



RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

2020 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

FY 2023 Annual Action Plan

*For Submission to HUD for the
Community Development Block Grant Program And
HOME Investment Partnership Program*

August 2023

Honorable Overture Walker
Chair, County of Richland Council



Table of Contents

• AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)	2
• PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b).....	21
• AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(l) and 91.315(l)	22
• AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)	30
• AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)	34
• AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives.....	38
• AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)	42
• AP-38 Project Summary	44
• AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f).....	51
• AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)	55
• AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h).....	56
• AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i).....	58
• AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)	61
• AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)	63
• AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(l)(1,2,4)	71

EXHIBITS

- Citizen Participation
 - Citizen Participation Plan
 - First Public Hearing
 - Second Public Hearing



Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

Established in 1785, Richland County is the county seat of Richland County, South Carolina and is home to over 400,000 residents. Originally centered around agriculture (Richland County is named after the rich farming land used to support large indigo and cotton crops), Richland County is now the second-most populous county in South Carolina and is home to the military community at Fort Jackson, well-regarded educational institutions, and state-of-the-art hospital systems.

Richland County is a vibrant community with great amounts of racial, economic, and cultural diversity. According to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 40.8% of the County population is White and 47.3% of the population is Black or African American. The County also has a notable and growing Hispanic or Latino community which makes up 5.4% of the population. 16.8% of the County population is in poverty while the median income of \$56,137 is similar to the Statewide median income of \$58,234. Over half of all County residents live in unincorporated areas.

Richland County, South Carolina is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) for the following Federal Programs:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG);
- HOME Investment Partnership (HOME); and
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

The Annual Action Plan is a guide to how the County will allocate its resources for specific activities that support Richland County's Five-Year Consolidated Goals and Strategies. This is the second (2nd) Annual Action Plan of the FY 2022-2026 Five Year Consolidated Plan. In compliance with HUD regulations, the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. This Annual Action Plan is a strategic plan for the implementation of the County's Federal Programs for housing, community, and economic development.

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan outlines the actions to be undertaken in Fiscal Year 2023 with the Federal resources received by Richland County. The CDBG Program and activities outlined in this FY 2023 Annual Action Plan will principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons and funding has been targeted to neighborhoods home to the highest percentage of low- and moderate-income residents. The County's previous performance under the CDBG Program was discussed at the First Public Hearings. The Annual Action Plan does not incorporate the Public Housing Comprehensive Grant (Comp Grant) process into the consolidated planning and application process but does require the participation of the public housing authority in the development of the plan.

The FY 2022-2026 Five-Year Consolidated Plan established the County's goals for the next five (5) year period and outlines the specific initiatives the County will undertake to address its needs and objectives by promoting the rehabilitation and construction of decent, safe and sanitary housing, creating a suitable living environment, removing slums and blighting conditions, promoting fair housing, improving public services, expanding economic opportunities, and principally benefitting low- and moderate-income persons.

The Columbia Housing Authority is the designated Housing Authority for Richland County.

Available Funds:

During the FY 2023 Program Year, Richland County, SC will receive the following Federal funds:

- CDBG: \$1,723,394.00
- HOME: \$941,966.00
- ESG: \$148,882.00
- **Total: \$2,814,242.00**

FY 2023 CDBG, HOME, and ESG Budget:

Richland County proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2023 CDBG Grant, CDBG Program Income, HOME Grant, HOME Program Income, and ESG Program:

FY 2023 CDBG Budget:

• CDBG General Administration	\$ 344,678.00
• Public Service Activities	258,509.00
• Infrastructure Projects	801,079.00
• Economic Development	100,000.00
• <u>Housing Rehabilitation</u>	<u>219,128.00</u>
• Total CDBG	\$1,723,394.00

FY 2023 HOME Budget:

• HOME General Administration	\$ 94,196.00
• CHDO Set-Aside	141,295.00
• Development of Affordable Housing	556,475.00
• <u>Down Payment Assistance</u>	<u>150,000.00</u>
• Total HOME	\$ 941,966.00

FY 2023 ESG Budget:

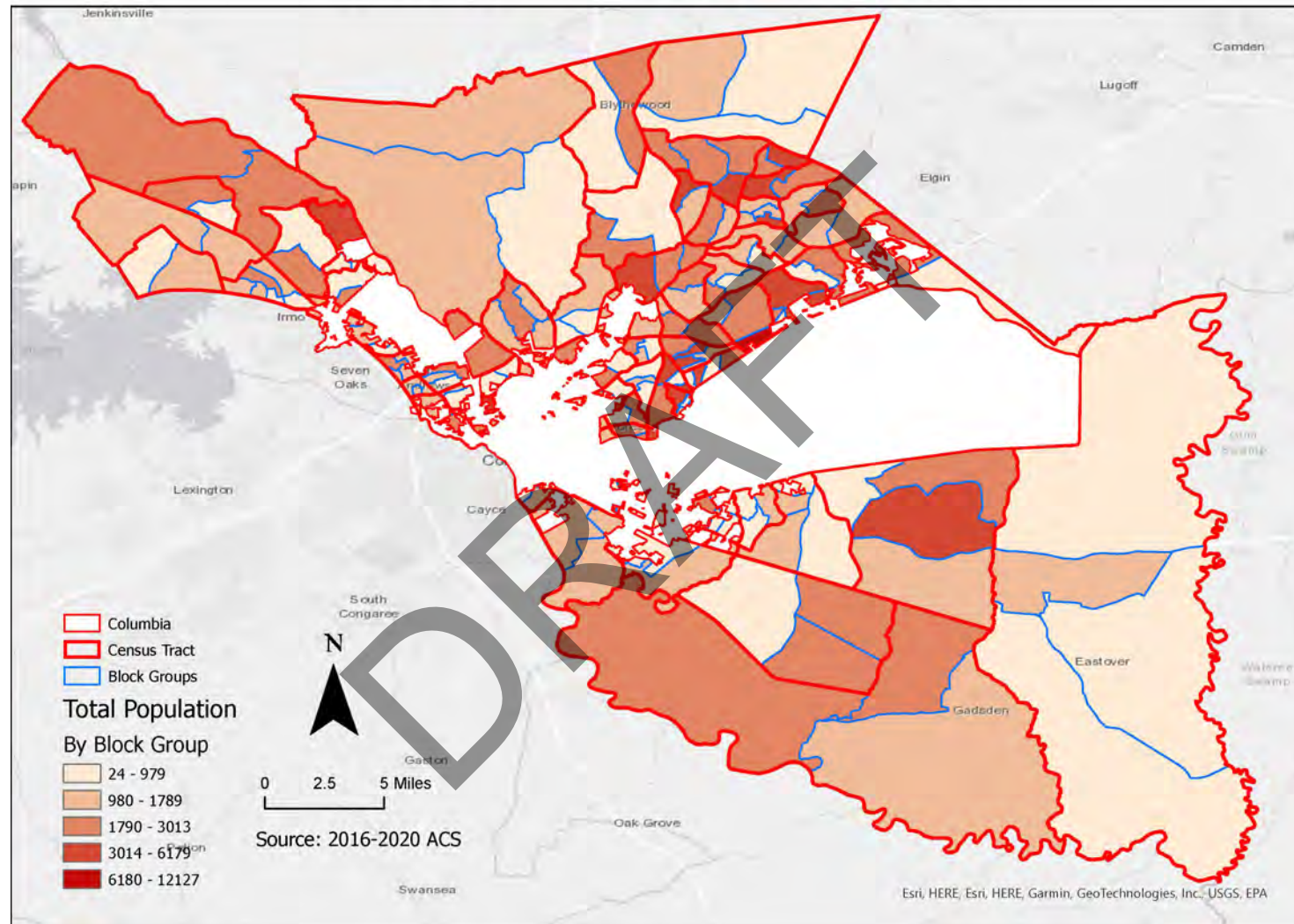
• ESG General Administration	\$ 11,166.00
• Rapid Re-Housing/Homeless Prevention/HMIS	48,387.00
• <u>Street Outreach/Emergency Shelter</u>	<u>89,329.00</u>
• Total ESG	\$ 148,882.00

Maps:

The following maps illustrate the demographic characteristics of Richland County:

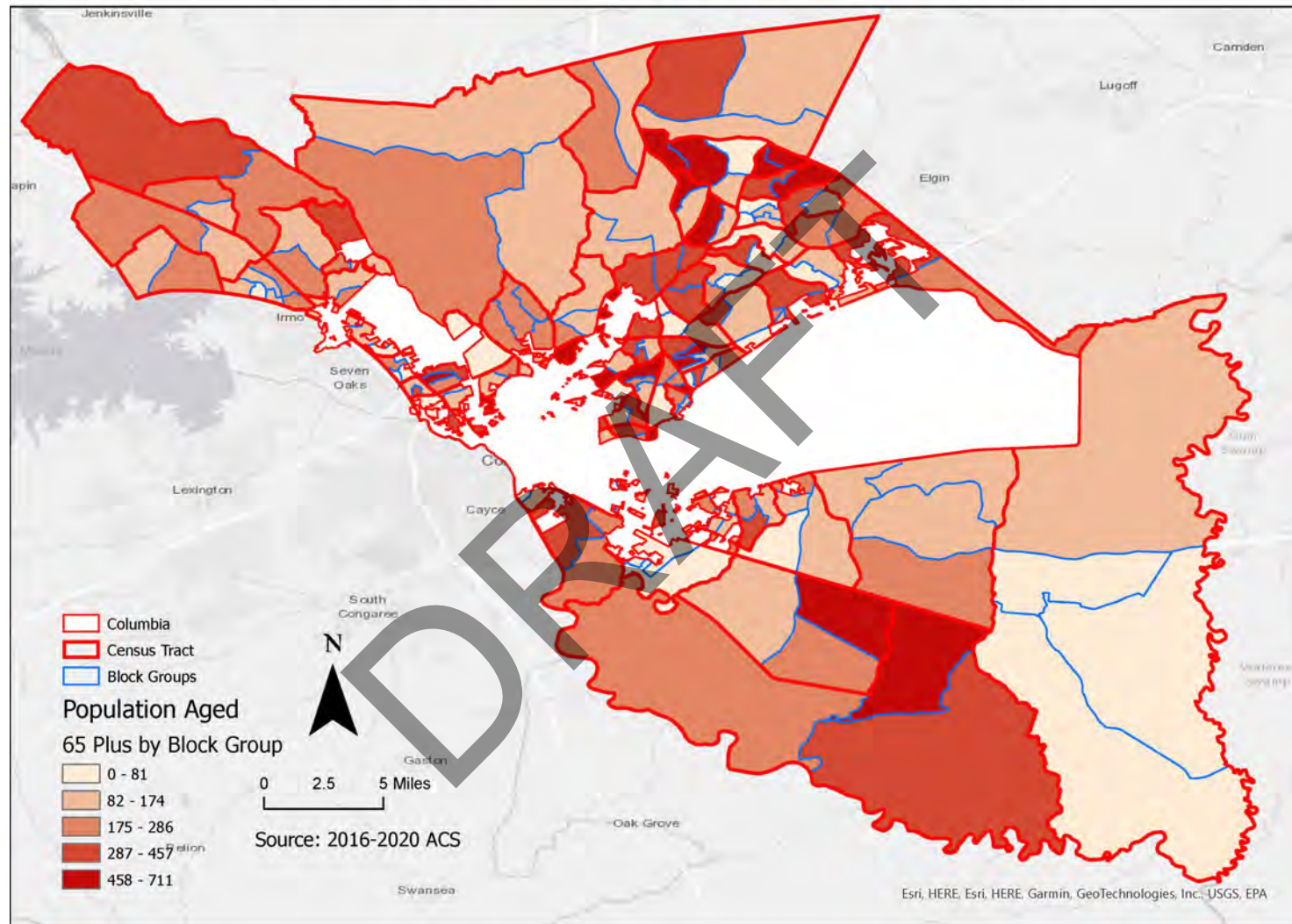
- Total Population by Block Group
- Total Population Age 65+ by Block Group
- Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group
- Percent White Population by Block Group
- Percent Minority Population by Block Group
- Number of Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group
- Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group

Population By Block Group, Richland County, SC



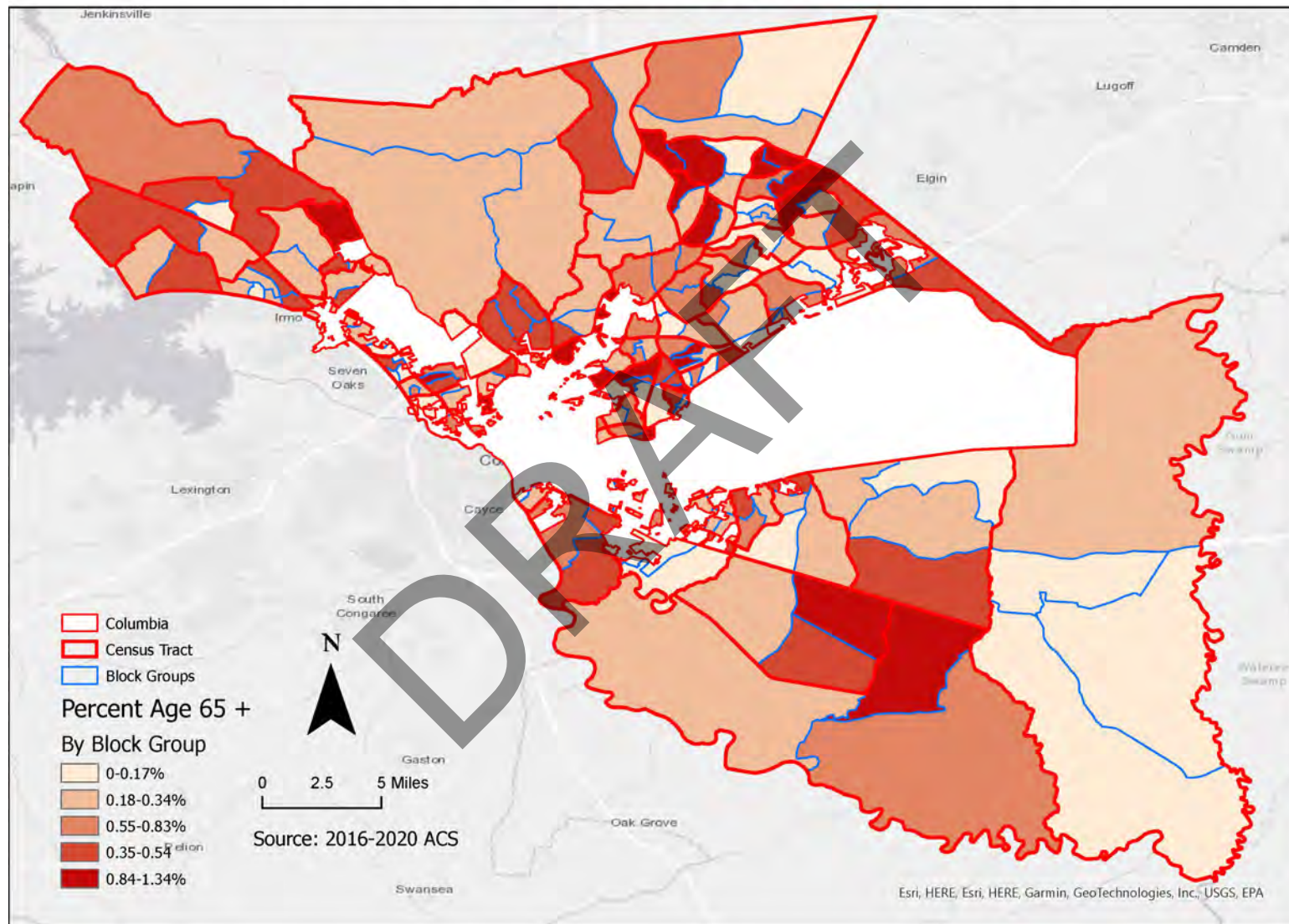
Total Population by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Population Aged 65 + By Block Group, Richland County, SC



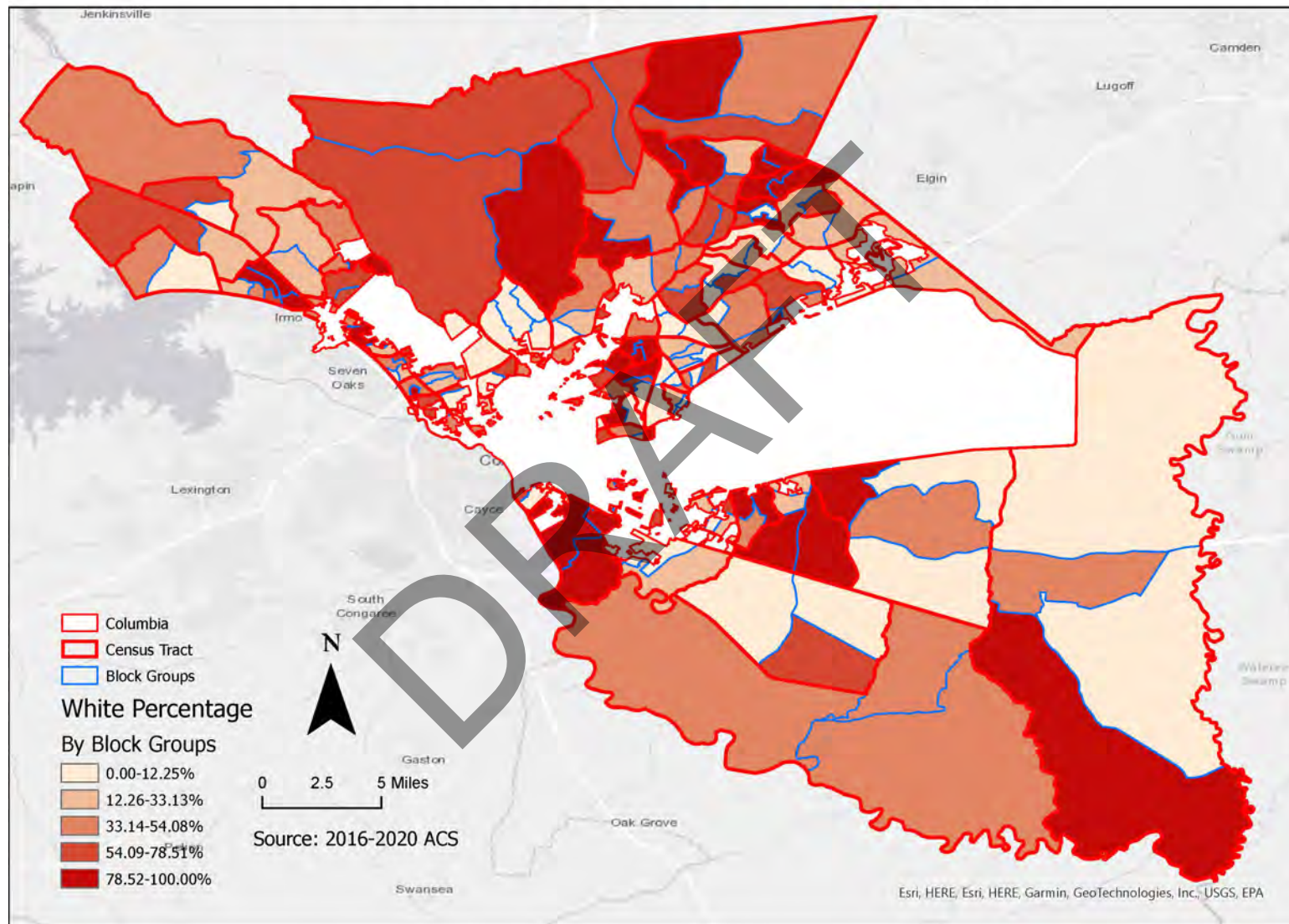
Total Population Age 65+ by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Percent Aged 65 + By Block Group, Richland County, SC



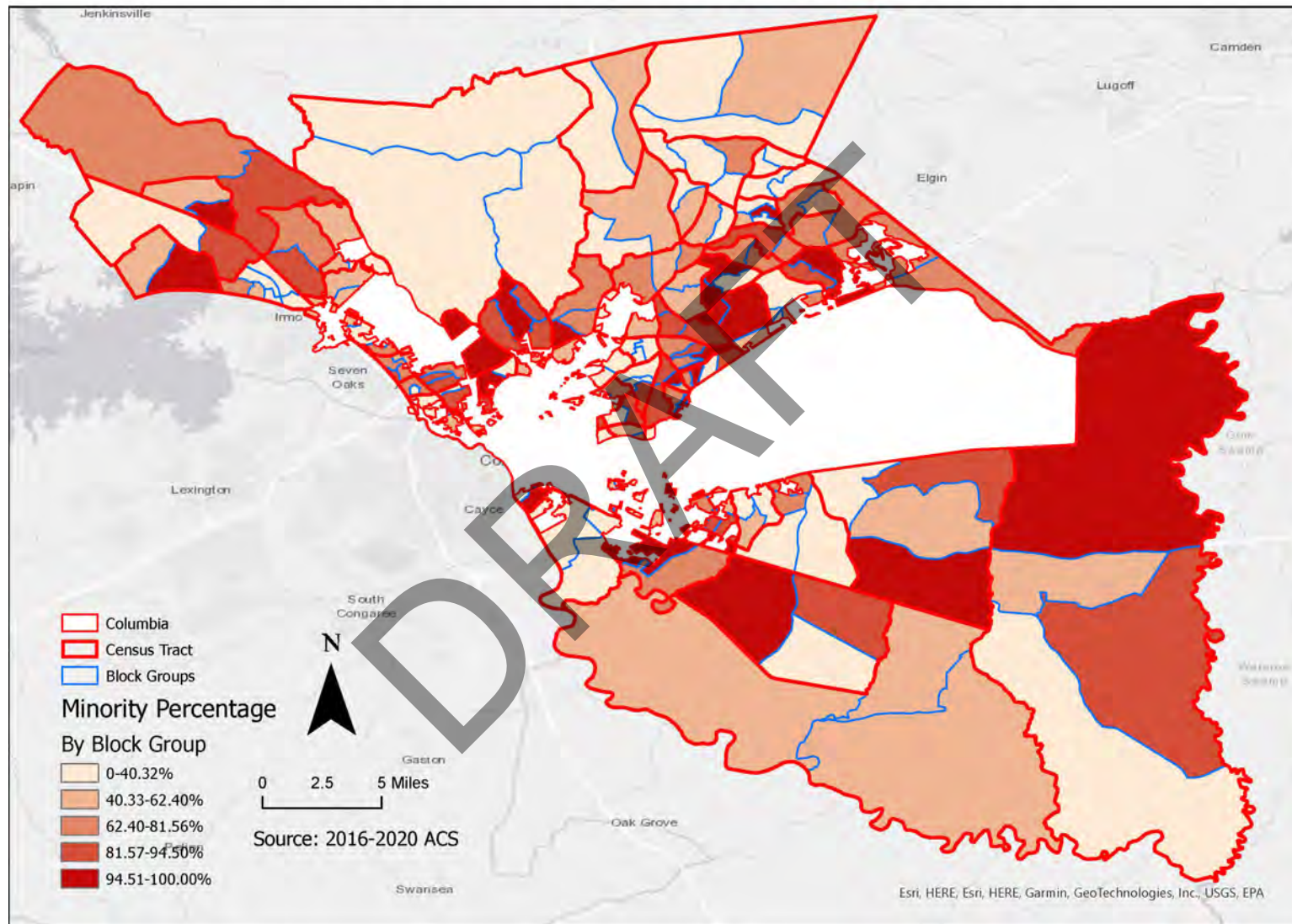
Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

White Population By Block Group, Richland County, SC



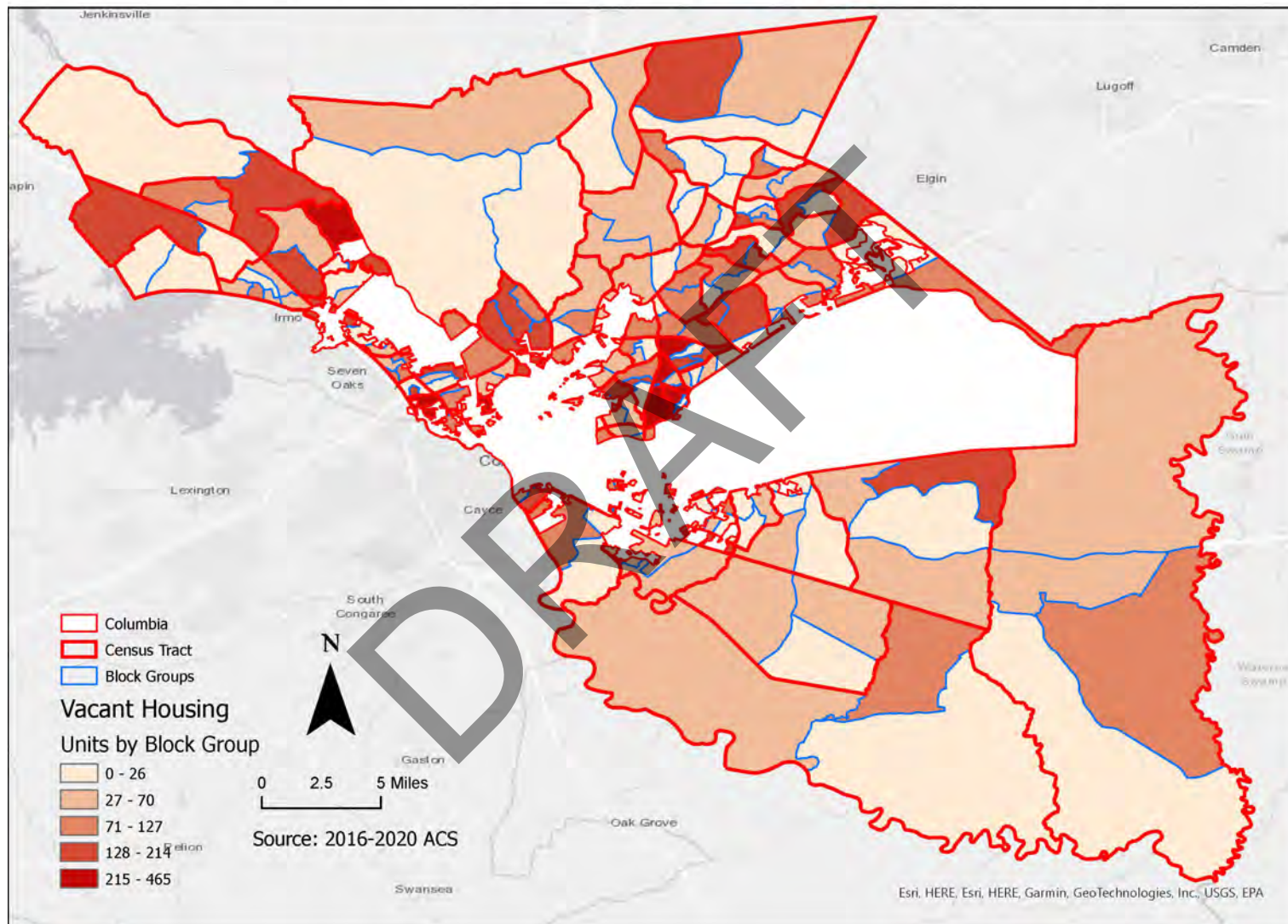
Percent White Population by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Minority Population By Block Group, Richland County, SC



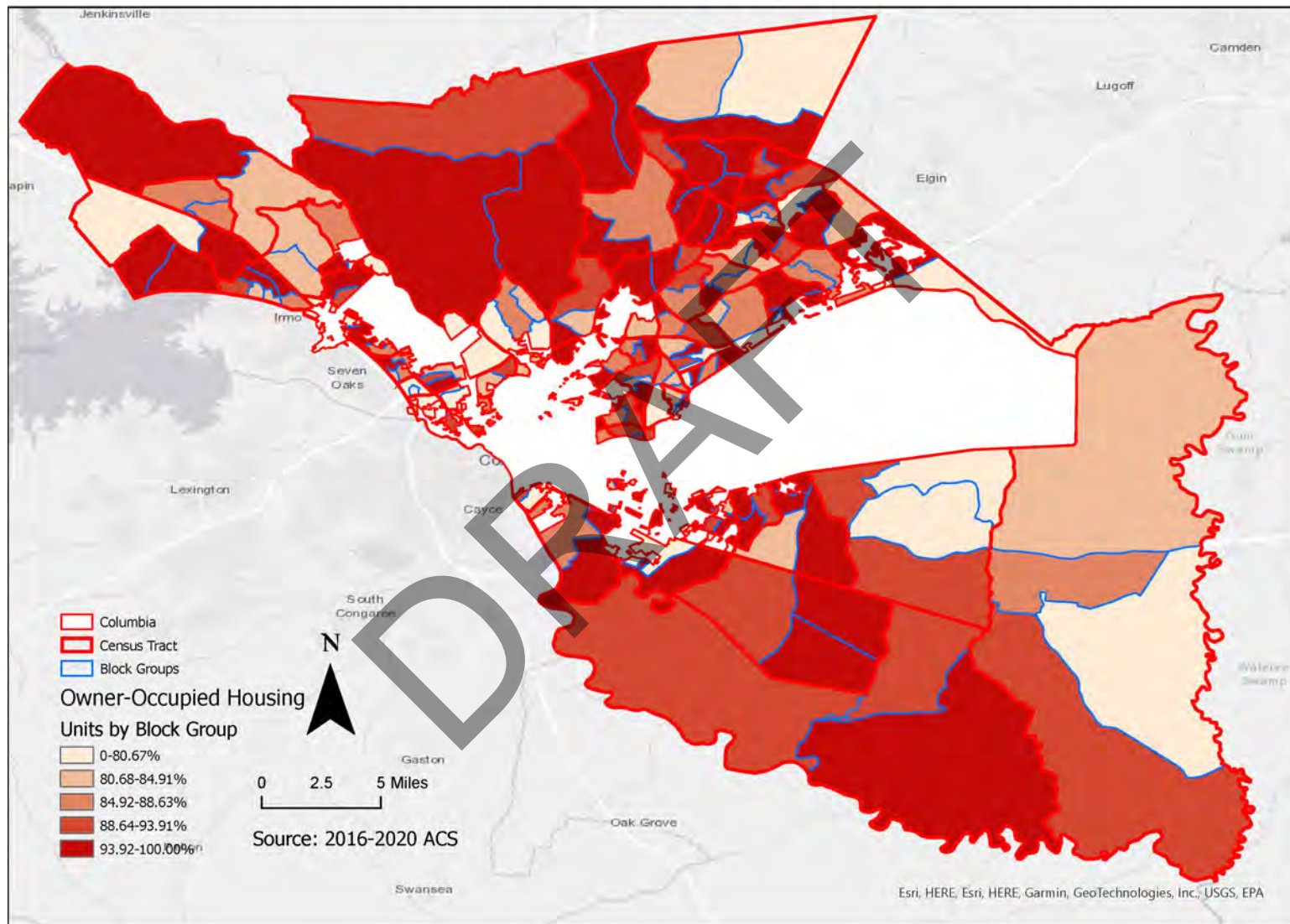
Percent Minority Population by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Number of Housing Units By Block Group, Richland County, SC



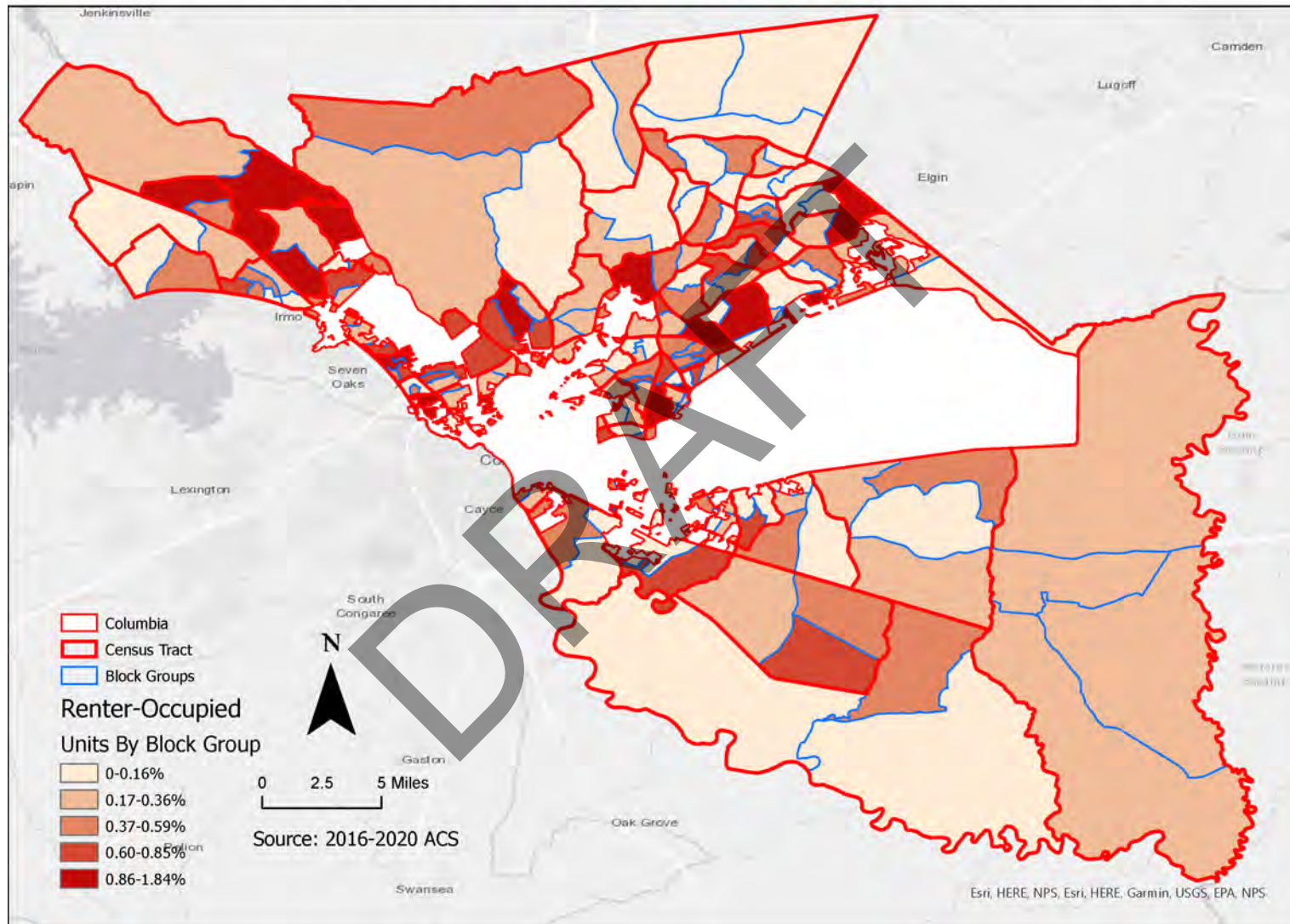
Number of Housing Units by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Percent Owner-Occupied By Block Group, Richland County, SC



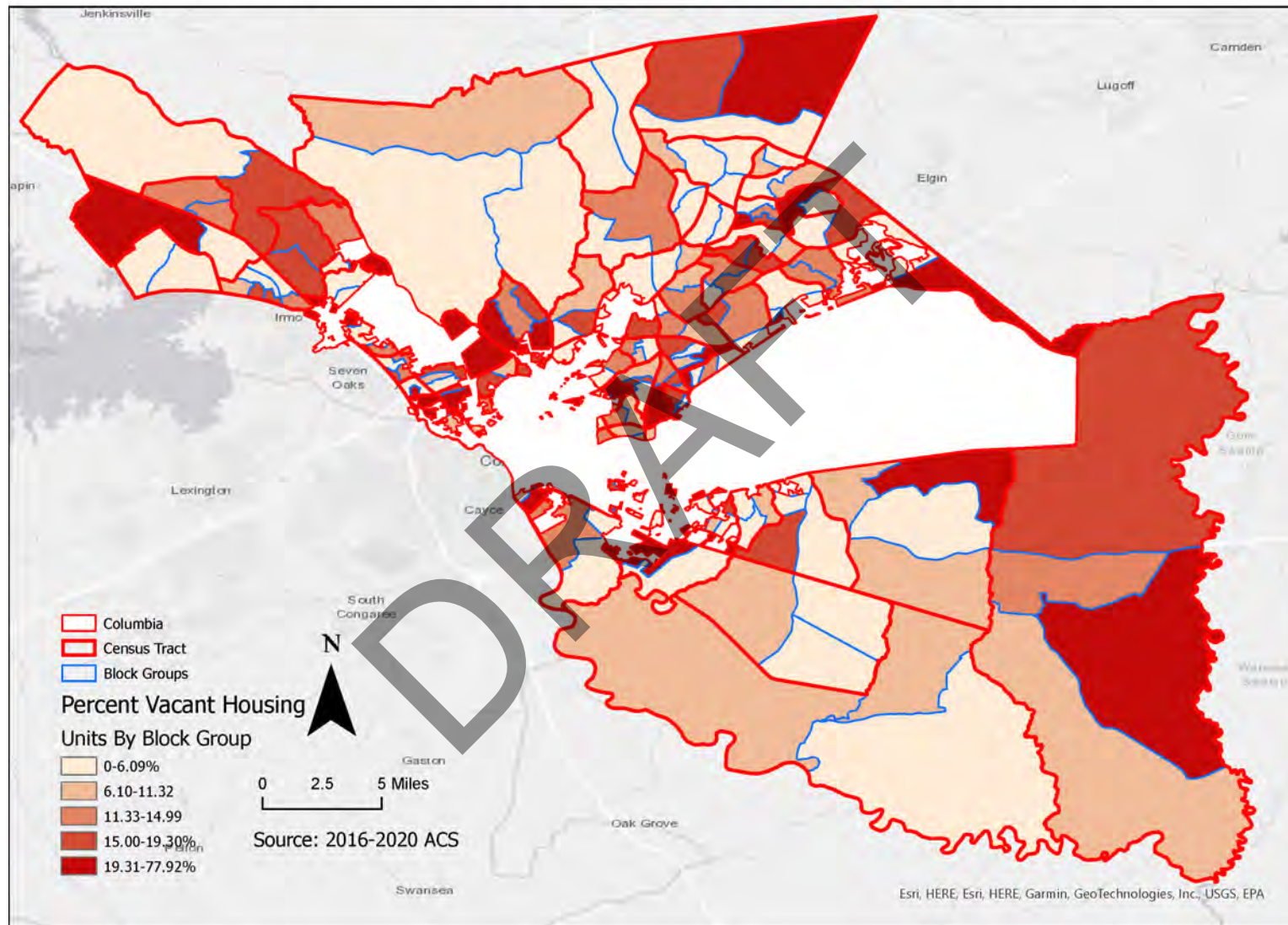
Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Renter-Occupied Housing Units By Block Group, Richland County, SC



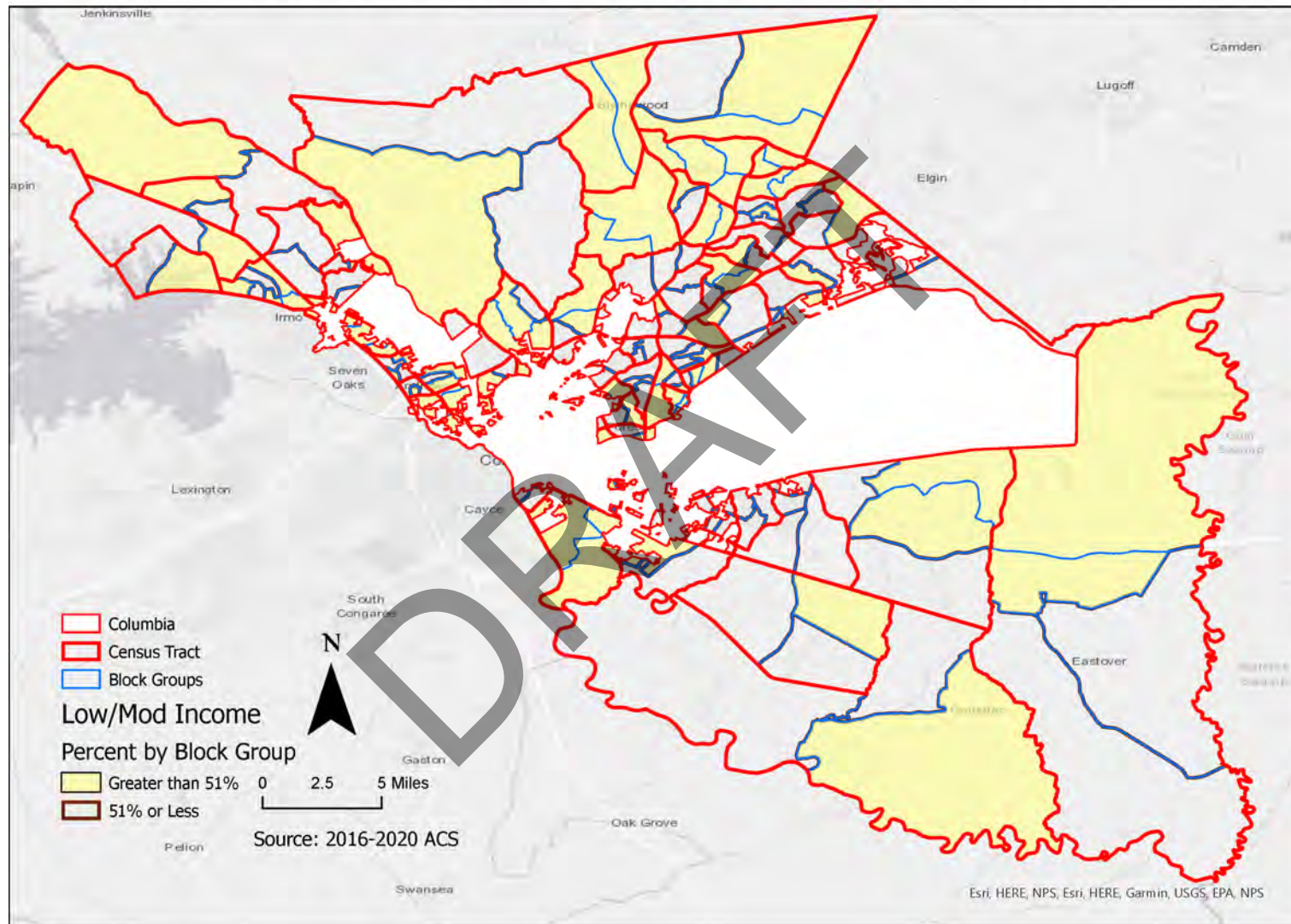
Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Percent Vacant Housing Units By Block Group, Richland County, SC



Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

Low/Moderate Income By Block Group, Richland County, SC



Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group (Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey)

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

During the FY 2023 Program Year, Richland County proposed to address the following strategies, priority needs, objectives, and goals that have been identified in its FY 2022-2026 Five Year Consolidated Plan:

Housing Strategy - (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need to increase the supply of affordable housing for homeowners and renters, that is decent, safe and sanitary.

Objective: Improve, preserve, and expand the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income persons and families.

Goals:

- **HSG-1 Homeownership** - Continue to assist low- and moderate-income potential homebuyers to purchase homes through down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, housing rehabilitation assistance and required housing counseling training.
- **HSG-2 Owner-occupied Housing Rehabilitation** - Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by low- and moderate-income homeowners in the community by providing financial assistance to addressing code violations, emergency repairs, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- **HSG-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation** - Increase the supply of decent, safe and sanitary, and accessible housing that is affordable to both owners and renters in the County by assisting with acquisition, site improvements, development fees, new construction and rehabilitation of vacant buildings.
- **HSG-4 Renter-occupied Rehabilitation** - Provide financial assistance to landlords to rehabilitate affordable housing units for that are rented to low- and moderate-income tenants.
- **HSG-5 Fair Housing** - Promote fair housing choice through education, training and outreach to affirmatively furthering fair housing throughout the County.

Homeless Strategy - (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a continuing need for services and housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons/families at-risk of becoming homeless.

Objective: Work with community partners to improve the living conditions and support services available for homeless persons, families, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Goals:

- **HMS-1 Operation/Support** – Financially assist providers to operate housing and support services for the homeless and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
- **HMS-2 Prevention and Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
- **HMS-3 Housing** - Support the rehabilitation of, including accessibility improvements, for emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing for the homeless.
- **HMS-4 Continuum of Care** - Support the local Continuum of Care's (CoC) efforts to provide emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing to persons and families who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless.
- **HMS-5 Permanent Housing** - Promote the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.

Other Special Needs Strategy - (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need to increase housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.

Objective: Improve the living conditions and services for those residents with special needs, including the disabled population.

Goals:

- **SNS-1 Housing** - Increase the supply of affordable housing that is accessible, decent, safe, and sanitary for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with developmental disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons recovering from alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs, through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction of housing.
- **SNS-2 Social Services** - Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with developmental disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, victims of sexual assault, victims of human trafficking, persons recovering from alcohol/drug dependency, persons recently leaving incarceration, and persons with other special needs.
- **SNS-3 Accessibility** - Improve the accessibility of owner-occupied housing through rehabilitation and support/improve renter occupied housing by making reasonable accommodations for the physically disabled by removing architectural barriers.

Community Development Strategy - (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a continuing need to upgrade and improve community facilities, infrastructure, public services and revitalize socially and economically distressed neighborhoods in the County.

Objective: Improve the community facilities, infrastructure, public services, public safety, and transportation, along with the elimination of blighting influences in the County.

Goals:

- **CDS-1 Community Facilities** - Improve parks, recreational facilities, neighborhood facilities, trails and libraries including accessibility improvements to public buildings and all community facilities in the County.
- **CDS-2 Infrastructure** - Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets; sidewalks; bridges; curbs; share the road and segmented multiuse pathways; storm water management; water system improvements; sanitary sewer system; lighting enhancements; broadband infrastructure; handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers.
- **CDS-3 Accessibility Improvements** - Improve the physical and visual accessibility of community facilities, infrastructure, and public buildings.
- **CDS-4 Food Programs** - Provide assistance for food and nutritional programs to address the needs of unemployed, underemployed, and homeless.
- **CDS-5 Public Services** - Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, along with general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons and households.
- **CDS-6 Public Safety** - Improve public safety facilities for fire protection, purchase of new fire equipment, crime prevention, and ability to respond to emergency health and safety situations.
- **CDS-7 Clearance/Demolition** – Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through the demolition of vacant, abandoned and dilapidated structures on a spot basis and/or area-wide basis.
- **CDS-8 Revitalization** - Promote neighborhood revitalization in strategic areas of the County through acquisition, demolition, rehabilitation, code enforcement, infrastructure improvements, new housing construction, public and community facilities improvements, etc.

Economic Development Strategy - (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need to increase opportunities for economic advancement and self-sufficiency, as well as educational (social/life skills) training and empowerment for all residents of the County.

Objective: Improve and expand employment opportunities in the County for low- and moderate-income persons and families.

Goals:

- **EDS-1 Employment** - Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development, employment, and job training services for the unemployed and underemployed persons, as well as entrepreneurship and small business development.

- **EDS-2 Financial Incentives/Assistance** - Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), real property tax rebate program, Community Development Block Grant and HOME Partnership Program Funds, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, New Market Tax Credits, including technical assistance programs and low interest loans, etc.
- **EDS-3 Redevelopment Programs** - Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of economically distressed areas of the County, including vacant and underutilized commercial and industrial sites including underutilized brownfield sites.

Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy - (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of Federal, State, and local funded programs to address the housing and community and economic development needs.

Objective: Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of Federal, State, and local funded programs and activities.

Goals:

- **AMS-1 Overall Coordination** - Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews (ERR) and Section 106 clearances (SHPO), fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
- **AMS-2 Special Studies/Management** - Promote new development by providing funds to assist with the preparation of special studies, plans, and management activities related to these activities.
- **AMS-3 Fair Housing** - Provide funds for training, education, outreach, and monitoring to affirmatively further fair housing in the County.

3. Evaluation of past performance

Each year the County prepares its Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). This report is submitted within ninety (90) days after the start of the new program year. Copies of the CAPER are available for review at the Richland County Office of Community Development website:

<https://www.richlandcountysc.gov/Government/Departments/Community-Development>.

The FY 2021 CAPER, which was the fifth CAPER for the FY 2017-2021 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, was submitted in IDIS and approved by HUD. In the FY 2021 CAPER, Richland County expended 85.29% of its CDBG funds to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The County expended 15% of its funds during the FY 2020 CAPER period on public service, which is at the statutory maximum of 15%. The County expended 20% of its funds during this CAPER period on Planning and Administration, which is at the statutory maximum of 20%. The County has met the required 1.5 maximum drawdown ratio with a drawdown ratio of 1.48.

Richland County met its HOME Match requirements for the FY 2021 Program. Richland County has an excess of matching funds in the amount of \$114,785.80 for the HOME Program.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

Richland County has followed its Citizen Participation Plan in the planning and preparation of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan. The County held one (1) Needs Public Hearing on:

- **Wednesday, June 15, 2023 at 6:00 PM** – Council Chambers, 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia South Carolina, 29201

The Needs Public Hearing provided the residents, agencies, and organizations with the opportunity to discuss the County's CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs and to provide suggestions for future CDBG, HOME, ESG Programs priorities and activities. Richland County advertised in one (1) local newspaper, flyers, and on social media. The ad appeared in "The State" on Monday, June 5, 2023.

The "Draft" Plan was on display for a 30-day period beginning Friday, June 16, 2023. The availability for review of the "draft plan" was advertised in the local newspaper and on social media and the plan was placed on display at Richland County's website: <https://www.richlandcountysc.gov> and hard copies of the plan were available for review at 2020 Hampton Street, Suite 3058, Columbia, South Carolina.

5. Summary of public comments

The County held the Needs Public Hearing in the Council Chambers on June 15, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan was placed on public display and a Public Hearing was held on Thursday, July 13, 2023. Comments that were received at the Public Hearings are included in the attachment section.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

All comments and suggestions received to date, have been accepted and incorporated into the planning documents.

7. Summary

During the FY 2023 Program Year, Richland County, South Carolina anticipates the following Federal Financial resources:

- **FY 2023 CDBG Allocation:** \$ 1,723,394.00
- **FY 2023 HOME Allocation:** \$ 941,966.00
- **FY 2023 ESG Allocation:** \$ 148,882.00
- **Total Funds:** **\$ 2,814,242.00**

The main goals of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan are to improve the living conditions of all residents in Richland County, create a suitable and sustainable living environment, and to address the housing and community development needs of the residents.

During the FY 2023 CDBG, HOME, and ESG Program Year, the County propose to address the following strategies from its Five-Year Consolidated Plan:

- Housing
- Homelessness
- Other Special Needs
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- Administration, Planning, and Management

The “draft” FY 2023 Annual Action Plan was on public display beginning Friday, June 16, 2023 through Monday, July 17, 2023, at the Richland County website at: <https://www.richlandcountysc.gov> and hard copies of the plan were available for review at 2020 Hampton Street, Suite 3058, Columbia, South Carolina.

The display period started on Friday, June 16, 2023, and ended on Monday, July 17, 2023, for a 30-day display period. A second public hearing was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, to discuss the proposed activities and solicit citizen comments on the Plan. Upon completion of the comment period, Richland County submitted the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through IDIS on or before Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

1. Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	Richland County	Grants & Community Outreach
HOME Administrator	Richland County	Grants & Community Outreach
ESG Administrator	Richland County	Grants & Community Outreach

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The administering lead agency and administrator is the County's Department of Grants & Community Outreach for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. The Department is responsible for preparing the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records (ERR's), the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPER), project monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day-to-day basis. In addition, Richland County has a private planning consulting firm available to assist the County when needed.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Ms. Sarah Harris, MOL
 Director, Grants & Community Outreach
 Grants Department
 Richland County Government
 2020 Hampton St.
 Columbia, SC 29204
harris.sarah@richlandcountysc.gov

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)**1. Introduction**

While preparing the FY 2023 Annual Action plan, Richland County consultation with the Columbia Housing Authority, local housing providers, social service agencies, community and economic development organizations, the local Continuum of Care members, local leaders of faith-based organizations, local business representatives, and County department representatives. Input from the meetings and public hearings were used to develop the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I)).

Richland County works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **Columbia Housing Authority** - Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and improvements to public housing communities
- **Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH)** - Continuum of Care to coordinate services for the homeless
- **Social Services Agencies** - funds to improve services to low- and moderate-income persons.
- **Housing Providers** - funds to rehabilitate and develop affordable housing and provide housing options for low- and moderate-income households.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness

The Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH) was awarded \$4,169,273 for its Tier 1 FY 2022 Continuum of Care Application.

Richland County is a partner in the Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless and provides a number of programs and services meant to serve and house the homeless and at-risk population in the County using CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding.

Through MACH, Richland County coordinates with over fifty local public, private, non-profit and faith-based partner organizations to address the varied needs of the County's homeless and at-risk population, including youth, families, veterans, and those with mental health issues.

2. **Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities**

DRAFT

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1.	Agency/Group/Organization	Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
2.	Agency/Group/Organization	Richland County Council
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Civic Leaders Other Government- County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Non-housing Community Development Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	One member of the County Council was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
3.	Agency/Group/Organization	Columbia Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public Housing Agency (PHA) Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Non-housing Community Development Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
4.	Agency/Group/Organization	CASA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Children

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for the Richland County.
5.	Agency/Group/Organization	Richland County Emergency Services Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other Government- County Agency- Emergency Management
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
6.	Agency/Group/Organization	Richland County Utilities Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other Government- County Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
7.	Agency/Group/Organization	Mirci
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services - Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homelessness Needs- Unaccompanied Youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
8.	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services - Children Services - Elderly Persons Services - Persons with Disabilities Services - Persons with HIV/AIDS Services - Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Homeless Services - Health Services - Employment Services - Victims Regional Organization Planning Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
9.	Agency/Group/Organization	Homeless No More
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services- Homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
10.	Agency/Group/Organization	Live Oak Place
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services- Homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
11.	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Promise of the Midlands
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services- Homeless Services - Children Services- Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.
12.	Agency/Group/Organization	AT&T
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Was consulted for their input on the needs and goals for Richland County.

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

All agency types were consulted and contacted during the planning process.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless	They are incorporated in the FY 2022-2026 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans
Vision 2030	Columbia Housing Authority	They are incorporated in the FY 2022-2026 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans
2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan	Central Midlands Council of Governments	They are incorporated in the FY 2022-2026 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(I))

The County's Grants & Outreach coordinates with the County Council and other County departments.

Narrative (optional):

As the administering agency for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs, the County maintains coordination with other County departments to address infrastructure, code enforcement, and public safety needs.

DRAFT

AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)**1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation**

Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan has components to reach out and encourage citizen participation. These components are the following: meetings with various stakeholders; a needs public hearing; and a hearing to gather public comments on the draft plan while it was on display was also held. The County posted the plan on its County website. A copy of comments received are included as attachments in the Appendix section of the plan. Through the citizen participation process, the County used input from residents to develop a plan to serve the low- and moderate-income population of Richland County.

The County has followed its approved Citizens Participation Plan to develop its FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1.	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies and Organizations	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.

2.	Public Meeting	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies and Organizations	June 14, 2023, Richland County held a Public Hearing in the County concerning the development of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.	Comments from participants are in the attachments section of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan	None.	Not Applicable.
3.	Internet Outreach	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies and Organizations	None.	None.	None.	https://www.richlandcountysc.gov

4.	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies and Organizations	None.	None.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.
5.	Public Hearing	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies and Organizations	The County held its second public hearing on July 13, 2023, to discuss the draft FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.	See Second Public Hearing comments in the Appendix section of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

Richland County is receiving \$1,723,394 from its CDBG allocation, \$941,966 from its HOME allocation, and \$148,882 from its ESG Allocation for the FY 2023 program year. The program year goes from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. These funds will be used to address the following strategies:

- Housing Strategy (HSG);
- Homeless Strategy (HMS);
- Other Special Needs Strategy (SNS);
- Community Development Strategy (CDS);
- Economic Development Strategy (EDS); and
- Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy (AMS).

The yearly accomplishments of these projects/activities are reported in the FY 2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,723,394	0	0	1,723,394	5,052,470	5 projects/activities were funded based on FY 2023 CDBG allocations.
HOME	Public federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	941,966	0	0	941,966	2,530,154	4 projects/activities were funded based on FY 2023 HOME allocations.
ESG	Public federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	148,882	0	0	148,882	446,646	3 projects/activities were funded based on FY 2023 ESG allocations.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

Not applicable, The County does not intend to use, acquire or improve any publicly owned land or property using CDBG funds to address the needs identified in the County's Consolidated Plan unless required to improve existing public infrastructure and facilities.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

DRAFT

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1.	HSG-1 Homeownership	2022	2026	Affordable Housing	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$150,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 10 Households Assisted
2.	HSG-2 Owner-occupied Housing Rehabilitation	2022	2026	Affordable Housing	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$219,128 HOME: \$0	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 22 Household Housing Unit
3.	HSG-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation	2022	2026	Affordable Housing	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Housing Strategy	HOME: \$697,770	Housing units constructed: 5 Household Housing Unit
4.	HSG-5 Fair Housing	2022	2026	Affordable Housing	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Other: 1 Other
5.	HMS-1 Operation/Support	2022	2026	Homeless	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Homeless Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0 ESG: \$89,329	Other: 1 Other
6.	HMS-2 Prevention and Housing	2022	2026	Homeless	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Homeless Strategy	CDBG: \$0 ESG: \$48,387	Other: 4 Others

7.	CDS-2 Infrastructure	2022	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$801,079 HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1,000 Persons Assisted Other: 2 Others
8.	CDS-5 Public Services	2022	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$258,509 HOME: \$0	Other: 100 Individuals
9.	EDS-1 Employment	2022	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$100,000 HOME: \$0	Jobs created/retained: 3 Jobs
10.	EDS-2 Financial Incentives/Assistance	2022	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
11.	EDS-3 Redevelopment Programs	2022	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted Other: 0 Other
12.	AMS-1 Overall Coordination	2022	2026	Administration, Planning, and Management	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy	CDBG: \$344,678 HOME: \$94,196 ESG: \$11,166	Other: 3 Others

13.	AMS-3 Fair Housing	2022	2026	Fair Housing	Low/Mod Area Countywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Other: 0 Other
-----	--------------------	------	------	--------------	-------------------------------	--	------------------------	-------------------

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1.	Goal Name	HSG-1 Homeownership
	Goal Description	Continue to assist low- and moderate-income potential homebuyers to purchase homes through down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, housing rehabilitation assistance and required housing counseling training.
2.	Goal Name	HSG-2 Owner-occupied Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by low- and moderate-income homeowners in the community by providing financial assistance to addressing code violations, emergency repairs, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.
3.	Goal Name	HSG-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Increase the supply of decent, safe and sanitary, and accessible housing that is affordable to both owners and renters in the County by assisting with acquisition, site improvements, development fees, new construction and rehabilitation of vacant buildings.
4.	Goal Name	HSG-5 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Promote fair housing choice through education, training, and outreach throughout the County.
5.	Goal Name	HMS-1 Operation/Support
	Goal Description	Financially assist providers to operate housing and support services for the homeless and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.

6.	Goal Name	HMS-2 Prevention and Housing
	Goal Description	Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
7.	Goal Name	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets; sidewalks; bridges; curbs; share the road and segmented multiuse pathways; storm water management; water system improvements; sanitary sewer system; lighting enhancements; broadband infrastructure; handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers.
8.	Goal Name	CDS-5 Public Services
	Goal Description	Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, along with general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons and households.
9.	Goal Name	EDS-1 Employment
	Goal Description	Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development, employment, and job training services for the unemployed and underemployed persons, as well as entrepreneurship and small business development.
10.	Goal Name	EDS-2 Financial Incentives/Assistance
	Goal Description	Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), real property tax rebate program, Community Development Block Grant and HOME Partnership Program Funds, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, New Market Tax Credits, including technical assistance programs and low interest loans, etc.
11.	Goal Name	EDS-3 Redevelopment Programs
	Goal Description	Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of economically distressed areas of the County, including vacant and underutilized commercial and industrial sites including underutilized brownfield sites.

12.	Goal Name	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews (ERR) and Section 106 clearances (SHPO), fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
13.	Goal Name	AMS-3 Fair Housing Provide funds for training, education
	Goal Description	Provide funds for training, education, outreach, and monitoring to affirmatively further fair housing in the County.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Richland County proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2023 CDBG and HOME funds:

Projects

#	Project Name
1.	CDBG General Administration
2.	Public Service Activities
3.	Infrastructure Projects
4.	Economic Development
5.	Housing Rehabilitation
6.	HOME General Administration
7.	CHDO Set-Aside
8.	Development of Affordable Housing
9.	Down Payment Assistance
10.	Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Table 8 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

CDBG funds are intended to provide low- and moderate-income households with the opportunity to live in viable communities, which includes decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements; infrastructure improvements; housing rehabilitation and preservation; affordable housing development activities; public services; economic development; and planning and administration.

Richland County has allocated its CDBG funds for FY 2023 to principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

- Community and Public facilities improvements will either be located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group or the County will prepare surveys which show a low- and moderate-income population over 51%.
- The infrastructure improvement activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group or have a low- and moderate-income service area benefit or clientele over 51% low- and moderate-income.
- Funding for public services will be based on the clientele's income or in certain cases a limited type of clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.
- The homeless projects/activities are for homeless agencies/organization that serve a specific

type of clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.

- The other special needs projects/activities are limited to a clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.
- Demolition of structures will either be located in low- and moderate-income areas or in areas that have been designated as slum and blighted areas.
- The housing activities have income eligibility criteria; therefore, the income requirement directs funds to low- and moderate-income households throughout the County.

The HOME funds will be used for administration and for housing projects. These funds will be targeted to low-income persons and projects designed to provide affordable housing to low-income persons.

The ESG funds will be used for Administration, Rapid Re-housing/Homeless prevention/HMIS, and Emergency Shelter Projects. Those funds will be targeted to low-income persons who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless.

The total amount of FY 2023 CDBG funds is \$1,723,394, of which 20% (\$344,678) is for administration and 80% (\$1,378,716) is allocated for projects/activities. Approximately 100% (\$1,378,718) will principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

DRAFT

AP-38 Project Summary**Project Summary Information**

1.	Project Name	General Administration
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$344,678.00
	Description	Expenses to administer the Community Development Block Grant. This covers the staff salaries and benefits, office expenses, planning services, and other facets of program management.
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 Organization
	Location Description	Richland County, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, 2020 Hampton St. Suite 3058, Columbia, SC 29202
	Planned Activities	The project matrix code is 21A, General Program Administration.
2.	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	HSG-2 Owner-occupied Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$219,128.00
	Description	The Emergency Housing Rehab program is a 0% interest loan program to income eligible homeowners for installation of roofs, soffit, gutters, electrical upgrades, plumbing, etc.

	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	22 Housing Units
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Housing Benefit (LMH). The HUD Matrix Code is 14A, Rehab; Single-Unit Residential.
3.	Project Name	Infrastructure
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	CDS 2 Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$801,079
	Description	Expenses to be used to improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets; sidewalks; bridges; curbs; share the road and segmented multiuse pathways; storm water management; water system improvements; sanitary sewer system; lighting enhancements; broadband infrastructure; handicap accessibility improvements or removal of architectural barriers.
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,000 People and 2 public facilities
	Location Description	Richland County, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, 2020 Hampton St. Suite 3058, Columbia, SC 29202
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA). The project matrix code is to be determined.

4.	Project Name	Public Service
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-5 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$258,509.00
	Description	Expenses to be used to improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, along with general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons and households.
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	100 persons
	Location Description	Richland County, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, 2020 Hampton St. Suite 3058, Columbia, SC 29202
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA). The project matrix code is to be determined.
5.	Project Name	Economic Development
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	EDS-1 Employment EDS-2 Financial Incentives/Assistance EDS-3 Redevelopment Programs
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000.00

	Description	Expenses to be used to improve and expand employment opportunities in the County for low- and moderate-income persons and families.
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3 jobs
	Location Description	Richland County, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, 2020 Hampton St. Suite 3058, Columbia, SC 29202
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Clientele (LMC). The project matrix code is to be determined.
6.	Project Name	HOME General Administration
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Management, and Planning Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$94,196.00
	Description	Funds for salaries, benefits, office expenses, legal fees, and planning management.
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 Organization
	Location Description	Richland County, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, 2020 Hampton St. Suite 3058, Columbia, SC 29202
	Planned Activities	The project matrix code is 21A, General Program Administration.
7.	Project Name	Housing CHDO Set-Aside
	Target Area	County Wide

	Goals Supported	HSG-3 Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$141,295.00
	Description	HOME funds will be used to assist a CHDO to increase the number of affordable housing units in the HOME Consortium for owners and renters by assisting with acquisition, soft costs, construction, and rehabilitation.
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 household
	Location Description	County Wide
	Planned Activities	To be determined.
8.	Project Name	Development of Affordable Housing
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HSG-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$556,475.00
	Description	HOME funds will be used to assist in the development of affordable housing in the HOME Consortium for owners and renters by assisting with acquisition, soft costs, construction, and rehabilitation.
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 households
	Location Description	County Wide

	Planned Activities	To be determined.
9.	Project Name	Downpayment Assistance
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HSG-1 Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$150,000
	Description	Funds will be used for a first-time homebuyer program County Wide
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 households
	Location Description	County wide
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Housing Benefit (LMH) The HUD Matrix Code is 13B, Homeownership Assistance
10.	Project Name	Emergency Solutions Grant Program
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HMS-1 Operation / Support HMS-2 Prevention and Housing AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Strategy Administration, Management, and Planning Strategy
	Funding	ESG: \$148,882.00

	Description	Funds will be used for General Administration - \$11,166 (staff salaries, staff benefits, office expenses, planning services, and program management); Rapid Re-Housing/Homeless Prevention/HMIS - \$48,387 (homeless prevention program, rapid re-housing program and the HMIS system); and Street Outreach/Emergency Shelter - \$89,329 (operating expenses and essential services for shelters).
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 Organizations
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Clientele Benefit (LMC). The project Matric Code 21A General Administration; OT3 Operating Cost of Homeless/AIDs Patient Programs; and O5Q Substance Payments.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)**Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed**

The following information provides a profile of the population age and racial/ethnic composition of Richland County. This information was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau website, <http://factfinder.census.gov>. The 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (ACS) and 2000 and 2010 Census Data were used to analyze the social, economic, housing, and general demographic characteristics of Richland County.

Population:

Richland County's overall population as reported in the 2017-2021 American Community Survey was 418,307.

- The County's population was 384,504 at the time of the 2010 Census.
- The 2017-2021 ACS reports that the County has a population of 418,307, an increase of 33,803 people (8.8%) since the 2010 Census.
- Between the 2010 ACS and the 2017-2021 ACS, the population in South Carolina increased by 442,591.

Age:

Richland County's age of population (based on 2017-2021 ACS data)

- The median age in Richland County was 33.8 years, compared to 39.8 years for South Carolina.
- Youth under the age of 18 accounted for 21.6% of the County's population, which is less than South Carolina's 21.9% of the population.
- Seniors aged 65 or over represent 12.9% of the County's population, which is less than South Carolina's average of 17.7% of the population.
- Adults ranging from 20 to 24 years old make up the largest portion of the County's population at 10.2%.

Race/Ethnicity:

Racial/ethnic composition of Richland County, according to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey:

- 43.1% are White
- 47.3% are Black or African American
- 0.2% are American Indian or Alaska Native
- 2.9% are Asian
- 2.4% are Some Other Race Alone
- 5.4% are Hispanic or Latino, of any race
- 4.0% are Two or more races

Income Profile:

The following is a summary of income statistics for Richland County from the 2017-2021 American Community Survey:

- At the time of the 2017-2021 American Community Survey, median household income in Richland County was \$56,439, which was less than the City of Columbia (\$48,791), and more than the State of South Carolina (\$59,318).
- 27.5% of households with earnings received Social Security income.
- 1.8% of households with earnings received public assistance.
- 23.5% of households with earnings received retirement income.
- 17.0% of residents were living in poverty.
- 37.1% of female-headed households with children were living in poverty.
- 20.2% of all children under 18 years were living in poverty.

Low/Mod Income Profile:

The low- and moderate-income profile for Richland County is a measurement of the area's needs. Richland County has an overall low- and moderate-income percentage of 45.26%. These low- and moderate-income statistics were obtained from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's website, www.hud.gov.

Economic Profile:

The following illustrates the economic profile for the Richland County 2017-2021 American Community Survey Estimates:

- 43.3% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as management, business, science, and arts occupations.
- 23.7% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as sales and office occupations.
- 16.0% were in the service sector.
- The education, health, and social service industry represented 25.2% of those employed.
- 22.5% of workers were considered in the government class.
- 3.4% of workers were considered in the self-employed workers in not incorporated business class.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, the preliminary unemployment rate for Richland County for April of 2023 was 2.5% and the City of Columbia's unemployment rate was 2.9%. The unemployment rate was 3.1% for the State of South Carolina in April of 2023 and 3.4% for the United States.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Countywide excluding the City of Columbia	0%
Low/Mod Areas	100%

Table 9 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Richland County will allocate its CDBG funds to those geographic areas whose population is over 51% low- and moderate-income and/or to low- and moderate-income clientele. At least 70% of all the County's CDBG funds are budgeted for activities which principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The following guidelines for allocating CDBG and HOME funds will be used by the County for the FY 2023 Program Year:

- The public services projects/activities are for social service organizations whose clientele are low-income or in certain cases, a limited type of clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.
- The homeless projects/activities are for homeless agencies/organization that serve a specific type of clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.
- The other special needs projects/activities are limited to a clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.
- The community and public facilities projects/activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group or have a low- and moderate-income service area benefit or a limited clientele which is low- and moderate-income.
- The infrastructure improvement projects/activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group or have a low- and moderate-income service area benefit or a limited clientele which is low- and moderate-income.
- The acquisition and demolition of structures are either located in a low- and moderate-income census area or these activities are eligible by preventing or eliminating slums and blight on a spot or area basis.
- The housing projects/activities have income eligibility criteria; therefore, the income requirement limits funds to low- and moderate-income households throughout the County.
- Economic development projects/activities will either be located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group, or a poverty census tract greater than 20%, or part of a redevelopment plan, or makes 51% of the jobs available to low- and moderate-income persons.

The County allocates CDBG funds to areas or projects/activities which predominantly benefit low- and moderate-income persons to rehabilitate or construct new housing for low- and moderate-income households; to create low- and moderate-income jobs; to projects/activities that principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons; and/or slum and blight removal on a spot or area basis.

The HOME funds will be used for administration and for housing projects/activities. These funds will be targeted to low-income households and projects/activities designed to provide affordable housing to low-income households. The disbursement is based on needs of low- and moderate-income households, not by geographic area.

Discussion

The total amount of FY 2023 CDBG funds is \$1,723,394, of which 20% (\$344,678) is for administration and 80% (\$1,378,716) is allocated for projects/activities. 100% of the funds will be going towards Low- and Moderate-Income areas.

The geographic locations for the FY 2023 CDBG Activities will be countywide or at the location of service provider subrecipients. The geographic location for HOME activities will also be countywide or at the location of service provider subrecipients. Public benefits will be for low- and moderate- income residents of Richland County either through direct benefit such as homeownership, housing rehabilitation or individual services such as homeless assistance. Community facilities improvements will be area benefit activities such as street reconstruction or recreation improvements in areas where at least 51% of the residents are LMI. The geographic location for ESG will also be countywide or at the location of service provided by subrecipients.

The County is allocating its CDBG funds to areas or projects/activities which predominantly benefit low- and moderate-income persons to rehabilitate or construct new housing for low- and moderate-income households; to create low- and moderate-income jobs; and to projects/activities that benefit the low- and moderate-income population.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

Richland County will utilize its CDBG and HOME funds to rehabilitate and to support the construction of new affordable housing units. The one-year goals for affordable housing in Richland County for FY 2023 are as follows:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	37
Special-Needs	0
Total:	37

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	5
Rehab of Existing Units	22
Acquisition of Existing Units	10
Total:	37

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

Richland County will fund the following projects with 2023 CDBG and HOME funds:

- **Housing Rehabilitation** - The Emergency Housing Rehab program is a 0% interest loan program to income eligible homeowners for installation of roofs, soffit, gutters, electrical upgrades, plumbing, etc. (22 households)
- **Housing CHDO Set Aside:** HOME funds will be used to assist a CHDO to increase the number of affordable housing units in the HOME Consortium for owners and renters by assisting with acquisition, soft costs, construction, and rehabilitation. (1 household)
- **Development of Affordable Housing:** HOME funds will be used to assist in the development of affordable housing in the HOME Consortium for owners and renters by assisting with acquisition, soft costs, construction, and rehabilitation. (4 households)
- **Downpayment Assistance** - Funds will be used for a first-time homebuyer program County Wide. (10 households)

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Richland County has a public housing authority to provide public housing for its low-income County residents. The mission of the Columbia Housing Authority is to provide affordable, accessible, quality housing and support services through community partnerships.

The Columbia Housing Authority is responsible for its own hiring, contracting, and procurement. The Housing Authority provides the County with a copy of its Five-Year Capital Fund Program and Annual Plan for review each year. The County certifies that the Capital Fund Program and Annual Plan are consistent with the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Should the Housing Authority propose any demolition or disposition of public housing units, it will consult with the local neighborhoods where the development is located, as well as with the County staff.

The Columbia Housing Authority meets with each of its housing developments to discuss the Annual Plans for the Housing Authority. They also discuss physical needs assessment for allocating and spending Capital Funds at the different developments. The Housing Authority puts copies of the plans in the housing developments for public comment. The Columbia Housing Authority Board also has a seat on the five (5) member Board, which is occupied by a resident to help with the decision and planning process of the Housing Authority.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

The Columbia Housing Authority funds a variety of activities to improve the overall living environment in the Authority's public housing projects. These improvements can include: roof repair, appliances, kitchen cabinets, sidewalk and parking lot repairs, replacement of hot water tanks, new computers, and various infrastructure improvements.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

The CHA Resident Executive Council (REC) provides residents with the opportunity to become involved in housing authority policy making. The REC is made up of representatives from each CHA public housing community, and members are elected by their peers based on participation in local Community Clubs. The REC meets on fourth Monday of each quarter. Richland County will work with CHA to improve attendance at these meetings in FY 2023-2024.

Richland County will also continue to provide twelve (12) hours of housing counseling classes to CHA residents through the RCHAP program. Classes will cover home buying, budget and credit, and home and yard maintenance.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

The Columbia Housing Authority is not designated as "troubled" by HUD.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

DRAFT

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

Under its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Richland County has developed its Strategic Plan in cooperation with the CoC to address homelessness for FY 2022 through FY 2026. These goals are set forth in the following priorities:

Homeless Strategy - (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a continuing need for services and housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons/families at-risk of becoming homeless.

Objective: Work with community partners to improve the living conditions and support services available for homeless persons, families, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Goals:

- **HMS-1 Operation/Support** – Financially assist providers to operate housing and support services for the homeless and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
- **HMS-2 Prevention and Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
- **HMS-3 Housing** - Support the rehabilitation of, including accessibility improvements for emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing for the homeless.
- **HMS-4 Continuum of Care** - Support the local Continuum of Care's (CoC) efforts to provide emergency shelter, and permanent supportive housing to persons and families who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless.
- **HMS-5 Permanent Housing** - Promote the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

The CoC utilizes a coordinated entry process that prioritizes assistance based on severity of need, length of time homeless, and unsheltered versus sheltered status to ensure those who need assistance the most can receive services and housing in a timely manner. Outreach teams work nontraditional hours and cover the CoC's entire geographic area. They are focused on persons with a serious mental illness who live unsheltered because this is the subpopulation in our community least likely to access assistance. Agencies, local businesses, and community members routinely contact the street outreach team regarding persons needing assistance, especially those living unsheltered. Persons experiencing homelessness are engaged through outreach, rapport-building, and with the use of peer-to-peer models. The CoC utilizes a centralized entry. Most persons enter the system through the Harmony House day shelter. However, the local homeless veteran's center, domestic violence shelter, and street

outreach all serve as points of entry. A VI-SPDAT assessment is conducted (coordinated entry assessment tool) to determine need. The individual/family is on a by-name list and referred to appropriate services and housing. All CoC and ESG-funded programs utilize coordinated entry.

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Successful recovery for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness depends on access to stable housing. Permanent supportive housing for such individuals is provided by the following organizations with programs targeted for chronic homelessness.

Chronically Homeless Service Providers: Columbia Area Mental Health Center, Midlands Housing Alliance (Transitions), VA Medical Center (Dorm), 180 Place

Many organizations providing services for individuals experiencing homelessness do not have services and facilities adequate to meet the needs of families with children. In an interview conducted for this Consolidated Plan, representatives from Homeless No More indicated that the need for such services and facilities far exceeds the available supply. Supportive housing for these families provides stability that helps prevent school absences and contributes to academic achievement. The following organizations provide services targeted to families with children experiencing homelessness.

Families with Children: Christ Central Ministries - Hannah House, Homeless No More, Toby's Place, USC, School of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Supportive Housing Services

The organizations below provide supportive housing services specifically designed to meet the needs of veterans experiencing homelessness. HUD also provides rental assistance vouchers through the CHA for privately owned housing to veterans who are eligible for VA health care services and are experiencing homelessness. VA case managers may connect veterans with support services such as health care, mental health treatment and substance use counseling to help them in their recovery process and with maintaining housing in the community.

Veterans: VA Medical Center (Dorm), Alston Wilkes Veterans Home

Homeless organization representatives interviewed for this Consolidated Plan also indicated that supportive housing services targeted to unaccompanied youth are insufficient to meet the needs in Richland County. The organizations below provide various services for unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness; however, long-term supportive housing with developmentally appropriate services are limited. Only four beds with these services are available in the county.

Unaccompanied Youth: Alston Wilkes Society-Columbia, Epworth Children's Home, Growing Home Southeast, Lexington School District Two McKinney-Vento Liaison, Mental Illness Recovery Center, Mental Illness Recovery Center Inc. (MIRCI), Palmetto Place Children's Shelter, Richland County Public Defender's Office (youth defender), Richland School District One McKinney-Vento Liaison, Richland School District Two McKinney-Vento Liaison, State of South Carolina Department of Social Services, University of South Carolina Social Work

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

Utilizing the Housing First Model, homeless individuals and families are housed as soon as they are eligible for housing, based on a centralized assessment, as well as housing availability. Prior to housing, homeless individuals/families are assigned to a supportive services team which continues to provide support to them once they obtain their housing. This model has been effective in housing retention.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Individuals with severe mental health challenges often require transitional or permanent supportive housing including ongoing treatment, social services and housing assistance to recover and live independently. According to the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health sponsored by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), an estimated 18.1% or 43,521 Richland County residents suffer from a mental illness while an estimated four percent suffer severe mental illness.

Discussion

The Midlands Consortium for the Homeless (MACH) was awarded \$4,169,273 for its Tier 1 FY 2022 Continuum of Care Application.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

Richland County is committed to removing or reducing barriers to the development of affordable housing whenever possible throughout the County. A variety of actions include, among others, to reduce the cost of housing to make it affordable.

- Provide developers and non-profits with incentives for the construction or rehabilitation of affordable housing to keep rents affordable.
- Provide assistance to first time homebuyer to purchase a home.
- Assist in acquiring sites for development of affordable housing.
- Promote Federal and State financial assistance for affordable housing.

Richland County prepared its 2017 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) to coincide with the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Richland County's AI identified the following impediments.

Impediment 1: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range of Sizes - There is a need for additional assisted housing throughout the County. Racial or ethnic minority more likely to be experiencing a disproportionate need due to cost burdens, incomplete plumbing or kitchen, facilities, or overcrowding. This contributing factor has been assigned a medium level of priority based on the extent of the need and the County's ability to respond to this need.

Impediment 2: Access to Financial Services - The ability of residents throughout the County to secure home purchase loans varies according to the race and ethnicity of the loan applicant. This was Identified in data gathered under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA).

Impediment 3: Failure to make reasonable accommodation or modification - Residents and stakeholders who provided commentary during the AFH process, whether through public input sessions or the Fair Housing Survey, identified failure to make reasonable accommodation as a factor that contributes to the limited availability of accessible housing units to residents with disabilities. The County believes that it has the capacity to address this factor through outreach and education to County residents and landlords, and considers doing so to be a high priority.

Impediment 4: Access to Publicly Supported Housing for Persons with Disabilities- Residents and stakeholders who provided commentary during the AFH process, whether through public input sessions or the Fair Housing Survey, identified shortages of affordable, accessible housing to be a contributing factor to fair housing issues impacting residents with disabilities.

Impediment 5: Resistance to Affordable Housing- This factor, identified through the feedback of stakeholders during the public input portion of the AFH process, contributes to a lack of affordable housing in the County. Lack of affordable housing restricts the fair housing choice of County residents.

Impediment 6: Discriminatory Actions in the Marketplace- This factor, identified through the feedback of stakeholders during the public input portion of the AFH process, serves to limit the fair housing choice of residents with disabilities and racial/ethnic minority groups.

Impediment 7: Lack of Understanding of Fair Housing Law- This factor, identified through the feedback of stakeholders during the public input portion of the AFH process, contributes to discrimination and differential treatment in the housing market. Furthermore, a lack of understanding of fair housing law means that those who may suffer discrimination in the housing market do not know where to turn when they do.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Richland County, in its most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, did not identify any negative effects of its public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing. The County has continued to revise and update its Zoning Ordinance. This document is consistent with the Fair Housing Act, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. There are no other public policies that restrict fair housing.

Discussion:

Not Applicable.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Richland County has developed the following actions which address:

- obstacles to meeting underserved needs;
- fosters affordable housing;
- reduces lead-based hazards;
- reduced the number of poverty-level families;
- develops institutional structures, and
- enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The County under its FY 2023 Program Year will take the following actions to address obstacles to meeting the underserved needs:

- Provide funds for workforce housing options for owner occupied and renter occupied housing units.
- Provide funds for new housing construction of owner occupied and renter occupied housing units that are decent, safe, sound, affordable, and assessable.
- Provide funds for rehabilitation to help bring the older existing housing stock up to code standards and make accessibility improvements as needed.
- Provide funds to assist business, employment training, and career counseling.
- Provide funds for clearance and demolition projects to remove blighting influences in the County.
- The County will continue to leverage its financial resources and apply for additional public and private funds.

Richland County will work to address these obstacles through the agencies and programs to be funded in FY 2023. Some of the activities to address these obstacles include:

- Public Service Activities
- Economic Development
- Housing Rehabilitation
- CHDO Set-Aside
- Development of Affordable Housing
- Down Payment Assistance
- Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The County is proposing the following goals and strategies to foster and maintain affordable housing:

- **HSG-1 Homeownership** - Continue to assist low- and moderate-income potential homebuyers to purchase homes through down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, housing rehabilitation assistance and required housing counseling training.
- **HSG-2 Owner-occupied Housing Rehabilitation** - Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by low- and moderate-income homeowners in the community by providing financial assistance to addressing code violations, emergency repairs, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- **HSG-3 Housing Construction/Rehabilitation** - Increase the supply of decent, safe and sanitary, and accessible housing that is affordable to both owners and renters in the County by assisting with acquisition, site improvements, development fees, new construction and rehabilitation of vacant buildings.
- **HSG-4 Renter-occupied Rehabilitation** - Provide financial assistance to landlords to rehabilitate affordable housing units for that are rented to low- and moderate-income tenants.
- **HSG-5 Fair Housing** - Promote fair housing choice through education, training and outreach to affirmatively furthering fair housing throughout the County.
- **HMS-2 Prevention and Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
- **HMS-3 Housing** - Support the rehabilitation of, including accessibility improvements for emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing for the homeless.
- **HMS-5 Permanent Housing** - Promote the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.
- **SNS-1 Housing** - Increase the supply of affordable housing that is accessible, decent, safe, and sanitary for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with developmental disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons recovering from alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs, through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction of housing.
- **SNS-3 Accessibility** - Improve the accessibility of owner-occupied housing through rehabilitation and support/improve renter occupied housing by making reasonable accommodations for the physically disabled by removing architectural barriers.
- **AMS-3 Fair Housing** - Provide funds for training, education, outreach, and monitoring to affirmatively further fair housing in the County.

During the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan, Richland County will fund the following projects:

- Housing Rehabilitation
- CHDO Set-Aside
- Development of Affordable Housing Payment

- Down Payment Assistance
- Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The County is working to reduce potential lead-based paint hazards. Below are the County's activities to reduce lead-based paint hazards are related to rehabilitation and homeownership programs.

Rehabilitation Programs

Richland County will continue to ensure that:

- Applicants for rehabilitation funding receive the required lead-based paint information and understand their responsibilities.
- Staff properly determines whether proposed projects are exempt from some or all lead-based paint requirements.
- The level of Federal rehabilitation assistance is properly calculated and the applicable lead-based paint requirements determined.
- Properly qualified personnel perform risk management, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance services when required.
- Required lead hazard reduction work and protective measures are incorporated into project rehabilitation specifications.
- Risk assessment, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance work are performed in accordance with the applicable standards established in 24 CFR Part 35, Subpart R.
- Required notices regarding lead-based paint evaluation, presumption, and hazard reduction are provided to occupants and documented.
- Program documents establish the rental property owner's responsibility to perform and adhere to ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.
- Program staff monitors owner compliance with ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities.

Homeownership Programs

Richland County will continue to ensure that:

- Applicants for homeownership assistance receive adequate information about lead-based paint requirements.
- County staff properly determine whether proposed projects are exempt from some or all lead based paint requirements.
- A visual assessment is performed to identify deteriorated paint in the dwelling unit, any common areas servicing the unit, and exterior surfaces of the building.

- Prior to occupancy, properly qualified personnel perform paint stabilization, and the dwelling passes a clearance exam in accordance with the standards established in 24 CFR Part 35, Subpart R.
- The home buyer receives the required lead-based paint pamphlet and notices.

According to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 38.2% of housing units within Richland County were built before 1980. These units likely have some level of lead-based paint and issues associated with lead, particularly in units with children aged 6 and under. There are a total of 29,454 units constructed between 1950 and 1979 which is 31 percent of the housing stock.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

According to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey, approximately 17.0% of Richland County's residents live in poverty, while only 14.6% of the State of South Carolina residents live in poverty. Female-headed County households with children are particularly affected by poverty at 37.1%. The County's goal is to reduce the extent of poverty by 5%, based on actions the County can control and work with other agencies/organizations.

The County funded projects/activities under the following goals and strategies to reduce the number of families living in poverty:

- HMS-1 Operation/Support
- HMS-2 Prevention and Housing
- SNS-2 Social Services
- CDS-2 Infrastructure
- CDS-4 Food Programs
- CDS-5 Public Services
- EDS-1 Employment
- EDS-2 Financial Incentives/Assistance
- EDS-3 Redevelopment Programs

During the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan, Richland County will fund the following projects that will help reduce the number of poverty level families:

- Public Service Activities
- Economic Development
- Housing Rehabilitation
- CHDO Set-Aside
- Development of Affordable Housing

- Down Payment Assistance
- Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

To effectively implement the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans, the County needs to collaborate with a variety of agencies located in Richland County and also in the City of Columbia. Coordination and collaboration between agencies is important to ensuring that the priorities identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan within the County are adequately addressed. The key agencies that are involved in the implementation of the Plan, as well as additional resources that may be available are described below.

Public Institutions –

- **Richland County** – Richland County’s Department of Community Planning and Development will be responsible for the administration of the County’s community development programs, including some of the local programs that assist target income residents. The Department’s responsibilities will include managing and implementing the City’s affordable housing policies, including the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and related documents.
- **Columbia Housing Authority** - The Columbia Housing Authority is one of the primary owners of affordable housing within the community. The Housing Authority also administers the Housing Choice (Section 8) Voucher Program. The County will continue to work in close consultation with the Housing Authority regarding affordable housing issues in Richland County.

Non-Profit Organizations – There are several non-profit agencies that serve target income households in Richland County. The County will collaborate with these essential service providers. Some of them include:

- MIRCI
- Homeless No More
- Family Promise of the Midlands
- Harvest Hope
- Transitions
- Alston Wilkes Society
- United Way of the Midlands
- Catholic Charities
- Pathways to Healing
- Midlands Fatherhood Program
- SC Uplift

Private Industry – The private sector is an important collaborator in the services and programs

associated with the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The private sector brings additional resources and expertise that can be used to supplement existing services or fill gaps in the system. Lenders, affordable housing developers, business and economic development organizations, and private service providers offer a variety of assistance to residents such as health care, small business assistance, home loan programs, and assisted housing, among others. The County will work closely with these agencies to meet Five-Year Consolidated Plan goals and objectives.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

Richland County is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with social service agencies, housing agencies, community and economic development agencies, County, Federal, and State agencies, as well as with the private and non-profit sectors, to serve the needs of target income individuals and families in the County. The County solicits funding requests for CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. The County staff provides help and assistance to the public agencies that receive funding.

Discussion:

Monitoring

Richland County's Department of Community Planning and Development (Community Development Division) has the primary responsibility for monitoring the County's Annual Action Plan. The Community Development Division will maintain records on the progress toward meeting the goals and the statutory and regulatory compliance of each activity. The Department of Community Planning and Development is responsible for the ongoing monitoring of subrecipients.

For each activity authorized under the National Affordable Housing Act, the County has established fiscal and management procedures that will ensure program compliance and funding accountability. Additionally, the Department will ensure that the reports to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are complete and accurate. The programs will be subject to the Single Audit Act.

For projects, other than CDBG funded activities, a similar reporting format will be used to monitor the Annual Action Plan progress for HOME and ESG activities.

Richland County will provide citizens with reasonable notice of, and the opportunity to comment on its Annual Action Plan in its performance under previously funded CDBG, HOME, and ESG Program Years, and substantial amendments to the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans.

Richland County will respond within fifteen (15) days in writing to any written complaints or inquiries from citizens in regard to the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs, its housing strategy, or its CAPER. This is described in its Citizen Participation Plan.

Richland County and its subrecipients shall comply with the requirements and standards of 2 CFR Part 200, which is the cost principals for state and local governments and their subrecipients. In addition, the County will have written agreements with each of its subrecipients.

The County will monitor its performance with meeting its goals and objectives with its Five-Year Consolidated Plan. It will review its goals on an annual basis in the preparation of its CAPER and will make adjustments to its goals as needed.

The County does not have a timeliness of expenditures problem. The County abides by the Federal cost principals and expenditures. In the expenditures of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds for housing construction or project improvements, the County's inspectors will make periodic on-site inspections to ensure compliance with the local housing codes. The County also requires submittal of architectural drawings, site plan, and work specifications for this work. These will be reviewed prior to issuance of building permits and the distribution of CDBG funds or HOME funds.

DRAFT

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

Richland County receives an annual allocation of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. Since the County receives these federal allocations, the questions below have been completed, as they are applicable.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	\$0.00
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	\$0.00
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	\$0.00
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	\$0.00
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	\$0.00
Total Program Income:	\$0.00

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	\$0.00
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.0%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

- 1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:**

Richland County does not intend to use any other forms of investment other than those described in 24 CFR 92.205(b). Not Applicable.

- 2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:**

To ensure affordability Richland County will impose either resale or recapture provisions when using HOME funds for assisting homebuyers, homeowners and/or CHDO projects. Richland County exercises the option to use both recapture and resale provisions to ensure all or a portion of the County's HOME investments will be recouped in the event the household or entity fails to adhere to the terms of the HOME agreement for the duration of the period of affordability. The provision of resale versus recapture is dependent upon the activity: Recapture activity exists for (a) Down Payment Assistance (RCHAP); (b) CHDO projects that are terminated prior to completion or (c) the Housing Rehabilitation program. Resale provision is used only for CHDO homeownership projects. And while neither resale nor recapture, when CHDO's have rental-based activity, the county reserves the right to collect procedures or allow the CHDO to retain the funds.

- 3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:**

HOME funds are granted to participants of RCHAP and Homeowner Rehabilitation programs in the form of deferred forgivable grants. Recapture provisions will ensure Richland County recoups all or a portion of its HOME investments based upon occupancy as principal residence through an affordability period. Another instance where HOME funds will be recaptured is when a CHDO fails to meet all conditions of a contract and as a result, the contract is terminated prior to project completion. The CHDO is then required to repay the full investment back to the County. While Richland County can structure its recapture provisions based on its program design and market conditions, the period of affordability is the basis upon which the HOME investment is recaptured as described in paragraph 24 CFR 92.25 (a)(5)(ii)(A)(5) of the HOME regulations.

Resale provisions are exercised for CHDO homeownership activities only. These provisions ensure that housing developed with HOME funding remains affordable to LMI families through a 15–20-year period of affordability. Housing is purchased and occupied as principal residence by an LMI household. The CHDO executes an instrument (restrictive covenants or a 2nd mortgage) prior to closing which will detail the resale terms that include housing is made available for subsequent purchase only to a buyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family and use as principal

residence. The resale requirement must also ensure the price at resale provides the original HOME-assisted owner a fair return on investment (including the homeowner's investment and any capital improvement) and ensure the housing will remain affordable to a reasonable range of low-income homebuyers. The period of affordability is based on the total amount of HOME funds invested in an activity. The document will be filed with the 1st mortgage in the County's Register of Deeds office.

Down Payment Assistance (RCHAP)

The Richland County Homeownership Assistance Program (RCHAP) may provide up to \$10,000 toward the purchase of an existing home, and \$10,000 toward the purchase of a newly constructed home in down payment and closing cost assistance for those who qualify. A five (5) year Deferred Forgivable Loan agreement is used as the mechanism for a recapture provision. With this agreement the HOME assistance is forgiven over a five-year period as long as the homeowner continues to own and live in the assisted unit as their primary place of residence for the five-year period of affordability. If the homeowner does not live within this unit and sells the property within this five-year period, the funds are recaptured as a rate of 20 percent diminishing sliding scale per year. For example, if the housing unit sells at year three of this five-year period, the homebuyer would owe back 60 percent of the subsidy (see chart below).

The housing unit must continue to be the principal residence of the homebuyer. If the borrower does not maintain principal residency in the property for at least five-years from the date of closing, Richland County will recapture all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyer. Failure to maintain the original terms of the mortgage will result in recapture of the grant. In the case of sale; RCHAP will require repayment of funds to be distributed from the net proceeds of the sale of the property as the holder of the lien in second position. A change in the mortgage is triggered by refinancing, selling, or renting the home within the period of affordability. The recaptured amount of the grant is on a pro-rata basis determined by the amount of time the homeowner has owned and occupied the house and will be measured by the affordability period outlined below.

Home Occupancy Time Limit	Repayment Amount of Loan
Year or less	100%
2 Years (up to)	80%
3 Years (up to)	60%
4 Years (up to)	40%
5 Years (up to)	20%
5 Years and over	0% (Satisfaction of Lien)

Only the direct subsidy allotted to the homebuyer is subject to recapture.

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Programs

For the Homeowner Rehabilitation Program, HUD regulations do not require a period of affordability, however, the County self-imposes a ten to fifteen-year affordability period and a Deferred Forgivable Loan agreement as the mechanism for a recapture provision. The HOME

assistance is forgiven on a prorated basis over a ten to fifteen-year period as long as the homeowner continues to own and live in the assisted unit as their primary place of residence for the county's self-imposed ten to fifteen-year periods of affordability. An applicant may only be awarded one grant from this program within a five- year period.

All Richland County loans for homeowner housing rehabilitation will be made based on the applicant's household income verification and their ability to repay the loan and outlined below.

- **Deferred Forgivable Loans** – Assistance will be provided in the form of a deferred forgivable loan. No repayment is required. However, applicants must sign a written affidavit indicating that they will occupy the home as their primary residence for at least two (2) years after assistance is granted through the program.

Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO)/ New Construction

Richland County Community Development will provide HOME subsidy to the Columbia Housing Authority and to non-profit community housing development organizations (CHDOs) for the purpose of developing affordable housing both incorporated County Council District 50 and in unincorporated areas of the County. These units are in progress, no additional funds have been provided in FY 2022-2026. Priority is given to projects located in master planned areas.

All affordable housing units developed by non-profits and CHDO's are subject to sales restrictions, occupancy requirements and resale obligations. These provisions apply to homeownership and rental units where HOME subsidy is used regardless of the amount of the award and without regard to the type of award received. For all homeownership units, housing must have an initial purchase price not to exceed 95 percent of the median purchase price for the area; be the principal residence for the income-qualifying family at the time of purchase; and is subject to resale to an income eligible family, The initial occupancy requirement for rental units is total household income 50 percent and below of area median income and 60 percent and below for homeownership units.

The period of time where these provisions apply is referred to as the Period of Affordability. The Period of Affordability for resale requirements is determined by the amount of subsidy invested in a housing unit (HOME rule 24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(i)) For a specific period of time (see table below) a unit if sold must be sold to another family that qualifies as low-income who will use the property as their primary residence. The original homebuyer must receive a fair return on the initial investment; and the property must be sold at a price that is affordable.

Activity	Average Per-Unit Home	Minimum Affordability Period
Rehabilitation or Acquisition of Existing Housing	<\$15,000	5 years
	\$15,000 - \$40,000	10 years
	>\$40,000	>\$40,000 15 years
Refinance of Rehabilitation Project	Any dollar amount	15 years
New Construction or	Any dollar amount	20 years

Acquisition of New Housing		
----------------------------	--	--

Fair Return on Investment

Richland County's definition of fair return on investment is defined as what a homebuyer can expect back on their return if they sell their unit during the period of required affordability as referenced within their agreement. The fair return is calculated upon the objective standard for Richland County as the percentage of change in median sales prices for housing units within the median statistical area over or during the period of ownership. This calculation basis includes the original investment by the homebuyer with the addition of specific types of upgrades or additions that will add value to the property. These types of upgrades include tangible, structural improvements to the interior or exterior of the home that would remain with the home during and after a sale. These additional homebuyer-financed improvements are not financed by Richland County. A reasonable range of low-income buyers during the point of resale would be low-income buyers as defined 50%-79% current area median income. During depressed or declining market seasons (such as a time of "seller's market"), a loss of investment does constitute a fair return.

4. **Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:**

Richland County has no plans to refinance debt using HOME funds in FY 2023.

Discussion

CDBG Program Income:

Richland County does not anticipate that it will receive any Program Income during this program year.

CDBG Percentage:

- Administrative Percentage: 20.0%
- Public Service Percentage: 15.0%
- Low- and Moderate-Income Percentage: 100.0%
- Slum and Blight Activities: 0.0%

HOME Program Income:

- Richland County does not expect to receive any additional HOME program income during this program year.

HOME Match:

- Richland County has excess HOME Match funds from previous years in the amount of \$941,966.00 as reported in the FY 2021 CAPER. Richland County will have additional HOME Match from bond funds, Federal Home Loan Bank, and other private funds during this program year.

CHDO Organizations:

- Richland County has not certified any Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). Once a project has been identified the County will certify the organization based on the project.

HOME Percentage:

- Administrative Percentage: 10.0%
- CHDO Set-Aside: 15.0%

Richland County will solicit applications for HOME and HOME CHDO funds; applications are sent out to a list of agencies, organizations, and housing providers that have previously submitted an application or which have expressed an interest in submitting an application. The application is reviewed by the county staff and any questions are discussed with the applicant.

Richland County does not limit beneficiaries or provide preference to any segment of the low/mod income population.



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Appendix B. Citizen Participation Plan

I. Purpose

As a recipient of US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds, the Richland County Community Development Department is required to formally outline and document measures to promote the active participation of Richland County residents in the planning process. Citizen participation includes actively encouraging citizens, particularly the low and moderate income population, to participate in the planning process for the five-year Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan (Consolidated Plan), the Annual Action Plans, the submission of substantial amendments and the development of the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER), as well as individual neighborhood plans. These measures are summarized in the Community Development Citizen Participation Plan and conducted as required by *HUD 24 CFR Part 91, Subpart B*.

The Richland County Community Development Department coordinates the planning and administration of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships funds for the unincorporated areas of Richland County. As an entitlement jurisdiction, the County's Community Development Department administers and shapes programs and services that address the needs and benefit low to moderate income households. In order to meet local capacity, the Community Development Department frequently partners with non-profits, Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), Community-Based Development Organizations (CBDOs), Community Development Corporations (CDC), contractors, lenders, and charities. The Community Development Department seeks to connect employment, housing, education, and training resources into a coordinated network to support the redevelopment and revitalization of Richland County's low to moderate income neighborhoods.

II. Access to Information and Records

Richland County's Citizen Participation Plan is available for public review on the County's web site at www.richlandonline.com. The Plan is also available at the offices of the Richland County Community Development Department at 2020 Hampton Street, Suite 3063, Columbia, South Carolina 29204. Community Development Department hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the exception of designated holidays. Copies of the Plan can also be requested by mail or phone. Residents can call 803-576-2230 or mail a written request to the Community Development Department address. The Community Development Department also has available copies of the Consolidated Plan which may be purchased for \$10. The Community Development Department also makes available the Annual Action Plan and CAPER Report that may be obtained at no charge.

Information and records open to the public are located in the Community Development Department, 2020 Hampton Street, Suite 3063, Columbia, South Carolina 29204. Confidential materials, such as those materials that include a citizen's personal identity information, are not available for public review.

III. Public Hearing Notices

All notices of public hearings will be published in *The State* newspaper (*Metro* section or *Neighbors* section) at least seven (7) days prior to the public hearing. In addition, notices may be published in other local newspapers. Notices will also be posted electronically on the Richland County website at www.richlandonline.com.

Additional notices will be provided through neighborhood-based forums to include: community centers; contact with local civic leaders; and posting of notices in commercial establishments, neighborhood businesses, churches and post offices.

All public meetings will be held at times and in locations convenient to residents, particularly those who are potential or actual beneficiaries. Meetings will not be held before 5:30 p.m. on weekdays. Meetings will not be scheduled on Sundays. Persons requiring special accommodations must notify the Community Development Department at least two (2) business days prior the public hearing in order to give the County staff adequate time to provide the needed accommodations.

IV. Needs Assessment Public Hearing

Prior to the development of the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan, the community development and housing needs will be assessed in detail, particularly those of low and moderate income residents. The assessment process will be conducted through a Community Development Needs Assessment Public Hearing. The Richland County Community Development Department may hold up to eleven (11) public hearings (one in each district) and no less than two (2) needs assessment public hearings as part of the planning process for the five-year Consolidated Plan. At least one needs assessment public hearing will be held annually to address the changing needs for the Annual Action Plan. Ongoing citizen participation is encouraged to determine community needs and priorities. Comments and suggestions will be considered at Needs Assessment Public Hearings.

The Needs Assessment Public Hearing will address the amount of available funding for CDBG, HOME and any other related federal or state funding. The hearing will also address the range of activities that may be undertaken with such funds, particularly in relation to identified community needs.

V. Public Comment Period

A public comment period is required prior to submitting the five-year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, the CAPER and any substantial change to the Consolidated Plan or

the Annual Action Plan. A public hearing will be held to review and to solicit public comments on the contents. The public will have 30 days after the public hearing to provide written comments to the Community Development Department regarding the 5-year Consolidated Plan. The public will have 15 days after the public hearing to provide written comments to the Department regarding the Annual Action Plan, the CAPER, and any substantial change to the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan. The public hearing will be held consistent with guidelines contained in this document. The County will respond to all written correspondence received.

VI. Amendments/Changes

Prior to making any substantial change to the Consolidated Plan (including the Annual Action Plan), Richland County will hold at least one public hearing to inform citizens, particularly those who might be affected by the proposed change, and to solicit public comment. Examples of a substantial change would be a 50% decrease in the number of proposed beneficiaries, any increase or decrease of more than 50% in the budget, and/or any addition or deletion of proposed activities.

VII. Program Performance

Richland County will conduct one public hearing annually to review program performance and accomplishments for the CAPER. This public hearing will address and outline the various activities that have been accomplished or are underway.

VIII. Technical Assistance

Richland County will provide technical assistance to individuals and representatives of groups of low and moderate income persons who request such assistance. Technical assistance may include information on housing, demographics, and explanation of the Community Development programs and services. Community Development staff members work closely with neighborhood associations to foster community pride and empowerment. The County routinely issues Request for Proposals (RFP) for services that support its community development goals and programs.

IX. Grievances

Complaints and grievances are handled in a timely and professional manner. All complaints are reviewed by the Community Development Director and the County Administrator. Written grievances should be addressed to the Richland County Community Development Department, 2020 Hampton Street, Suite 3063, Columbia, South Carolina 29204. Written responses to complaints regarding the Community Development program and other general grievances will be made within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the complaint. A response to the complaint will be prepared by the County Administrator. Persons who wish to appeal the County Administrator's response may do so in writing to the US Department of Housing and Urban

Development, Community Planning and Development Division, 1845 Assembly Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29204.

X. Non-English Speaking Population

The Richland County Community Development Department will accommodate the needs of non-English speaking residents. Census figures for Richland County indicate that less than 10% of the County population is non-English speaking and there are no significant concentrations of non-English speaking residents within the County as determined by the most currently available Census data. If 10% or more of the potential or actual beneficiaries of a Community Development project are determined to be non-English speaking, provisions will be made at the appropriate public hearings for translation of comments and documents into the native language of the majority of the non-English speaking residents affected.

XI. Anti-Displacement

It is the policy of Richland County to make all reasonable efforts to ensure that activities undertaken with CDBG and HOME program funds will not cause unnecessary displacement of residents. The County will continue to administer the CDBG and HOME Programs in such a manner that careful consideration is given during the planning phase to avoid displacement. Displacement of any nature shall be reserved as a last resort action necessitated only when no other alternative is available and when the activity is determined necessary in order to carry out a specific goal or objective that is of public benefit.

If the displacement is precipitated by activities that require the acquisition (either in whole or in part) or rehabilitation of real property directly by Richland County or its agent, all appropriate benefits will be assigned as required by the *Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies' Act of 1970* and amendments. The *Uniform Act* or the *Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan* under *Section 104(d)* shall be provided to the displaced person or persons. Information about these programs will be provided to all residents who may potentially be displaced in the form of informational brochures on these programs and explained in detail by the County's Community Development staff.



FIRST PUBLIC HEARING



Beaufort Gazette
Belleville News-Democrat
Bellingham Herald
Bradenton Herald
Centre Daily Times
Charlotte Observer
Columbus Ledger-Enquirer
Fresno Bee

The Herald - Rock Hill
Herald Sun - Durham
Idaho Statesman
Island Packet
Kansas City Star
Lexington Herald-Leader
Merced Sun-Star
Miami Herald

el Nuevo Herald - Miami
Modesto Bee
Raleigh News & Observer
The Olympian
Sacramento Bee
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
The State - Columbia
Sun Herald - Biloxi

Sun News - Myrtle Beach
The News Tribune Tacoma
The Telegraph - Macon
San Luis Obispo Tribune
Tri-City Herald
Wichita Eagle

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Account #	Order Number	Identification	Order PO	Amount	Cols	Depth
12633	428565	Print Legal Ad-IPL01254470 - IPL0125447		\$683.91	2	66 L

Attention: Mrs. Jennifer Thompson

RICHLAND COUNTY LEGAL ADS

PO BOX 7185

COLUMBIA, SC 29202

howard@buonaseramedia.com

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA FY 2023 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP, AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS PROGRAMS

Notice is hereby given that Richland County, South Carolina will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, June 14, at 6:00 p.m.**, prevailing time, in the **Council Chambers at the Richland County Administration Building located at 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, South Carolina, 29204**. The location is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate any resident in order for them to participate in the public hearing, including translation services, please contact Ms. Callison Richardson, Manager, Grants & Community Development, Richland County Government, Grants Department, Community Development Division, (803) 576 - 2055 or email at richardson.callison@richlandcountysc.gov, to make those arrangements, or for persons who may have a hearing impediment, please contact 7-1-1 for the TTY/TTD relay.

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather information for the County's Annual Action Plan for FY 2023, which the County will be submitting to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Funds, HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Funds. The hearing will be used to obtain the views and comments of individuals and organizations concerning the County's housing, community development, and economic development needs. The information gathered will be used in the preparation of the Annual Action Plan for FY 2023.

The County will receive an entitlement amount of \$1,723,394 in CDBG funds, \$941,966 in HOME funds, and \$148,882 in ESG funds. In order to receive these funds, the County must prepare a one-year Annual Action Plan, for the use of Federal funds. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons living in Richland County.

The County will be preparing its CDBG, HOME, and ESG applications and it intends to afford residents, local agencies, and interested parties the opportunity to become involved in the planning process. If anyone is interested in being added to the CDBG, HOME, and ESG application mailing list, contact Ms. Callison Richardson, Manager, Grants & Community Development, Richland County Government, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, (803) 576 - 2055 or email at richardson.callison@richlandcountysc.gov.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program: acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities (including the removal of architectural barriers); demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the HOME Program: new construction of affordable housing; rehabilitation of affordable housing; reconstruction of affordable housing; conversion to affordable housing; site improvements related to the development of affordable housing; refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable; acquisition costs, soft costs necessary for the financing, development, rehabilitation or acquisition of housing using HOME funds, CHDO costs, relocation costs for displaced households, administrative and planning costs.

ESG funds may be used for five program components: street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, data collection, and administrative activities.

If the County would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the County would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the County is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of the expenditure of CDBG funds.

All interested residents are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the needs of Richland County and the use of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds to address those needs. Written or oral comments may be directed to Ms. Callison Richardson, Manager, Grants & Community Development, Richland County Government, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, 2020 Hampton St. Suite 3058, Columbia, SC 29202, (803) 576 - 2055 or email at richardson.callison@richlandcountysc.gov.

Ms. Sarah Harris
Director, Grants
Grants Department
Richland County Government
IPL0125447
Jun 5 2023

State of South Carolina

County of Richland

I, Tara Pennington, makes oath that the advertisement, was published in The State, a newspaper published in the City of Columbia, State and County aforesaid, in the issue(s) of

1 insertion(s) published on:

06/05/23

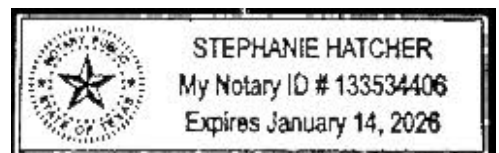
Tara Pennington

Tara Pennington

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of June in the year of 2023

Stephanie Hatcher

Notary Public in and for the state of Texas, residing in Dallas County



Errors- the liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion."

Extra charge for lost or duplicate affidavits.
Legal document please do not destroy!



Richland County Community Development Division
PUBLIC HEARING | FY 2023 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

RICHLAND COUNTY STAFF PRESENT:

- Community Development Manager Callison Richardson
- Grants Director Sarah Harris
- Assistant County Administrator Aric Jensen

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Manager Callison Richardson called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.
2. **PRESENTATION** – A sign-in sheet was put out. A presentation reviewing the priorities from the 22-26 Consolidated Plan, the FY 23 Awards for CDBG, HOME, and ESG, and eligible activities for each program was displayed on the screens. The Community Development staff was prepared to review the information and open it for public discussion.
3. **ADJOURNMENT** – As no one from the public attended the public hearing, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 PM.

Signatures:

Sarah Harris
Callison Richardson 6/14/2023



**Richland County, South Carolina -
FY 2023 Annual Action Plan | Public Hearing #1**

Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers - 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29204

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address

X : Callison R. Richardson 6/14/23



ELIGIBLE CDBG ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS	
Eligible Public Facility and Improvement Projects	CDBG Conditions
Sewer and Water Facilities Streets and Sidewalks Curb and Gutters Parks and Playgrounds Senior Citizens' Center Parking Lots or Garages Utility Lines Recreation Center	<p>These projects may be undertaken on an interim basis in areas exhibiting objectively determinable signs of physical deterioration where it was determined that immediate action is necessary to arrest the deterioration and that permanent improvements will be carried out as practicable to repair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Streets; ➤ Sidewalks; ➤ Park; ➤ Playgrounds, ➤ Publicly owned utilities; and ➤ The execution of special garbage, trash, and debris removal, including neighborhood cleanup campaigns, but not the regular curbside collection of garbage or trash in an area.
Police or Fire Station in which services to the public are actually provided (as opposed to administrative offices).	Fire protection equipment including fire trucks, fire fighters' protective clothing, "jaws of life," and other life-saving equipment are eligible for CDBG funding under Public Facilities and Improvements as this equipment is integral to the fire protection facility.
Aesthetic amenities on public land such as landscaping (trees, sculptures, pools of water and fountains and other works of art).	These include all improvements and facilities that are either publicly owned or that are traditionally provided by government, or owned by a non-profit, and operated so as to be open to the general public.
Jails or Prisons	Jails are considered to benefit the entire community served by the facility and thus would qualify under the low-moderate income (LMI) benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.
Library	Public facilities that serve the entire jurisdiction of the grantee, a main library for example, may qualify under the LMI benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.
Special Assessments	Special Assessments are used to recover the capital costs of a public improvement through a fee levied or a lien filed against a parcel of real estate either as, 1) a direct result of a benefit derived from the installation of a public improvement or 2) a one-time charge made as a condition of access to an improvement. Sewer tap-in fees are an example of a special assessment.
Privately Owned Utilities- 570.201 (I)	<p>CDBG funds may be used to acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, or install the distribution lines and facilities for privately owned utilities.</p> <p>A privately-owned utility refers to service that is publicly regulated and is provided through the use of physical distribution lines to private properties.</p> <p>Examples of eligible utilities are electricity, telephone, water, sewer, natural gas and cable television.</p>
Other	The City is willing to consider other public facility projects not listed above. It is highly recommended that applicants contact the City to discuss new projects ideas prior to submitting a grant application.

REAL PROPERTY AND HOUSING PROJECTS	
Eligible Real Property and Housing Projects	CDBG Conditions
Acquisitions of land or buildings -570.201 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for acquisition of real property, either in whole or in part, by purchase, long-term lease, donation, or otherwise for any public purpose. • Examples include land, air rights, easement, water rights, rights-of-way and buildings. • Examples of ineligible activities include costs of moveable equipment and acquisition of newly-constructed housing or an interest in construction of new housing.
Disposition – 570.201 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used to dispose of property acquired with CDBG funds through sale, lease, donation or other means. • Property must have a reuse plan that meets a National Objective. • The property may be disposed at less than fair market value. • Costs may include preparation of legal documents, surveys, marketing, financial services, transfer of taxes or ownership.
Clearance Activities- 570.201 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demolish buildings and improvements. • Remove rubble and debris after demolition. • Remove environmental contaminants or treat them to make them harmless. • Move structures to other sites.
Code Enforcement – 570.202 (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code enforcement activities are eligible provided that the enforcement takes place in a deteriorated or deteriorating area and the enforcement effort is accompanied by public or private improvements or service and can be expected to arrest the decline of the area. • Eligible costs include costs incurred for inspections for code violations (including salaries and overhead) and the enforcement of code requirements (including legal proceedings). • Both residential and commercial structures may be included in code enforcement activities.
Historic preservation - 570.202 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for the rehabilitation, preservation or restoration of historic properties, whether publicly or privately owned. • Historic properties are those sites or structures that are either listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, listed in the Pennsylvania or local inventory of historic places or designated as a Pennsylvania or local landmark or historic district by appropriate law or ordinance. • Examples of eligible activities include historic preservation plans, rehabilitation of the property, relocating residents while preservation work is performed. • Historic preservation is not authorized for buildings used for the general conduct of government.
Renovation of closed buildings – 570.202 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used to renovate closed buildings, such as closed school buildings, for use as an eligible public facility or to rehabilitate or convert closed buildings for residential and commercial uses. • Examples of ineligible activities include creation of secondary housing units attached to a primary unit and costs of equipment, furnishings or other personal property that are not integral structural fixtures, such as window air conditioners or clothes washers.
Lead – based paint (LBP) hazard, evaluation and reduction, and clearance – 570.202 (f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost associated with the evaluation and reduction of LBP. • Examples of eligible activities include inspecting buildings for LBP hazards, testing surfaces abatement of lead hazards and payment of temporary relocation costs for residents on which their home is receiving abatement services.
Handicap Accessibility - 570.201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of materials and architectural barriers that restrict the accessibility or mobility of elderly or handicapped persons. • Activities must take place on existing structures.

Energy Efficiency – 570.201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examples of eligible activities include weatherization of home or apartment building, installation of solar or wind equipment, finance energy – efficient rehab, provision of free insulation or home energy audits, and preparation of comprehensive community energy use strategies.
Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements eligible for rehabilitation assistance – 570.202 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDBG may be used to finance the rehabilitation of privately –owned homes, publicly – owned residential housing, nonresidential buildings owned by nonprofits, and manufactured housing when it is part of the permanent housing supply.

PUBLIC SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND “OTHER” ACTIVITIES	
Activities	CDBG Conditions
Relocation – 570.201 (i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocation of payments and other assistance for permanently and temporarily relocated individuals, families, businesses, non-profit organizations and farm operations.
Loss of Rental Income- 570.201 (j)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compensation to property owners for the loss in rental income incurred while temporarily holding housing units to be used for the relocation of individuals and families displaced by CDBG-assisted activities.
Public Services – 570.201 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDBG funds may be used for a wide range of public service activities including, but not limited to, job training, crime prevention, public safety, child care, health services, substance abuse services, fair housing counseling, education programs, energy conservation, senior citizen services, homeless person services, subsistence payment service and recreational services In order for a first-time public service application to be considered the applicant must prove that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the service is a new initiative for the agency (new service); OR the service existed but was not provided by or on behalf of a government agency with funding from that government agency; OR there was a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service within the 2013 calendar year.
Micro – Enterprise Assistance – 570.201 (o)	<p>The provisions of assistance to facilitate economic development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing credit, including, but not limited to, grants, loans, loan guarantees, and other forms of financial support, for the establishment, stabilization, and expansion of micro-enterprises; Providing technical assistance, advice, and business support services to owners of micro-enterprises and persons developing micro-enterprises; and Providing general support to owners of microenterprises and persons developing microenterprises including child care, transportation, counseling and peer support groups. A microenterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise that has five or fewer employees, one or more of whom owns the microenterprise business.

The table below provides eligible Planning & Administration expenses.

Eligible Planning & Administration Projects 570.205 & 570.206
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of general plans such as the Consolidated Plan Functional plans such as housing plans Neighborhood plans and general historic preservation plans Policy planning, management, and capacity building activities Monitoring



INELIGIBLE CDBG FUNDED ACTIVITIES

Ineligible Activities	
(a)	General Rule – Any activity that is not authorized as an “eligible activity.”
(b)	Government Buildings – Funds cannot be used for improvements to a public building used for the general conduct of government.
(c)	General Government Expenses – Funds cannot be used for expenses that are considered the regular responsibilities of the local government.
(d)	Political Activities – Funds cannot be used to finance the use of facilities or equipment for political purposes or to engage in other partisan political activities.
(e)	Purchase of Equipment – The purchase of equipment is generally ineligible, which includes construction equipment, motor vehicles, furnishings, or personal property. The only exception is fire equipment assigned to a low- and moderate-income area.
(f)	Operating and Maintenance Expenses – The general rule is that any expense associated with repairing, operating, or maintaining public facilities, improvements, and services is ineligible.
(g)	New Housing Construction – Funds cannot be used for the construction of new permanent residential structures or for any program to subsidize or consist such new construction except by a CBDO. However, the cost of site assemblage, clearance, and site improvements are eligible activities.
(h)	Income Payments – Funds cannot be used for subsistence – type grant payments for food, clothing, housing, or utilities.



ELIGIBLE HOME ACTIVITIES

Eligible HOME Activities and Costs

- **Hard Costs**
 - New construction of affordable housing
 - Rehabilitation of affordable housing
 - Reconstruction of affordable housing
 - Conversion to affordable housing
 - Site Improvements related to the development of affordable housing
- **Refinancing of existing debt secured by a housing project that is being rehabilitated w/ HOME Funds**
 - Refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable
- **Acquisition Costs**
 - Improved or unimproved
 - Purchase of property by home buyers
- **Soft Costs necessary for the financing, development, rehabilitation or acquisition of housing using HOME Funds**
 - Architectural, engineering, and related professional services
 - Costs to process and settle the financing for a project such as lender origination fees, appraisal fees, etc.
 - Project audit costs and certification of costs by a CPA
 - Costs to provide information services such as affirmative marketing and fair housing information
 - Costs of funding an initial operation deficit reserve during the period of initial project rent-up but not to exceed 18 months
 - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out the project such as work specifications, loan processing inspections, housing consultation, etc.
 - Cost for the payment of impact fees that the local jurisdiction charges for all housing projects
 - Cost of environmental review and release of funds

- **CHDO Costs**

- Cost of project-specific technical assistance and site control loans
- Project feasibility costs, consulting fees, legal fees, architectural and engineering fees, property options, site control, and title clearance
- Project specific seed money loans for preconstruction costs that are customary and reasonable such as costs of obtaining firm financing, construction loan commitments, architectural plans and specifications, zoning approvals, legal fees, etc.

- **Relocation costs for displaced households**

- Relocation payments and other relocation assistance for persons displaced by the housing project
- Replacement housing payments, moving expenses and payment for reasonable out-of-pocket costs incurred in the temporary relocation of persons
- Other relocation assistance such as staff and overhead costs directly related to providing advisory and other relocation services to displaced persons

- **Administrative and planning costs**

- General management, oversight and coordination
- Staff and overhead costs
- Public information costs in the planning and implementation of projects

- **Other Costs**

- Fair housing activities to affirmatively further fair housing
- Downpayment and closing cost assistance
- Indirect costs as part of a cost allocation plan
- Preparation of the consolidated plan
- Compliance and reporting in reference to Federal requirements
- Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA)
- Rental assistance and security deposit payments
- Utility deposit assistance only if rental or security deposit payments are made
- Cost of inspecting the housing and determining income eligibility of the household
- Troubled HOME-assisted rental housing projects
 - Applies to only an existing HOME assisted rental project
 - Project is no longer financially viable during the HOME 20 year affordability period for rental projects
 - Operating costs significantly exceed the operating revenue

- HUD must approve this cost to preserve an affordable rental project
- Additional HOME Funds and original HOME Funds may not exceed the maximum amount of per-unit subsidy [Section 221 (d)(3)(ii)]

Ineligible HOME Activities

- **HOME funds may not be used to:**

- Provide project reserve accounts, except for new construction or rehabilitation of an initial operating deficit reserve during the period of project read-up (not to exceed 18 months)
- Provide tenant-based rental assistance for the special purpose of the existing Section 8 Program
- Provide non-Federal matching contribution required under another Federal Programs
- Provide assistance for uses authorized by Public Housing Capital and Operating Funds
- Prepayment of Low Income Housing Mortgages
- Provide assistance to a homebuyer to acquire housing previously assisted with HOME funds during the period of affordability
- Provide funds for the acquisition of property owned by the participating jurisdiction (P.J.) except for property acquired by the P.J. with HOME funds, or property acquired in anticipation of carrying out a HOME project
- Pay for delinquent taxes, fees or charges on properties to be assisted with HOME funds
- Pay for any cost that is not listed as eligible under the HOME Regulations



ELIGIBLE ESG ACTIVITIES

Street Outreach

- Essential Services related to reaching out to unsheltered homeless individuals and families, connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services, and providing them with urgent, non-facility-based care. Eligible costs include engagement, case management, emergency health and mental health services, transportation, and services for special populations.

Emergency Shelter

- Renovation, including major rehabilitation or conversion, of a building to serve as an emergency shelter. The emergency shelter must be owned by a government entity or private nonprofit organization. The shelter must serve homeless persons for at least 3 or 10 years, depending on the type of renovation and the value of the building. Note: Property acquisition and new construction are ineligible ESG activities.
- Essential Services, including case management, childcare, education services, employment assistance and job training, outpatient health services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, and services for special populations.
- Shelter Operations, including maintenance, rent, repair, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings, and supplies necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter. Where no appropriate emergency shelter is available for a homeless family or individual, eligible costs may also include a hotel or motel voucher for that family or individual.

Homelessness Prevention

- Housing relocation and stabilization services and short-and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to prevent the individual or family from moving to an emergency shelter, a place not meant for human habitation, or another place described in paragraph 1 of the homeless definition.
- The costs of homelessness prevention are only eligible to the extent that the assistance is necessary to help the program participant regain stability in their current housing or move into other permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

Eligible costs include:

- Rental Assistance: rental assistance and rental arrears
- Financial assistance: rental application fees, security and utility deposits, utility payments, last month's rent, moving costs
- Services: housing search and placement, housing stability case management, landlord-tenant mediation, tenant legal services, credit repair

Rapid Re-Housing

- Housing relocation and stabilization services and/or short-and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help individuals or families living in shelters or in places not meant for human habitation move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

Eligible costs include:

- Rental Assistance: rental assistance and rental arrears
- Financial Assistance: rental application fees, security and utility deposits, utility payments, last month's rent, moving costs
- Services: housing search and placement, housing stability case management, landlord-tenant mediation, tenant legal services, credit repair

Data Collection (HMIS)

- ESG funds may be used to pay for the costs of participating in and contributing to the HMIS designated by the Continuum of Care for the area. More information about using an HMIS is available on the HMIS Page.

Administration

- Up to 7.5 percent of a recipient's allocation can be used for Administrative activities. These include general management, oversight, and coordination; reporting on the program; the costs of providing training on ESG requirements and attending HUD-sponsored ESG trainings; the costs of preparing and amending the ESG and homelessness-related sections of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and CAPER; and the costs of carrying out environmental review responsibilities.
- State recipients must share administrative funds with their subrecipients that are local governments, and may share administrative funds with their subrecipients that are nonprofit organizations.



MEETING A NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

National Objective Subcategory	Conditions for Eligibility	Example
Low-Moderate Income (LMI) Area Benefit	<p>A facility or improvement will be used for a purpose that benefits all residents in a defined area primarily residential in which at least 51% are LMI households.</p> <p>Paying all or part of a special assessment on behalf of LMI Households qualifies under this objective.</p>	<p>The Installation of paved streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters in a predominantly LMI household neighborhood.</p> <p>CDBG funds pay the assessment made to Low-Mod Income household homeowners when a new water/sewer system is installed in their neighborhood.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Limited Clientele	<p>The majority of public service activities qualify under this national objective.</p> <p>Services provided to a specific group of people who are comprised of at least 51% LMI households.</p>	<p>Home ownership counseling provided to a group of LMI individuals.</p> <p>Renovation or expansion of a food pantry.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Housing	<p>The facility or improvement exclusively benefits housing to be occupied by LMI households.</p>	<p>A parking lot and landscaping are improved on the site of a rental property with 51% LMI households paying affordable rents.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Jobs	<p>Public improvement is for an economic development project that creates or retains permanent jobs.</p> <p>In order for a CDBG funded economic development activity to qualify as an activity that benefits low and moderate income persons, at least 51% of the jobs created or retained (full time equivalent basis) will be held by or made available to low and moderate income persons.</p>	<p>A new water tower will enable factory expansion and owners to commit to hiring at least 51% of new permanent jobs to LMI persons.</p>
Area Blight	<p>Public improvements and facilities are in a designated blighted area and activity addresses conditions that contributed to blight.</p>	<p>An outdated fire hall is rehabilitated and equipment is updated to prevent further loss of life and property due to fires.</p>
Spot Blight	<p>Public improvements or facility is outside designated blighted area and activity is limited to eliminate specific conditions of blight or decay.</p>	<p>Historic library building located outside a designated area is rehabilitated.</p>
Urgent Need	<p>Acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of a public facility or improvement that is designated to alleviate recent serious and imminent threat to public health and safety and no other funds are available.</p>	<p>A storm sewer system is reconstructed after a severe flood damaged it. All other funding sources are unavailable or exhausted.</p>



SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND DISPLAY
RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
FY 2023 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP, AND
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS PROGRAMS**

Notice is hereby given that Richland County, South Carolina will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**, prevailing time, in Council Chambers located 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The location is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate any resident in order for them to participate in the public hearing, including translation services, please contact Ms. Callison Richardson, Manager, Grants & Community Development, Richland County Government, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, (803) 576 - 2055 or email at richardson.callison@richlandcountysc.gov, to make those arrangements, and any person who may have a hearing impediment, please contact 7-1-1 for the TTY/TTD relay.

The purpose of the public hearing is to present Richland County's FY 2023 Annual Action Plan. The County intends to submit its FY 2023 Annual Action Plan in the amount of \$1,723,394 in CDBG funds, \$941,966 in HOME funds, and \$148,882 in ESG funds. The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or before Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

In order to obtain the views of residents, public agencies and other interested parties, Richland County will place its FY 2023 Annual Action Plan on public display on Friday, June 16, 2023, through Monday, July 17, 2023, at the following locations:

**Richland County Government
Community Planning & Development Department
Community Development Division
2020 Hampton Street – Suite 3058**

Richland County's Website:
<https://www.richlandcountysc.gov>

These documents will be available for public display during normal business hours of operation for a period of thirty (30) days until 4:00 PM on July 17, 2023. The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan will be submitted to the Richland County Council for approval at a regular scheduled County Council Meeting on July 18, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan were prepared after conducting an initial public hearing on the housing and community development needs and meetings with the County staff and officials.

The following CDBG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan:

FY 2023 CDBG Program –

• CDBG General Administration (20% cap)	=	\$ 344,678.00
• Public Service Activities (15%cap)	=	\$ 258,509.00
• Infrastructure Projects	=	\$ 801,079.00
• Economic Development	=	\$ 100,000.00

• <u>Housing Rehabilitation</u>	=	\$ 219,128.00
Total CDBG	=	\$ 1,723,394.00

Total FY 2023 CDBG FUNDS FOR PROJECT ACTIVITIES = \$1,723,394.00

The following activities are proposed for funding under the HOME Program for FY 2023:

FY 2023 HOME Program –

• HOME General Administration (10% cap)	=	\$ 94,196.00
• CHDO Set-Aside (15% min.)	=	\$ 141,295.00
• Development of Affordable Housing	=	\$ 556,475.00
• <u>Down Payment Assistance</u>	=	\$ 150,000.00
Total HOME		\$ 941,966.00

TOTAL FY 2023 HOME FUNDS FOR PROJECT ACTIVITIES = \$941,966.00

The following activities are proposed for funding under the ESG Program for FY 2023:

FY 2023 ESG Program –

• ESG General Administration	=	\$ 11,166.00
• Rapid Re-Housing/Homeless Prevention/HMIS	=	\$ 48,387.00
• <u>Street Outreach/Emergency Shelter</u>	=	\$ 89,329.00
Total ESG		\$ 148,882.00

TOTAL FY 2023 ESG FUNDS FOR PROJECT ACTIVITIES = \$148,882.00

If the County would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the County would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the County is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG funds.

All interested residents and other parties are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the proposed use of Federal funds under the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan. Written or oral comments may be directed to Ms. Callison Richardson, Manager, Grants & Community Development, Richland County Government, Community Planning & Development Department, Community Development Division, 2020 Hampton St. Suite 3058, Columbia, SC 29202, (803) 576 - 2055 or via 711 for the hearing impaired or email at richardson.callison@richlandcountysc.gov.

Ms. Sarah Harris
Director, Grants & Community Outreach
Grants Department
Richland County Government

Publish on: Friday, June 16, 2023

Proof of Publication Requested