



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: December 3, 2013

Prepared By/Phone Number: Christy Moffett / 854-3460

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:

Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive of Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Receive public comments regarding the Program Year 2012 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report for the Community Development Block Grant provided by HUD.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Under the provisions of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 USC 5301), the federal government, through the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), sponsors the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), a program that provides annual grants to cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities for low and moderate income persons.

Since 2006, Travis County has received CDBG funds from HUD on an annual basis. As a CDBG urban entitlement, Travis County must compile and publish a report detailing the use of CDBG funds and associated progress and accomplishments for every program year. HUD calls this annual report the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The CAPER describes the County's CDBG housing and community development activities as well as the County's overall housing and community development efforts. This year's CAPER corresponds to activities conducted during the 2012 program year spanning October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013.

On October 29, 2013, the Travis County Commissioners Court approved a 15-day public comment period spanning from November 25, 2013, through December 9, 2013, as well as a public hearing on December 3, 2013. Notice of the comment period and public hearing was provided in newspapers of general circulation, through postal and electronic mailings, on the County's website, Facebook, Twitter and the seven Travis County Community Centers.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends the public hearing to be compliant with HUD regulations and Travis County's Citizen Participation Plan.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Comments may be received in writing beginning November 25, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. through on December 9, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. The public can access the draft document by visiting www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG, by visiting any of the seven Travis County Community Centers or by calling 512-854-3460 to request a copy. The public can submit written comments by mailing them to CDBG Program, Travis County HHSVS, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767 or emailing them to cdbg@co.travis.tx.us.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

No budget impacts are anticipated by this item.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

None.

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

PY 2012 CDBG Annual Report – Public Hearing
Travis County Commissioners Court
December 3, 2013





Project Status Update



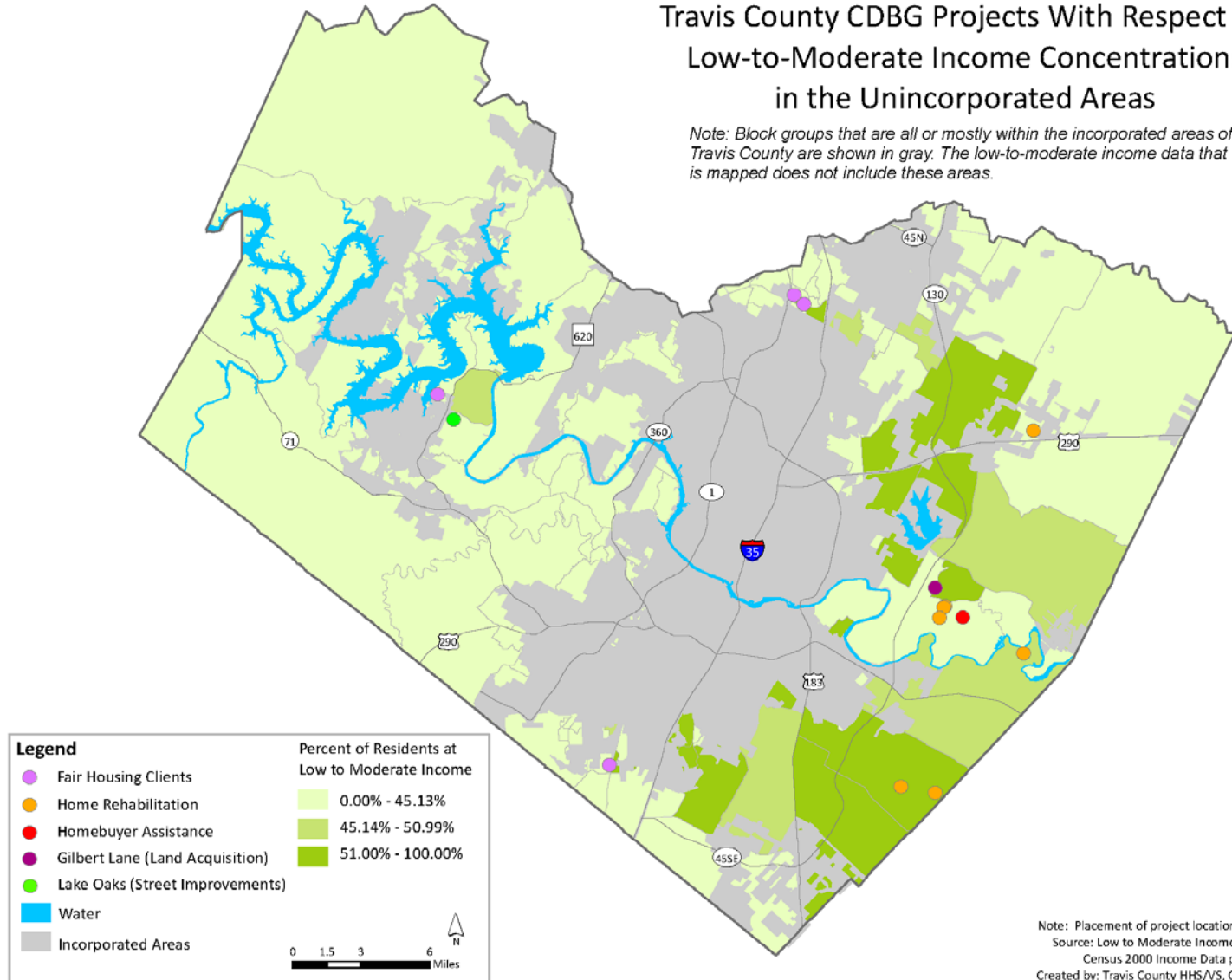
PY 2012 PROJECTS

OVERVIEW

- During PY12, three new projects were launched, and four projects were renewed or continued from previous years.
- Of the funds available \$496,692.18 was spent.
- 603 people benefitted from CDBG funded projects.

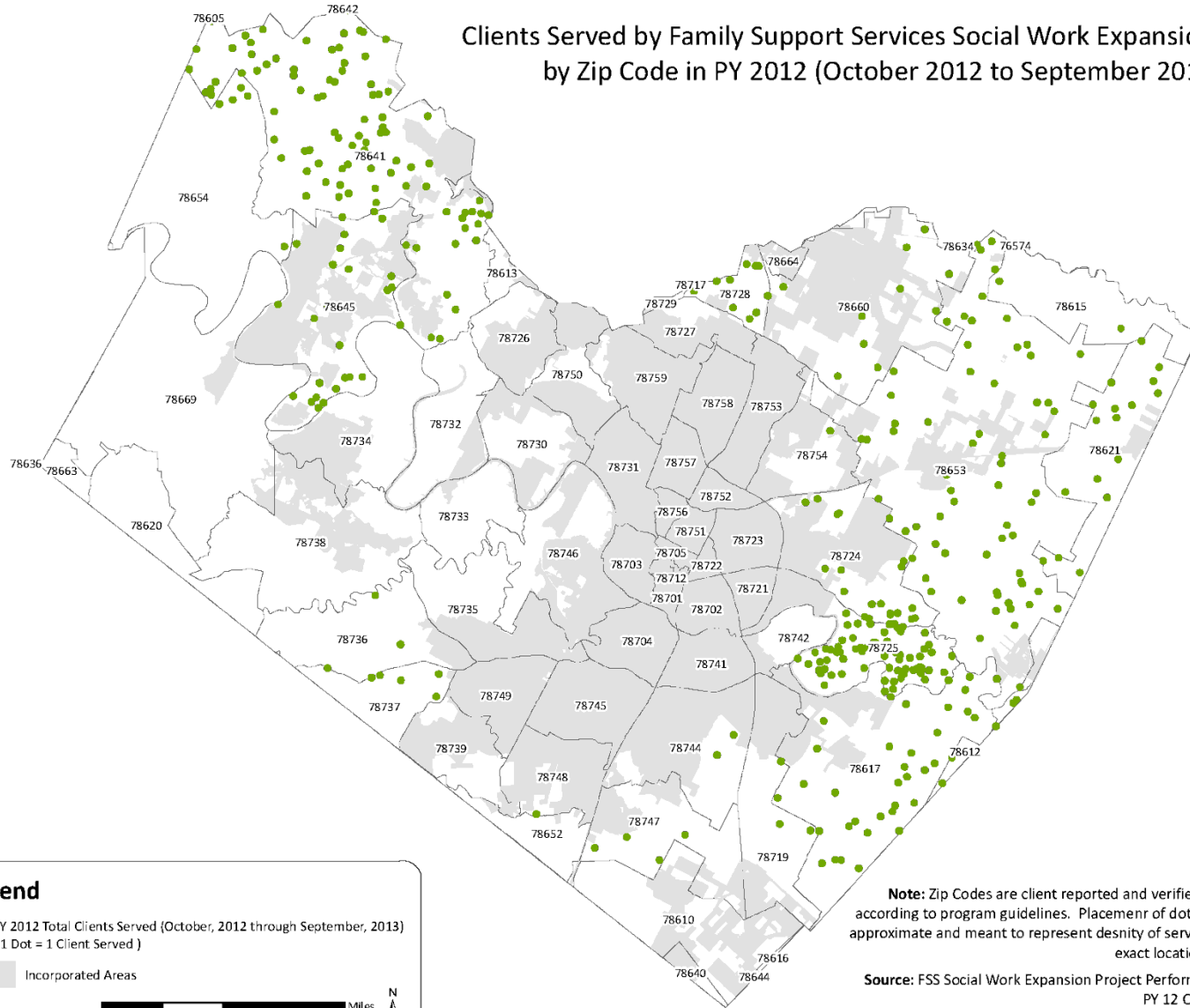
Travis County CDBG Projects With Respect to Low-to-Moderate Income Concentrations in the Unincorporated Areas

Note: Block groups that are all or mostly within the incorporated areas of Travis County are shown in gray. The low-to-moderate income data that is mapped does not include these areas.



Note: Placement of project locations is approximate.
 Source: Low to Moderate Income Data is based on Census 2000 Income Data produced by HUD.
 Created by: Travis County HHS/VS, CDBG Office, 2013

Clients Served by Family Support Services Social Work Expansion Project by Zip Code in PY 2012 (October 2012 to September 2013)



Created By: Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service, CDBG Office, 2013

PY 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: LAND ACQUISITION

PROJECT STATUS

- In previous years, Austin Habitat for Humanity used over a million dollars in CDBG funds to purchase 31 lots on the Gilbert Lane parcel.
- Two houses were completed during PY11 and are currently occupied by eligible homeowners.
- More than half of the remaining 29 houses will be built in 2014 with the remainder completed in 2015.

Contact Austin Habitat for Humanity, Inc. at (512) 472-8788 to apply for a Habitat House.



PY12 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: LAKE OAK ESTATES

PROJECT STATUS

- A Request-for-Qualifications (RFQ) process took place in PY11 and an Architectural and Engineering firm was selected to administer the design phase of the program.
- In July of 2011 a Notice to Proceed was issued to the chosen firm.
- During PY12 the Design Phase of the project was completed.
- The Environmental Assessment for the project is complete.
- Working on bid release for construction of the first set of roads.



Of the \$471,598 budgeted, \$72,072.26 was expended in PY12 and \$126,265.06 of the total project budget has been spent.

PY 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: HOME REHABILITATION

PROJECT STATUS

- A Tier One environmental was drafted and Request for Release of Funds completed.
- An RFS was released in October 2012.
- The contract was awarded in February 2013
- Eligibility and Site Specific Environmental
- Determinations were made for properties from the program waiting list throughout the spring of 2013.
- Seven homes are complete at the close of the program year. Eleven additional homes were under repair, but not completed by the close of the program year.



Of the \$1,088,731 budgeted, \$146,143.82 was expended in PY12.

PY 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE

PROJECT STATUS

- The project was launched in the fall of 2012.
- In April 2013, 11 homebuyer applications were ready to close using FHA funding however the subrecipient was unsuccessful in acquiring FHA approval for the program.
- One homebuyer was assisted using conventional financing.
- The subrecipient was able to demonstrate to the lender that conventional financing could be used to make the remaining 10 loans successful, but the lender was not comfortable continuing without the support of FHA financing.
- The County did not to renew the project contract when it terminated on September 30, 2013.
- The remaining funds from the project will be reprogrammed in accordance with the policies and procedures outlined in the Citizen Participation Plan.

Of the \$794,945 budgeted, \$39,599.00 was expended in PY12.

PY 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: SOCIAL SERVICE EXPANSION

PROJECT STATUS

- Outreach to a total of 84 agencies, school districts, churches and neighborhood associations to inform community members about the social work services available.
- 375 people benefitted from services including case management, referrals, non-clinical counseling and crisis intervention.
- 10 clients received assistance through the Youth and Family Assessment Center program.
- 43 clients were assisted with State or County funded rent or utility assistance programs.
- The project resulted in \$24,708 dollars of leveraged funds.

Of the \$106,000 budgeted, \$87,010.86 was expended in PY12.

PY 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Fair Housing Counseling

PROJECT STATUS

- The project was launched in July of 2013.
- During the quarter that the project was active, five residents of the unincorporated areas received fair housing counseling.
- Outreach was made to 15 community contacts, with an additional 5 contacts made through advertising.
- Two fair housing trainings were conducted for Travis County staff with a total of 78 participants.

Of the \$43,451 budgeted, \$15,535.00 was expended in PY12.

PY 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

PROJECT STATUS: GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- The CDBG program underwent its second financial and programmatic monitoring review by HUD, with the result of no findings and no return of funds for ineligible use.
- Three new programs were launched: Home Rehabilitation, Homebuyer Assistance and Fair Housing Counseling.
- Staff monitored two programs provided significant amounts of technical assistance and training to contractors, internal departments and subrecipients.
- Staff participated in multiple activities related to housing, homelessness and fair housing.
- The PY11 CAPER and PY13 Action Plan were completed, and the Analysis of Impediments readied for review by TCCC.
- Staff assisted the Research and Planning Department of HHS/VS in drafting reports.

Of the \$179,268 budgeted, \$136,331.24 was expended in PY12.

CAPER SUBMISSION TIMELINE:

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

- Comments are accepted beginning November 25, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. and ending December 9, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. Public hearing will be held on December 3, 2013 at 9:00 at Commissioners Court.

TO ACCESS THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT (beginning November 25, 2013):

- Visit www.traviscountytx.gov/cdbg
- Visit any of the seven Travis County Community Centers
- Or call 512-854-3460 to request a copy

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS:

- Mail them to CDBG Program, Travis County HHSVS, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767
- Email them to cdbg@co.travis.tx.us