of Springfield anticipates that these activities will

continue to receive support. HOPWA funding will be used to assist with the supportive service needs of persons with HIV/AIDS in Springfield and throughout the tri-county area as detailed below.

Additionally, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Public Health, the Division of Elder Services, and other agencies provide funding for a variety of housing and supportive services programs that serve many special needs populations in Springfield.

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA)

*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. The Plan includes a description of the activities to be undertaken with its HOPWA Program funds to address priority unmet housing needs for the eligible population. Activities will assist persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, such as efforts to prevent low-income individuals and families from becoming homeless and may address the housing needs of persons who are homeless in order to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. The plan would identify any obstacles to meeting underserved needs and summarize the priorities and specific objectives, describing how funds made available will be used to address identified needs.
2. The Plan must establish annual HOPWA output goals for the planned number of households to be assisted during the year in: (1) short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to avoid homelessness; (2) rental assistance programs; and (3) in housing facilities, such as community residences and SRO dwellings, where funds are used to develop and/or operate these facilities. The plan can also describe the special features or needs being addressed, such as support for persons who are homeless or chronically homeless. These outputs are to be used in connection with an assessment of client outcomes for achieving housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness and improved access to care.
3. For housing facility projects being developed, a target date for the completion of each development activity must be included and information on the continued use of these units for the eligible population based on their stewardship requirements (e.g. within the ten-year use periods for projects involving acquisition, new construction or substantial rehabilitation).
4. The Plan includes an explanation of how the funds will be allocated including a description of the geographic area in which assistance will be directed and the rationale for these geographic allocations and priorities. Include the name of each project sponsor, the zip code for the primary area(s) of planned activities, amounts committed to that sponsor, and whether the sponsor is a faith-based and/or grassroots organization.
5. The Plan describes the role of the lead jurisdiction in the eligible metropolitan statistical area (EMSA), involving (a) consultation to develop a metropolitan-wide strategy for addressing the needs of persons with HIV/AIDS and their families living throughout the EMSA with the other jurisdictions within the EMSA; (b) the

standards and procedures to be used to monitor HOPWA Program activities in order to ensure compliance by project sponsors of the requirements of the program.

6. The Plan includes the certifications relevant to the HOPWA Program.

3-5 Year Strategic Plan HOPWA response:

HOPWA funds will be used to undertake essential activities including rental assistance, short-term assistance, and support services including case management and legal advocacy. These ranges of activities are necessary to meet the critical housing needs of eligible persons/households. The activities will assist both households which are experiencing homelessness as well as household at-risk of homelessness.

The following table outlines the priority HOPWA needs for the Tri-county area. Activities marked "High" priorities will receive funding during the Consolidated Plan Period. Those marked as "Medium" priorities may receive funding if funding levels increase or particularly strong proposals are submitted. Activities marked as "Low" priorities will not be funded during the five-year plan period due to limited availability of funds.

Activity	Priority	Funding Source
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	H	HOPWA, HOME, McKinney
Short-Term Rent, Mortgage and Utility Payments	H	
Facility-Based Programs	L	---
Operating Costs for Facility-Based Programs		---
New Facilities Development with Capital Funds	L	HOPWA
Supportive Services in Conjunction with Housing Activities	H	HOPWA, Public, McKinney
Housing Information and Placement Services	H	HOPWA, Public
	M	HOPWA

Through consultation with consumers and service providers, the single greatest stated housing need has been identified as affordable rental housing. The preference is for scattered-site housing with a range of wrap around services to be matched to the household needs. The greatest obstacle to serving this need is the lack of sufficient resources to provide both the number and depth of subsidy required. In recognition of this, HOPWA have been prioritized rental assistance activities.

Annual Output goals for HOPWA include:

Short-term Assistance	50 Households
Rental Assistance	25 Households
Housing Facilities	0
Support Services	75 Households

Support Services play an essential role in assisting participants in maintaining housing. While not every participating household requires extensive services,

flexible wrap-around services increased the likelihood of stable housing, reduced incidence of homelessness and improved access to care.

Due to strong consumer preference for scattered site models, no congregate housing development is contemplated. The City will look to utilize other housing development resources to expand the availability of set-aside units in scattered- site projects.

Springfield EMSA : Tri County Area



MASSACHUSETTSHIV / AIDS
SURVEILLANCE COUNTY REPORT

Alive HIV/AIDS Cases Among HAMPDEN COUNTY Residents*

Total Cases as of 01/01/05	HIV		AIDS		HIV/AIDS		MASSACHUSETTS HIV and AIDS	
	742		783		1,525		14,986	
	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
City/Town of Residence with >= 5	HIV/AIDS cases							
Agawam	5	0.7%	12	1.5%	17	1.1%		
Chicopee	51	6.9%	59	7.5%	110	7.2%		
Holyoke	155	20.9%	159	20.3%	314	20.6%		
Ludlow	8	1.1%	11	1.4%	19	1.2%		
Springfield	468	63.1%	487	62.2%	955	62.6%		
W. Springfield	26	3.5%	19	2.4%	45	3.0%		
Westfield	8	1.1%	12	1.5%	20	1.3%		
Others	20	2.7%	24	3.1%	44	2.9%		
Transmission Categories								
Male Sex w/Male	120	16.2%	125	16.0%	245	16.1%	4,861	32.4%
Injecting Drug User	249	33.6%	371	47.4%	620	40.7%	4,494	30.0%
Male Sex w/Male and IDU	22	3.0%	26	3.3%	48	3.1%	491	3.3%
Receipt of blood/products	0	0.0%	4	0.5%	4	0.3%	133	0.9%
Heterosexual Contact	161	21.7%	143	18.3%	304	19.9%	2,022	13.5%
Presumed Heterosexual **	135	18.2%	77	9.8%	212	13.9%	2,068	13.8%
Undetermined/others	55	7.4%	27	3.4%	82	5.4%	696	4.6%
Pediatric	***		10	1.3%	***		***	
Age Group								
< 13	***		9	1.1%				
13-19	17	2.3%	7	0.9%				
20-29	187	25.2%	111	14.2%				
30-39	317	42.7%	363	46.4%				
40-49	164	22.1%	230	29.4%				
50+	57	7.7%	63	8.0%				
Gender								
Male	407	54.9%	513	65.5%	920	60.3%	10,634	71.0%
Female	335	45.1%	270	34.5%	605	39.7%	4,224	28.2%
Race								
White	168	22.6%	197	25.2%	365	23.9%	6,991	46.7%
Black	146	19.7%	155	19.8%	301	19.7%	3,973	26.5%
Hispanic	418	56.3%	430	54.9%	848	55.6%	3,617	24.1%
Other/Unknown	10	1.3%	1	0.1%	11	0.7%	277	1.8%
*Persons diagnosed in Massachusetts prisons are not included								
**Risk of partner unknown and primary risk categories denied; definition revised 7/1/99								
***Pediatric HIV Data is available through the Pediatric Spectrum of Disease Project: 617/983-6566								

MASSACHUSETTSHIV/AIDS SURVIELLANCE COUNTY REPORT									
Alive HIV/AIDS Cases Among HAMPSHIRE COUNTY Residents*									
Total Cases as of 01/01/05	HIV		AIDS		HIV/AIDS		MASSACHUSETTS		
	43		63		106		HIV and AIDS		
	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	
City/Town of Residence with >= 5 HIV/AIDS cases									
Amherst	7	16.3%	17	27.0%	24	22.6			
Northampton	16	37.2%	21	33.3%	37	34.9			
Others	20	46.5%	25	39.7%	45	42.5			
Transmission Categories									
Male Sex w/Male	23	53.5%	26	41.3%	49	46.2%	4,861	32.4%	
Injecting Drug User	9	20.9%	20	31.7%	29	27.4%	4,494	30.0%	
Male Sex w/Male and IDU	0	0.0%	3	4.8%	3	2.8%	491	3.3%	
Receipt of blood/products	0	0.0%	1	1.6%	1	0.9%	133	0.9%	
Heterosexual Contact	3	7.0%	5	7.9%	8	7.5%	2,022	13.5%	
Presumed Heterosexual **	4	9.3%	8	12.7%	12	11.3%	2,068	13.8%	
Undetermined/other	4	9.3%	0	0.0%	4	3.8%	696	4.6%	
Pediatric	***		0	0.0%	***		***		
Age Group									
< 13	***		0	0.0%					
13-19	1	2.3%	1	1.6%					
20-29	5	11.6%	11	17.5%					
30-39	21	48.8%	29	46.0%					
40-49	14	32.6%	16	25.4%					
50+	2	4.7%	6	9.5%					
Gender									
Male	36	83.7%	44	69.8%	80	75.5%	10,634	71.0%	
Female	7	16.3%	19	30.2%	26	24.5%	4,224	28.2%	
Race									
White	26	60.5%	39	61.9%	65	61.3%	6,991	46.7%	
Black	3	7.0%	8	12.7%	11	10.4%	3,973	26.5%	
Hispanic	11	25.6%	15	23.8%	26	24.5%	3,617	24.1%	
Other/Unknown	3	7.0%	1	1.6%	4	3.8%	277	1.8%	
*Persons diagnosed in Massachusetts prisons are not included									
**Risk of partner unknown and primary risk categories denied; definition revised 7/1/99									
***Pediatric HIV Data is available through the Pediatric Spectrum of Disease Project: 617/983-6566									

MASSACHUSETTS HIV/AIDS SURVEILLANCE COUNTY REPORT									
Alive HIV/AIDS Cases Among FRANKLIN COUNTY Residents*									
Total Cases as of 01/01/05	HIV		AIDS		HIV/AIDS		MASSACHUSETTS HIV and AIDS		
	27		26		53		14,986		
	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	
City/Town of Residence with >= 5	HIV/AIDS cases								
Greenfield	16	59.3%	10	38.5%	26	49.1%			
Montague	5	18.5%	5	19.2%	10	18.9%			
Others	6	22.2%	11	42.3%	17	32.1%			
Transmission Categories									
Male Sex w/Male	7	25.9%	13	50.0%	20	37.7%	4,861	32.4%	
Injecting Drug User	8	29.6%	3	11.5%	11	20.8%	4,494	30.0%	
Male Sex w/Male and IDU	1	3.7%	3	11.5%	4	7.5%	491	3.3%	
Receipt of blood/products	0	0.0%	2	7.7%	2	3.8%	133	0.9%	
Heterosexual Contact	7	25.9%	2	7.7%	9	17.0%	2,022	13.5%	
Presumed Heterosexual **	4	14.8%	3	11.5%	7	13.2%	2,068	13.8%	
Undetermined/others	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	696	4.6%	
Pediatric	***		0	0.0%	***	***	***		
Age Group									
< 13	***		0	0.0%					
13-19	1	3.7%	0	0.0%					
20-29	6	22.2%	2	7.7%					
30-39	12	44.4%	14	53.8%					
40-49	5	18.5%	8	30.8%					
50+	3	11.1%	2	7.7%					
Gender									
Male	16	59.3%	22	84.6%	38	71.7%	10,634	71.0%	
Female	11	40.7%	4	15.4%	15	28.3%	4,224	28.2%	
Race									
White	19	70.4%	20	76.9%	39	73.6%	6,991	46.7%	
Black	3	11.1%	4	15.4%	7	13.2%	3,973	26.5%	
Hispanic	4	14.8%	2	7.7%	6	11.3%	3,617	24.1%	
Other/Unknown	1	3.7%	0	0.0%	1	1.9%	277	1.8%	
*Persons diagnosed in Massachusetts prisons are not included									
**Risk of partner unknown and primary risk categories denied; definition revised 7/1/99									
***Pediatric HIV Data is available through the Pediatric Spectrum of Disease Project: 617/983-6566									

Funds will be allocated across the EMSA which covers the tri-country area of Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties. Allocations are influenced by sponsors' funding requests but every effort is made to insure the availability of a range of housing and service across the EMSA. Funding information such as project sponsor and commitment amounts will be contained in each year's Action Plan.

The City of Springfield through its' Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services is the lead for coordination of the HOPWA program. Toward that end the City affords each local government within the EMSA an opportunity to participate in HOPWA priorities and policy development. Consumers and providers are solicited for their input into need, priorities and program design. Monitoring standards have been developed by the City in consultation with HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development.

The Plan includes the certifications relevant to the HOPWA Program.

Specific HOPWA Objectives

1. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the strategic plan.

3-5 Year Specific HOPWA Objectives response:

During the Annual Project solicitation process, potential sponsors are informed of the need to leverage additional federal, state and local resources. Each project must at application, at contract, and at close-out report the source and use of these non-HOPWA resources. While the specifics of these funds vary annually, the City reasonably expects:

Ryan White Funds
Dept of Public Health funds
Foundation Grants.

Detail on the source and amount of resources are included within the Annual Action Plan.

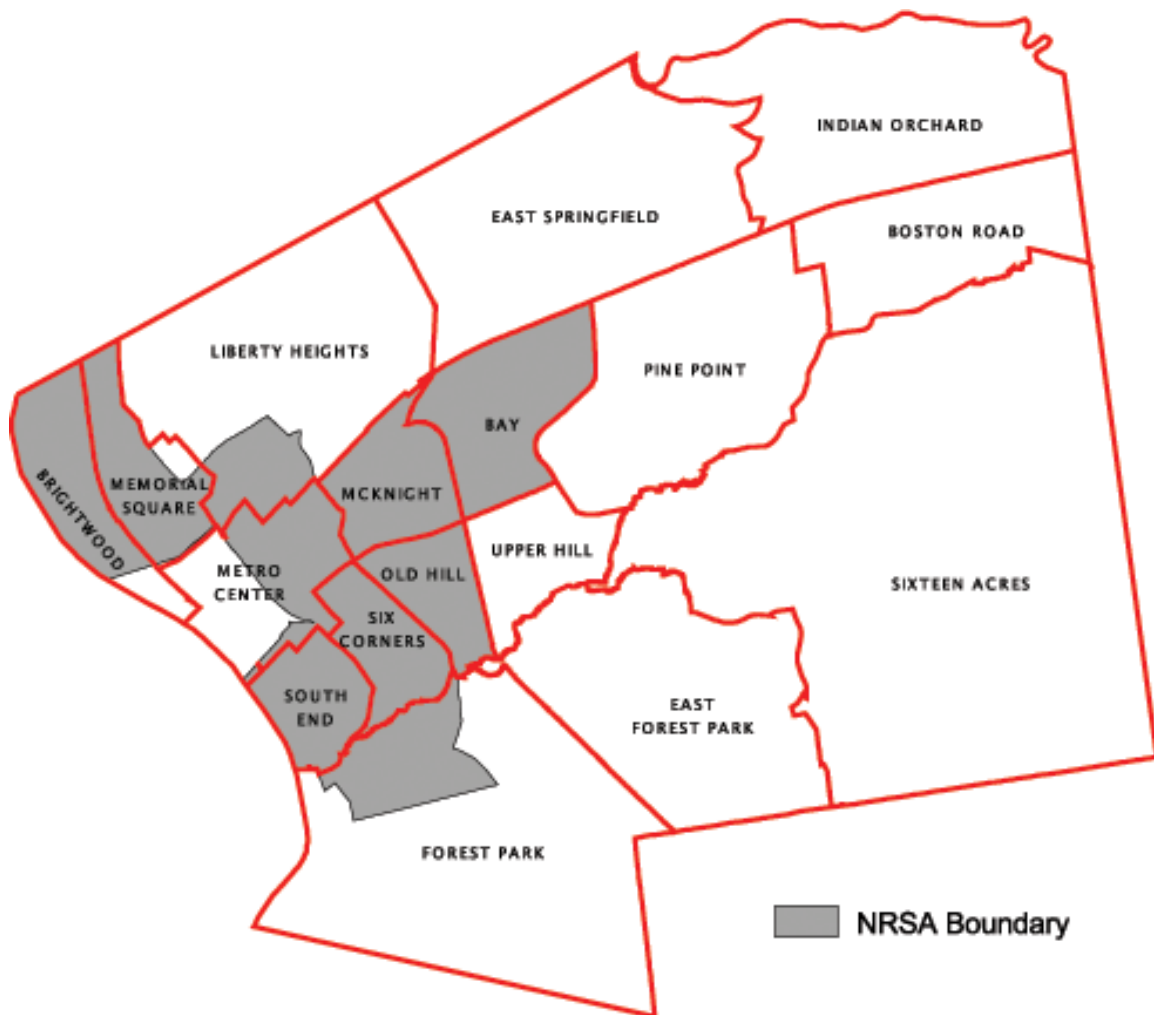
OTHER NARRATIVE

Include any Strategic Plan information that was not covered by a narrative in any other section.

Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area

1. Statement of Goals

The City of Springfield is poised to intensify efforts to fundamentally change its urban neighborhoods that are located within the proposed Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). These communities are home to some of the City's poorest residents and have a wealth of ethnic diversity. The residents, businesses owners, and key stakeholders within the NRSA are dynamic, diverse, and eager for positive change and new investment.



The following three goals encompass our global vision for the NRSA:

NRSA GOALS

1. Build capacity within existing community-based organizations so that they can better support NRSA households and serve as the catalyst for change.
2. Improve neighborhood infrastructure, housing stock and the overall aesthetics of neighborhoods to bring back civic pride and encourage private investment.
3. Engage all NRSA Neighborhood stakeholders and the governing body of our city to form a partnership to make our neighborhoods a better place to live, work and recreate.

While the finances of Springfield have necessitated the need for a state financial control board, this creates a unique opportunity to establish new partnerships to substantially improve the City's neighborhoods. With far-reaching assistance from various sources including HUD and the Commonwealth's Office of Commonwealth Development, the ability to make significant and sustainable neighborhood improvements that will benefit residents and improve the quality of life in the proposed NRSA is highly feasible. These new resources and partnerships are supporting the following activities in NRSA neighborhoods:

- Assistance from the State Police to address crime;
- Additional demolition dollars to address dangerous abandoned properties;
- Support to make substantial infrastructure improvements for three of the proposed NRSA neighborhoods;
- Operational assessment of key city departments including Public Safety and Department of Public Works;
- Consolidation of code inspection functions within the Office of Housing;
- Coordination of publicly owned real estate disposition;
- Nearly \$7 Million dollars to make improvements to the State Street corridor;
- State funding for a \$100,000 walking tour for the South End Neighborhood; and
- A new City budget mandate to spend .5% of the budget (FY06 \$1.9 Million) on capital improvements for city neighborhoods.

2. Past Accomplishments

As reported within the Annual CAPERS, real accomplishments have occurred within the Enterprise Community over the past ten years, yet the need to move more aggressively and urgently to stem blight and improve the lives of people and businesses in these communities has become increasingly apparent. It is with this new sense of urgency coupled with fundamental changes in the city's operating capacity that the proposed NRSA has been developed. Tangible outcomes that develop from this new foundation for neighborhood renewal will be the cornerstone for the NRSA.

3. Need for NRSA designation

Despite ongoing efforts to address the many complex needs of residents in the Enterprise Community, there is still much more to be done. From 1990 to 2000 the number of census blocks groups that represent 51% or higher low-to moderate-income population has risen. These census block groups are predominately in Springfield's most urban neighborhoods. These communities are falling behind when compared to the overall economic health of the remaining city neighborhoods and the region in total. Further, violent crime has increased in the city; according to City-data.com Springfield's crime index of 896.3 is significantly higher than the U.S. average of 330.6. Through the first quarter of 2005 the city has had 7 murders. The following indicators further illustrate the need to re-designate Springfield's Enterprise Community as a NRSA:

Poverty Levels

Neighborhood	Total Population	Persons below Poverty Level	Percent below Poverty Level
Memorial Square	4858	2814	58%
South End	3093	1537	50%
Six Corners	7347	3352	46%
Old Hill	4504	1768	39%
Brightwood	3850	1458	38%
Bay	3763	1415	38%
McKnight	4743	1660	35%
City of Springfield	146,327	33,772	23%
Region			13%

Source: 2000 Census

Housing Units – Percent owner-occupied

Neighborhood	Total Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units	Percent Owner-occupied units
Memorial Square	1850	1691	6.3%
South End	1365	1273	14.8%
Six Corners	3466	3022	18.1%
Brightwood	1488	1434	20.0%
Old Hill	1660	1461	34.0%
Bay	1464	1292	38.3%
McKnight	1805	1642	40.7%
City of Springfield	61,172	57,130	49.9%
Region	239,709	227,095	63.3%

Source: 2000 Census

Unemployment

Neighborhood	In Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Percent Unemployed
Six Corners	2561	2137	424	16.6%
Brightwood	1232	1028	204	16.6%
Memorial Square	1044	879	165	15.8%
McKnight	1780	1501	279	15.7%
Old Hill	1542	1335	207	13.4%
South End	1069	938	131	12.3%
Bay	1544	1396	148	9.6%
City of Springfield	66,262	60,651	5611	8.5%
Region	296,374	272,660	23,714	8%

Source: 2000 Census

Housing Units Built before 1940

Neighborhood	Percent Housing Units Built before 1940
McKnight	66.6%
Old Hill	55.4%
South End	53.5%
Six Corners	50.5%
Bay	40.9%
Memorial Square	21.4%
Brightwood	19.7%
City of Springfield	36.2%
Region	34.0%

Source: 2000 Census

Lead Hazards

Neighborhood	Number of High Risk Units*
Six Corners	730
South End	470
McKnight	380
Old Hill	320
Memorial Square	301
Bay	240
Brightwood	194
City of Springfield	6,207

Source: Scorecard, Environmental Defense

*This measure is the number of housing units that were built before 1950 and are occupied by families living below the poverty level.

Education Attainment

Neighborhood	Percent High School Graduate or Higher
Memorial Square	39%
Brightwood	44%
South End	56%
Six Corners	57%
Old Hill	62%
McKnight	64%
Bay	64%
City of Springfield	73%
Region	84.4%

Source: 2000 Census

Health Indices – HIV/AIDS

Neighborhood	% of residents known to be living with HIV/AIDS
Memorial Square	.99%
Brightwood	
South End	1.37%
Six Corners	
Old Hill	.75%
McKnight	
Bay	
City of Springfield	.6%
Massachusetts	.2%

Source: Springfield Health and Human Services April 2004 Data

Health Indices – Teen Births

Neighborhood	% Age 17 or Under	% Age 18-19
Memorial Square	16.6%	16.4%
Brightwood		
South End	8.8%	14.7%
Six Corners	10.4%	16.4%
Old Hill	12.8%	17.1%
McKnight	18.1%	10.5%
Bay	9%	15%
City of Springfield	8.8%	11.9%

Source: Springfield Health and Human Services 1997-1999 Data

Elderly Living Alone

Neighborhood	65 + Living alone	Total Population	Percent
Six Corners	164	7688	2.13%
Bay	94	4246	2.21%
Old Hill	117	4557	2.57%
McKnight	166	4881	3.4%
Memorial Square	166	4889	3.4%
South End	111	3223	3.44%
Brightwood	183	3936	4.65%
City of Springfield	6841	152,082	4.5%

Source: 2000 Census

Youth Living in Poverty

Neighborhood	< 18 Below Poverty Level	Total Population	Percent
Old Hill	896	4557	19.66
McKnight	828	4881	16.96
Memorial Square	1347	4889	27.55
South End	701	3223	21.75
Brightwood	619	3936	15.73
Bay	740	4246	17.43
Six Corners	1473	7688	19.16
City of Springfield	14,637	152,082	9.62

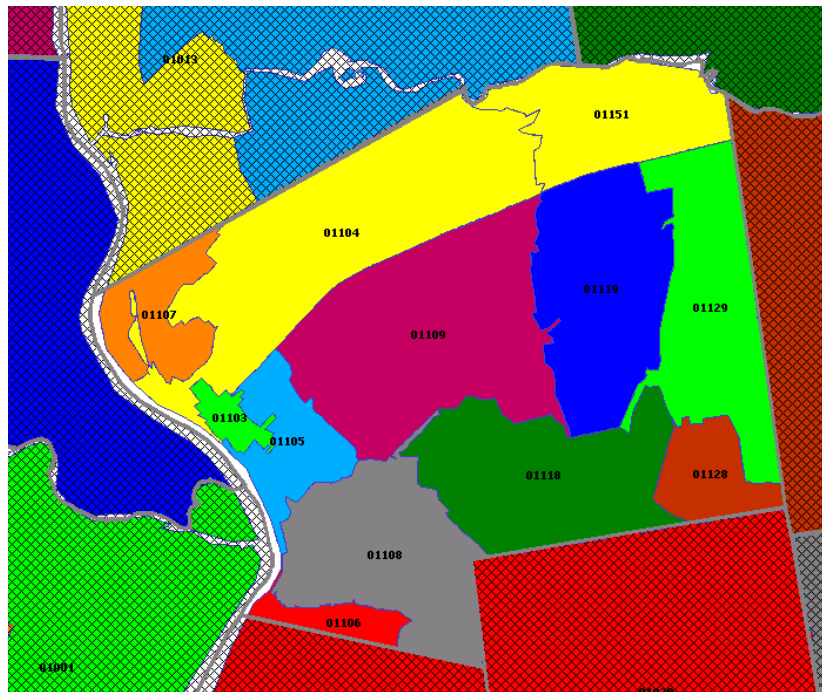
Source: 2000 Census

Limited Access to Business

Zip	Location	Percent of % Individuals Below Poverty Level	Individuals Living Below Poverty Level Per Establishment
01107	NRSA Equivalent Zip Code	40.0%	32.1
01109	NRSA Equivalent Zip Code	36.9%	24.3
01105	NRSA Equivalent Zip Code	43.9%	20.2
01108	NRSA Equivalent Zip Code	23.0%	19.4
01104	Not in NRSA	19.9%	11.0
01151	Not in NRSA	19.2%	7.5
01119	Not in NRSA	9.2%	7.2
01118	Not in NRSA	7.5%	6.1
01128	Not in NRSA	7.2%	3.4
01103	Not in NRSA (Metro Center)	37.7%	2.9
01129	Not in NRSA	4.8%	1.8

Note: Due to the fact that zip code boundaries are not contiguous with census tract and block group boundaries and they overlap City boundaries, the information listed above may not be cross referenced with the data grouped by neighborhood. The boundaries of the zip code areas are on the map below.

Springfield, MA Zip Codes



Source: 2000 US Census, Dun and Bradstreet

Note: Due to the fact that zip code boundaries are not contiguous with census tract and block group boundaries and they overlap City boundaries, the information listed above may not be cross referenced with the data grouped by neighborhood.

4. NRSA Action Plan

The strategy to focus on three global goals for the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy plan includes addressing the following needs with corresponding Objectives. The success of the NRSA will be measured against achieving the critical outcomes that are shown in the attached logic plans.

Goal 1: Build capacity within existing community-based organizations so that they can serve as the catalyst for neighborhood renewal and better support the needs of NRSA households.

Problem/Need	Objectives
1. The needs of NRSA households require a coordinated, community based approach.	Identify and implement successful community-based service models to meet the health needs of NRSA residents.
2. Neighborhood organizations are lacking the needed human and capital resources to effectively address quality of life and revitalization issues.	Provide technical assistance and build capacity in organizations throughout the NRSA.

3. Neighborhood businesses and key stakeholders are not fully engaged in neighborhood revitalization activities.	Create processes and tools to better facilitate communication between NRSA residents, neighborhood businesses, and key stakeholders.
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Goal 2. Improve neighborhood infrastructure, housing stock and the overall aesthetics of neighborhoods to bring back civic pride and encourage private investment.

Problem/Need	Objectives
1. Negative quality of life issues are affecting the desirability and corresponding marketability of Springfield's urban neighborhoods	Address graffiti, adverse neighborhood businesses, zoning, code violations and related crime.
2. NRSA neighborhoods have a disproportionate percentage of vacant blighted properties and marginal housing stock.	To redevelop vacant properties and rehabilitate marginal stock.
3. Public infrastructure (streets, sidewalks, lighting, schools) within the NRSA is in need of significant repair.	Improve the quality of public infrastructure.

Goal 3. Engage all NRSA Neighborhood stakeholders and the governing body of our city to form a partnership to make our neighborhoods a better place to live, work and recreate.

Problem/Need	Objectives
1. Lack of educational attainment and vocational training limit employment opportunities for NRSA residents.	Expand non-traditional education and employment training opportunities.
2. NRSA residents have a high reliance on public transportation and youth need a breadth of recreational opportunities within NRSA.	Invest in parks, and recreational and youth programming within NRSA.
3. Loss of stable, quality housing units in NRSA.	Expand affordable housing units, homeownership, and rentals to provide quality housing.

For each of the goals, the City will identify measurable outcomes within the Annual Action Plan. The City's intention is to utilize HUD's Logic model format to detail strategies, outputs, outcomes and consistency with HUD policies and priorities.

Attachment 3 – Logic Model

U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development
12/31/2006)

OMB Approval No. 2535-0114

(exp.

Office of Departmental Grants Management and Oversight

Program Name: <u>Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA)</u>					Component Name: <u>Investing in residents through community-based organizations</u>				
Strategic Goals	Policy Priorities	Problem, Need, Situation	Service or Activity	Benchmarks		Outcomes		Measurement Reporting Tools	Evaluation Process
				Output Goal	Output Result	Achievement Outcome Goals	End Results		
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability	
1,3,5,6	1,2,4,5,7	NRSA residents are lagging behind the balance of the city and region on a number of key socio-economic and health indicators. Poverty, unemployment, teen births, single parent households are all prevalent within the NRSA. The complexity of issues	A. To concentrate efforts to build capacity of organizations to insure innovative, outcome-based programs to best address the needs of NRSA residents. To utilize public resources to maximize community	Short Term A. Increased organizational capacity to serve NRSA households through the provision of technical and financial assistance.		A. NRSA residents have access to more direct services to support and improve household stability.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's.	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.

HUD's Strategic Goals

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2. Promote decent affordable housing.
3. Strengthen communities.
4. Ensure equal opportunity in housing.
5. Embrace high standards of ethics, management, and accountability.
6. Promote participation of grass-roots faith-based and other community-based organizations.

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2. Improving the Quality of Life in our Nation's Communities.
3. Encouraging Accessible Design Features.
4. Providing Full and Equal Access to Grass-Roots Faith-Based and Other Community-Based Organization in HUD Program Implementation.
5. Participation of Minority-Serving Institutions in HUD Programs
6. Ending Chronic Homelessness within Ten Years.
7. Removal of Barriers to Affordable Housing.

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1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability	
		requires a coordinated, concentrated effort utilizing result-oriented models carried out by capable community-based organizations.	participation, to leverage private resources, and to employ “best practices” to achieve measured outcomes to stabilize and improve life for NRSA residents.	Intermediate Term A. Programs utilization of result-oriented measurement tools to insure effective and efficient service delivery.		A. 75% of programs utilization of result-oriented measurement tools.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO’s	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.
				Long Term A. Coordinated delivery system, which maximizes best practices and leverages significant private resources and participation.		A. NRSA residents report greater satisfaction with service delivery system and the resources available to their households.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO’s	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.

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				Output Goal	Output Result	Achievement Outcome Goals	End Results			
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability		
1,3,5,6	1,2,4,5,7	NRSA residents are lagging behind the balance of the city and region on a number of key socio-economic and health indicators. Poverty, unemployment, teen births, single parent households are all prevalent within the NRSA. The complexity of issues requires a coordinated, concentrated effort utilizing result-oriented models carried out by capable community-based organizations.	B. To operate and support programs that increase economic and wealth accumulation for NRSA residents.	Short Term B. Outreach and enroll 200 NRSA households in credit and home buying counseling, small business development, and other programs to expand opportunities for financial stability.		B. 100 households will complete the education component and assess their current credit.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's.	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.	
				Intermediate Term B. Provide credit/home buying counseling to 30 NRSA households. Provide entrepreneurial support to 10 NRSA households. 35% of NRSA participants will develop a realistic financial plan to accomplish household goals.		B. 50% of participating NRSA households will report increased financial literacy.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.	

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				Output Goal	Output Result	Achievement Outcome Goals	End Results			
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability		
				Long Term B. Provide financial assistance to 20 households to achieve their goal of homeownership or business ownership.		B. 20 households will obtain increased financial stability and/or increased net worth through equity.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO’s	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.	

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Program Name: <u>Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA)</u>						Component Name: <u>Neighborhood Infrastructure/Blighted Properties</u>			
Strategic Goals	Policy Priorities	Problem, Need, Situation	Service or Activity	Benchmarks		Outcomes		Measurement Reporting Tools	Evaluation Process
				Output Goal	Output Result	Achievement Outcome Goals	End Results		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability	
2,3,4,6	1,2,4	NSRA neighborhoods have a high percentage of housing built before 1940. Blighted and abandoned properties are concentrated in NRSA neighborhoods. Sidewalks, roads, tree belts and public facilities are generally in poor condition.	Improve neighborhood infrastructure, housing stock and the overall aesthetics of neighborhoods to bring back civic pride and encourage private investment.	Short Term Coordinated plan by relevant city departments and relevant organizations on infrastructure priorities. Develop revitalization strategies for blighted and problem properties. Assess recreational needs and desires of NRSA residents. Develop strategy with community based organizations to cooperatively report on and follow-up with neighborhood code enforcement issues.		Plan prioritizes top 10 infrastructure needs for NRSA neighborhoods. Revitalization strategy addresses 75% of blighted and problem properties identified by NRSA residents. NRSA resident’s utilization of public open space and recreational programs will increase. Reduction of blighted properties and properties with code violations.	a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO’s.	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.	

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				Output Goal	Output Result	Achievement Outcome Goals	End Results		
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability	
				Intermediate Term Accomplish redevelopment of 20 blighted properties	70% of redeveloped properties will be homeownership units thereby increasing homeownership percentages in NRSA neighborhood			a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.
				Long Term Develop additional public facilities, which support NRSA households.	NRSA resident's utilization of public facilities will increase.			a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's	Monthly reports from all participating organizations/departments Quarterly benchmark and outcomes review.

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Program Name: <u>Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA)</u>						Component Name: <u>Engaging key stakeholders/building partnerships</u>			
Strategic Goals	Policy Priorities	Problem, Need, Situation	Service or Activity	Benchmarks		Outcomes		Measurement Reporting Tools	Evaluation Process
				Output Goal	Output Result	Achievement Outcome Goals	End Results		
1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability	
3,6	2,4	NRSA neighborhoods lack partnerships between key businesses, governmental bodies and CBO's. As a result there are missed opportunities relative to job growth, neighborhood commercial district enhancements and support for improving educational attainment and vocational training for NRSA residents.	Engage all NRSA Neighborhood stakeholders and the governing body of our city to form a partnership to make our neighborhoods a better place to live work and recreate.	Short Term Identify and bring together key neighborhood stakeholders and CBO's for each NRSA neighborhood.		All NRSA neighborhood CBO's have partnerships with key stakeholders that benefit NRSA residents through the sharing of resources.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's	Evaluate number of CBO and key stakeholder partnerships and special projects undertaken by these new partnerships.
				Intermediate Term Identify and seek out businesses to fill business and service gaps for NRSA neighborhoods. Identify adverse neighborhood business uses.		Improve quality of life for NRSA residents by bringing needed business to NRSA neighborhoods and relocating or eliminating adverse businesses. NRSA residents report greater satisfaction with available neighborhood businesses.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's	Evaluate number and type of new businesses and the means to reduce adverse neighborhood businesses.

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Strategic Goals	Policy Priorities	Problem, Need, Situation	Service or Activity	Benchmarks		Outcomes		Measurement Reporting Tools	Evaluation Process
				Output Goal	Output Result	Achievement Outcome Goals	End Results		
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Policy		Planning		Intervention		Impact		Accountability	
				Long Term Key stakeholders and neighborhood businesses provide educational support and vocational training for NRSA residents.		50% of participating NRSA residents report improved vocational skills and greater access to local employment opportunities.		a. Database b. Office of Housing c. Office of Housing d. Data collected monthly by Office of Housing and reported to HUD annually e. Data will be collected through field visits and monthly reports from CBO's	Evaluate unemployment rates and new locally owned businesses in NRSA neighborhoods.

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An Open Invitation from the Office of Community Development

Springfield residents are invited to participate in the Community Development planning process to identify priority needs for the next five years.

Community & Economic Development	Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30PM	Indian Orchard Elementary School 95 Milton Street
Homeless Populations	Thursday, January 20 at 6:30PM	Chestnut Accelerated Middle School at 355 Plainfield Street
Special Needs Populations	Tuesday, January 25 at 6:30PM	Kasparian Professional Development Center at 60 Alton Street (behind Sci Tech High School)
Affordable Housing	Thursday, January 27 at 6:30PM	Gentile Apartments 85 William Street

For any reasonable accommodation request, please provide at least 48 hours notice.

Need additional information? Please contact the Office of Community Development at 787-6050 or TTY 787-6641.

La Oficina del Desarrollo de la Comunidad les Invita a una Reunion de Servicio Publico

Los residentes de la ciudad de Springfield están invitados a participar en el proceso de planificación del Desarrollo de la Comunidad, la cual identificará las necesidades de prioridad para el próximo año.

Desarrollo
Económico y
Desarrollo de
la comunidad

martes, 18 de enero
a las 6:30PM

Indian Orchard Elementary
School
95 calle Milton

De Población
Desamparados

jueves, 20 de enero
a las 6:30PM

Chestnut Accelerated
Middle School a las
355 calle Plainfield

Necesidades
especiales en
el Pueblo y/o
vecindad

martes, 25 de enero
a las 6:30PM

El Centro de Desarrollo
Professional "Kasparian"
localizado en el 60 de la
calle Alton (Detrás de la
escuela superior, "Science
and Technology")

Viviendas que
se ajustan al
presupuesto
individual

jueves, 27 de enero
a las 6:30PM

Gentile Apartments
Community Room
85 calle William

Para requerir cualquier acomodación razonable, favor de notificar con 48 horas de anticipación.

Para más información comuníquese con el Sr. José Claudio al 767-6100/TTY 787-6641.

Hometown notes

Prenatal yoga

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Medical Center will offer prenatal and postnatal mom and baby yoga programs 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., Saturday mornings, Jan. 8-Feb. 12. Babies up to 6 months are encouraged to attend with their mothers.

The fee to participate in either of the sessions is \$60 for six classes or \$12 each. Classes will be held in the hospital's Cardiac Gym, 3300 Main St. To pre-register, call (413) 794-2229.

Church healing

SPRINGFIELD – Christian Healing Ministry will present a program called "Christ Heals Today" 4 p.m., Jan. 9 at Christ Church Cathedral, corner of Chestnut and State Street.

The service, conducted by Wally Gladwin, will include praise and worship, teaching and healing prayer.

The speaker will be the Rev. John Parke, an Episcopal minister with more than 50 years in the ministry. A refreshment and literature table will be available.

Breast-feeding class

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Medical Center will offer a class on breast feeding and returning to work 6:30 p.m., Jan. 18 in the Lundy Board Room located in the Wesson Women and Infants' Unit on Chestnut Street.

The cost is \$10; free to women who have already taken a breastfeeding class at Baystate. To register, call (413) 794-2229.

Twins, triplets due

SPRINGFIELD – Parents expecting twins or triplets can learn about the special challenges facing them throughout

the year. For information, call Scott Prince at (617) 261-9760, Ext. 4813, or Antoinette DiMichele at (413) 787-7453.

Pasta dinner

SPRINGFIELD – The Men's Society of St. Anthony's Church and Women's Guild will have their monthly pasta dinner 5-7 p.m. tonight at Cedar Hall, 375 Island Pond Road.

The menu includes homemade sauce, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert, coffee and tea.

Cost for adults is \$4.75 per person, children 6 and under are free. For information, call Nora at (413) 543-2455.

English classes

WEST SPRINGFIELD – The West Springfield Public Library, 200 Park St., will offer adult evening classes in English for speakers of other languages on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Jan. 11.

The high beginner level will meet 6-7:30 p.m. and the high intermediate level 7:30-9 p.m.

Classes are open to adults from all nationalities interested in improving communication skills. Students will learn effective oral expression, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary development, syntax and reading and writing skills. Classes will be conducted in English. Students will be expected to participate in group discussions.

Orientation and placement interviews will be 6-8 p.m., Jan. 11 and 13. For information, call Jonas Barrientos at (413) 736-4561, Ext. 6.

AIDS benefit ball

AGAWAM – "Broadway Bound," a masquerade ball to

raise money for the AIDS Memorial Quilt, will be held at the Agawam Town Hall, 100 Main St., 7-11 p.m. on Jan. 14. For information, call (413) 736-4561, Ext. 6.

Coed volleyball

SPRINGFIELD – The Jewish Community Center is sponsoring coed intramural volleyball for adults and high school students 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Free for members; \$5 per session for nonmembers. Annual passes are \$75. For information, call Fran Eisenberg at (413) 739-4715, Ext. 316, or e-mail feisenberg@springfieldjcc.org

Melanoma support

SPRINGFIELD – The Greater Springfield Melanoma Support Group meets 5-6:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the YMCA, 275 Chestnut St.

For information, call Sarah Aasheim at (413) 323-8652 or e-mail saasheim@yahoo.com

Scholarship offer

SPRINGFIELD – Quota International of Springfield is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a student in the Springfield area who is hearing-impaired or who intends to pursue a field of study pertaining to hearing-impaired people.

Applicants must be high school seniors, undergraduate or graduate students in an accredited institution of higher learning or students enrolled in a vocational training program established by federal mandate for the hearing-impaired.

A completed application, transcript, two letters of reference and a copy of a current

Open meetings target municipal planning

SPRINGFIELD – City residents are invited to participate in the city's community development planning process to identify priorities for the next five years. A series of four meetings will solicit community input.

■ A community and economic development meeting will be Jan. 18 at Indian Orchard Elementary School, 95 Milton St.

■ A homeless populations meeting will be Jan. 20 at Chestnut Accelerated Middle School, 355 Plainfield St.

■ A special needs population meeting will be Jan. 25 at Kasparian Professional Development Center, 60 Alton St.

■ An affordable housing to date needed for publication.

Submitted by the Office of Community Development for Springfield. If you would like to submit an article with news about your organization, please send it to pluspapers@repub.com at least two weeks prior to date needed for publication.

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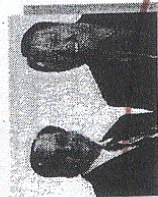
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An Open Invitation from the Office of Community Development

*Springfield residents are invited to participate in the
Community Development planning process to
identify priority needs for the next five years.*

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Tuesday January 18 at 6:30PM	Indian Orchard Elementary School 95 Milton Street
HOMELESS POPULATIONS	Thursday January 20 at 6:30PM	Chestnut Accelerated Middle School at 355 Plainfield Street
SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS	Tuesday January 25 at 6:30PM	Kasparian Professional Development Center at 60 Alton Street (behind Sci Tech High School)
AFFORDABLE HOUSING	Thursday January 27 at 6:30PM	Gentle Apartments 85 William Street

For any reasonable accommodation request, please
provide at least 48 hours notice.

Need additional information? Please contact
the **Office of Community Development** at
787-6050 or TTY 787-6641.

dents allegedly took place.

Child sex attack arrest

A Springfield man wanted for sexually assaulting a 12-year-old girl in Philadelphia was arrested on separate assault charges on Carver Street early Sunday morning.

According to Capt. Robert T. McFarlin, the suspect, Hung Thach, 33 of 206 White St., was arrested at around 4:20 a.m. inside an apartment at 93 Carver St. after witnesses said he punched a man in the face and hit him with a bottle.

Thach was held without bail last night and is expected to be arraigned in Springfield District Court today. McFarlin said he expects Thach will be extradited to Pennsylvania where police have charged him with indecent assault on a minor, sexual assault, unlawful contact with a minor and false imprisonment.

Teen assaults officer

An officer received a broken nose and required 30 stitches after a struggle to subdue a 14-year-old boy who assaulted his grandmother yesterday morning, police said.

The youth punched the grandmother at their 92 Sunset Drive home and smashed an aquarium, leaving broken glass on the floor. He then punched Officer Thomas Hervieux in the face after the officer arrived about 4 a.m., police said.

In a struggle with the youth on the floor, Hervieux was gashed by the shards of glass, police said. Mace was eventually used to subdue the boy and take him into custody.

The boy remained in Department of Youth Services custody yesterday on charges of domestic assault and battery, resisting arrest, assault and battery on a

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1515 Allen Street, Springfield (413) 782-7646

www.sumnerpediatrics.com

The initial call to police described men attempting to kick down the door to an apartment. Police said the resident, a 36-year-old woman, was stabbed at least six times, in the left arm and on each thigh. The apartment was ransacked.

The woman was treated at Baystate Medical Center for injuries that were not life-threatening, police said. The suspects were held on \$10,000 bail for arraignment today on charges of home invasion and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Brailey has an additional charge of conspiracy.

Statutory rape arrest

A city man was arrested on a charge of statutory rape Saturday in connection with an outstanding warrant, police said.

Steven M. Pete, 45, of 54 Fremont St. was arrested at his home about 9:30 p.m. Pete, whom police said is unemployed, is charged in connection with a relationship with a 15-year-old girl in which force was not employed, police said. He was held on \$50,000 bail yes-

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SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, April 26th, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.
City Hall, Room 200.

Re: Public Hearing to receive citizen comment on:

**DRAFT FY06-10 Five Year Plan
&
DRAFT FY06 Annual Action Plan**

**REVIEW OF DRAFT FIVE YEAR
PLAN
7/1/05-6/30/10
AND
DRAFT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
7/1/05-6/30/06
AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The City of Springfield, through the Office of Community Development, has prepared its Draft Five Year Consolidated Plan for the program years between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2010 and Draft Annual Action Plan for the program year July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006 ("The Plans"). The Plans outline the strategy and planned expenditures of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Act (HOME),

Legal Notices

Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) formula grant programs received by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Draft Plans will be available for a 30-day public review period beginning April 14, 2005 through May 13, 2005.

Copies of the Draft Annual Action Plan will be available at the following places:

Office of Community Development, 36 Court Street, Room 313

Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services, 1600 East Columbus Avenue, 1st Floor

Department of Health and Human Services, 95 State Street Central Library, 220 State Street

All Branch Libraries

Springfield Neighborhood Councils, including the South End Citizens Council, New North Citizens Council, Hungry Hill Neighborhood Council, Pine Point Community Center, Old Hill Neighborhood Council,

McKnight Neighborhood Council, Maple High/Six Corners Neighborhood Council.

A public hearing will be held to receive citizen comment on the Draft Plans. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 26th at 6:00 PM at City Hall, Room 200.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning this document by 4:30 p.m. on May 13, 2005. Please mail or deliver comments in writing to the Office of Community Development, 36 Court Street, Room 313, Springfield, MA 01103.

Please direct questions to the Office of Community Development at 413/787-6050 or TTY 787-6641. For all reasonable accommodations please provide at least 48 hours notice. The City of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (March 30)

The City's of Springfield's
Five Year Strategic Plan 2006-2010
and
Annual Action Plan for 2006

http://www.cityofspringfieldmass.com/Services/dept_cd.htm

Comments about these plans may be submitted in writing between April 14 and May 13, 2005 to Commissioner Juan Gerena at:

Office of Community Development
36 Court Street, Room 313
Springfield, MA 01103

jgerena@springfieldcityhall.com

**Hungry Hill
Community Development Corp.**

776 Liberty Street
Springfield, MA 01104
413.788.9014

Juan Gerana, Commissioner
Office Of Community Development
36 Court Street Room 313
Springfield, MA 01103

Dear Mr. Gerana,

Hungry Hill Community Development Corporation is writing in support of the Community Development Block Grant program and to appeal to the Office of Community Development to reconsider the decision not to fund the CDC in FY 2006.

Hungry Hill Community Development Corporation has provided significant housing and business assistance in the Liberty Heights neighborhood since the CDC's inception. HHCDC recognizes how essential CDBG funding has been to accomplishing the goals of our organization. Since 1995, Hungry Hill CDC has worked closely with area neighborhood councils, citizen groups and community police to coordinate plans of action to preserve and improve the quality of life in the area.

Since the inception of the Hungry Hill CDC it has developed over 20 properties in the community for affordable housing by acquiring and rehabilitating distressed and vacant dwellings. These properties have been sold to income eligible first time homebuyers. The Hungry Hill CDC has also assisted area business owners in securing funds to help stimulate their businesses and to create and retain low/moderate jobs through use of these funds.

The Hungry Hill CDC has worked with the City of Springfield and has received CDBG funds in the past to further our mission of improving the quality of life in the neighborhood. This funding has allowed us to continue to rehabilitate housing stock and to work with area businesses to stabilize and improve our community. Future CDBG funding is essential for the Hungry Hill CDC to continue its mission of retaining jobs, stimulating business growth and working to eliminate blight in our neighborhood.

CDBG funds also benefit programs run by the Hungry Hill Neighborhood Council that provide necessary services for our elderly residents. The Senior Center provides information to residents about various social service programs that are essential for some families and seniors to carry on, as well as providing a safe haven for elderly residents.

The Hungry Hill area has a number of needs that the Hungry Hill CDC will continue to address. HHCDC will continue to reach out to residents to promote homeownership and business assistance as our CDBG goals. We look forward to working with the city through the Office of Housing, Community Development, Hungry Hill Neighborhood Council and other city agencies and departments.

The results of CDBG funds provided to the Hungry Hill CDC in the past are evident. We request that future funding be continued in order maintain and expand upon our accomplishments. The Hungry Hill CDC is providing this letter as public testimony to continue CDBG funding in FY'06.

Sincerely,



Carey S. Noonan
Executive Director



127 STATE STREET, 4TH FLOOR
SPRINGFIELD MA 01103-1944
(413) 781-7814 (Voice & TTY)
FAX: (413) 746-3221

May 13, 2005

Juan Gerena, Commissioner
Office of Community Development
33 Court Square, Room 313
Springfield, MA 01103

Via Email: jgerena@springfieldcityhall.com

Re: Comments on Springfield's 05-06 Action Plan & 3-5 Strategic Plan

Dear Commissioner Gerena:

We hereby submit comments on housing, shelter, and service needs in the City of Springfield, and our position on the City's necessary planning and spending priorities.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The housing needs of the most needy must take priority. Springfield's plan to address the City's housing needs must reflect the economic reality of the city's population. Springfield has a high percentage of low-income residents, who overwhelmingly have critical housing needs. These families and individuals need assistance to be able to maintain stable housing, and they do not have the resources to become homeowners. Without stable housing, these households are most likely to fall into homelessness, to live in substandard housing, and to be repeatedly displaced. While morality dictates that the needs of these households must be prioritized, so does economics: providing services to these families when they are in crisis is expensive. To meet the goal of prioritizing the critical needs of its most needy citizens, we urge the City to do the following:

- Prioritize increasing the stock of affordable rental housing.
- Target affordability to extremely-low-income and very-low-income households.
- Fund affordable housing initiatives to the greatest possible extent (that is, direct as much public funding as is possible toward housing needs).
- Use city-owned housing stock to increase the supply of affordable housing.

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Public resources must be invested in housing that will be permanently affordable.

When the city requires initiatives using public money to remain permanently affordable, the City gets the most benefit for its investment. We urge the City to use tools to ensure the permanence of affordable housing produced or rehabilitated, including the following:

- Encourage forms of ownership which are compatible with permanently affordable housing, especially land trusts.
- Require deed restrictions regarding permanent affordability for all housing developed with public funds.
- Give priority to projects sponsored by non-profit developers.
- Limit sale of city-owned residential property to non-profit entities who guarantee to permanently restrict the use of the property to affordable housing.
- Provide and disseminate widely information about the sale of city-owned residential property, including but not limited to the time and location of the sale and the available property.

The City must collect information on trends in housing stock. In order to effectively plan for the housing needs of its citizens, the City must have an understanding of housing trends over time and should collect the following critical information:

- Rent trends over time. Are rents continuing to rise? How quickly?
- Changes in housing stock over time. How many units of different types have been lost over the last five or ten years? Are numbers of units (by size) increasing or decreasing?
- Vacancy rate, and changes in the vacancy rate over time.
- Length of wait lists for public and subsidized housing, and change in these numbers over time.
- Number of units assisted with public money of any type, and the income level and type of household the units serve.

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- Assessment of the number of affordable housing units expected to be lost due to demolition or conversion to market rate rents.
- Numbers of households, by size and income, with critical housing needs.

The City's role in creating affordable housing must include education to combat NIMBYism. In order to achieve racially- and economically-integrated housing, create safe and healthy housing opportunities for all residents, and avoid concentrations of publicly-subsidized housing, affordable housing opportunities should be spread throughout all neighborhoods. However, dispersion of affordable housing is much more difficult when some neighbors oppose development of affordable housing in their "backyard." The City's housing strategy must include ongoing citizen education about the need for, and community benefit of, affordable housing throughout the City.

HOMELESSNESS

The number of shelter units/beds must be increased, as follows:

Family Shelter In Massachusetts, the vast majority of shelter beds for families are state-funded. To get into shelter in Massachusetts, a homeless family must obtain a referral from the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) to access the state's Emergency Assistance (EA) program. In order to get a referral from DTA, the family must meet numerous, restrictive eligibility criteria and provide numerous verifications before they can access shelter. For instance, a homeless family must meet DTA's income test which provides that the family's income cannot be above 100% of the federal poverty guidelines.¹ Families who have been evicted for certain reasons will not be eligible for EA shelter regardless of whether or not they meet the other eligibility criteria. Over the last two years, service providers and homeless advocates have seen a dramatic increase in the number of homeless families who are not EA eligible. DTA denies at least 50% of all applications for emergency shelter. The City should address the critical needs of homeless families by providing funding for

- 75 to 100 family shelter units, for families that are not EA eligible. (This number is based upon estimates from various community organizations which have identified 150 to 200 non-EA eligible homeless families over the past year; each of these families has an average shelter stay of 6 months.)

¹Currently, the federal poverty guidelines for a family of four are at \$19,350 yearly.

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- The City should start to immediately address the growing crisis of homeless families by funding at least one room in each of the City's state-funded family shelters to allow these rooms to be accessed by non-EA eligible families. However, the City should view such a response as a first step only and should ensure that additional shelter beds/units that address the identified need will be provided in the near future.

While the need for alternative shelter for those families who are unable to access the state-funded shelter system has been recognized in the 2000-2005 Consolidated Plan, we are not aware that the City addressed this need. Currently, none of the DTA-funded family shelters in Springfield operate a community room. The problem is exacerbated by the fact the only shelter in the City which provided assistance to non-EA eligible families, i.e. Marsha's Apartment, was forced to close its doors due to lack of funding, including lack of Emergency Shelter Grant funding.

Men's and Women's and Teen Shelter There is a critical need for additional shelter beds for single homeless men and women and teens.

- Springfield currently lacks resources for teens who age out of foster care or who have been displaced from their homes for other reasons. The existing adult men's and women's shelters at Worthington Street are entirely inappropriate to address the shelter needs of this vulnerable homeless population.
- The City's existing shelter capacity for single adult men and women continues to be inadequate. Funding should be made available for additional shelters. In addition, funding should be allocated to provide daytime space and shower facilities.
- Funding should be allocated to increase the stock of affordable Single Room Occupancy units.

Housing search services and homelessness prevention services must be funded. To prevent the trauma of homeless and to assist homeless individuals and families to move into permanent, affordable housing, the City should allocate resources to provide for and coordinate homeless services on a long-term basis. Such services should include housing search services and homelessness prevention programs that offer assistance with the payment of rent arrears, first/last month's rent and/or security deposits.

The City's Strategic Planning Commission must include all the necessary

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stakeholders. In order to achieve workable solutions that are responsive to the needs of homeless persons, the Strategic Planning Commission must include all stakeholders in the outcome. The Commission must include persons who are experiencing or have experienced homelessness, grassroots and advocacy organizations, neighborhood councils, and front line social service agencies.

The City's role in creating safe accessible shelter for men, women, teens and families must include education to combat NIMBYism. In order to create safe and healthy shelter opportunities for homeless individuals and families, and to avoid concentrations of shelters, shelter units should be spread throughout all neighborhoods. However, dispersion of safe and healthy shelter is much more difficult when some neighbors oppose development of shelter or transitional housing in their "backyard." The City's homelessness strategy must include ongoing citizen education about the need for, and community benefit of, safe and healthy shelter opportunities and transitional housing throughout the City.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The City should make every effort to increase transparency of its decision making process and to solicit meaningful public input.

Solicitation of Meaningful Comments. The City held one public hearing during the comment period for the Action and the Consolidated Plan. Hearing notices sent out prior to the hearing did not list the locations where the Action and the Consolidated Plan were available for review. While the Consolidated Plan was available online, the Action Plan was, as of the day of the hearing, not available online. Neither was the Action Plan available for review during the comment hearing. Consequently, none of the attendants had a chance to review the plan prior to or during the hearing. A request to schedule another public hearing to receive public comments after attendants had a chance to review the Action Plan was turned down.

Solicitation of Meaningful Public Input regarding Funding Allocations. The City should increase the transparency of its process for the allocation of funding for the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG). The City currently allocates ESG funds to recipients through a formal RFP process. Once received, applications for funding are scored by the Director of the City's Office of Housing. Subsequently the applications are reviewed by the Director of the Office of Housing and by the Director of the City's Department of Health and Human Services. The City should adopt a process of review of proposals and recommendations for funding that includes a diverse group of stakeholders, including homeless service providers, advocacy groups and community members.

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Conclusion

In closing, we urge the City to use its planning and spending to prioritize the critical housing, shelter and service needs of its most needy citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Geraldine McCafferty and Marion Hohn".

Geraldine McCafferty and Marion Hohn
Attorneys at Law

Revised: 11/13/2004 10:00 AM

