



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Region X – Anchorage Field Office
Office of the Field Office Director
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November 12, 2020

The Honorable Austin Quinn-Davidson
Acting Mayor
Municipality of Anchorage
Post Office Box 196650
Anchorage, AK 99519-6650

Dear Acting Mayor Quinn-Davidson:

Subject: 2019 Program Year Review Letter

HUD and the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) continue to work in partnership to meet housing and community development needs of the people of Anchorage. A major responsibility for HUD in this partnership is to ensure that the MOA carries out its programmatic responsibilities in conformance with contractual agreements, its consolidated plan submission, and in compliance with the applicable statutes and federal regulations. We are also obligated to determine that the MOA has a continuing capacity to implement and operate programs for which HUD assistance is received, primarily, the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG).

The Program Year Review Letter serves as the mechanism for HUD to communicate to the MOA and citizens the results of HUD's determinations for the program year. The following is HUD's analysis for the period, January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, designated as program year 2019, (PY19). PY19 represents the second year of implementation of the 2018-2022 Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan for the Municipality of Anchorage (Con Plan).

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

For PY19 the MOA was awarded \$1,720,154 in CDBG funds. The MOA reported that no program income funds were received during the program year. A total of \$1,158,308, which includes prior years CDBG funds and program income, were expended during the year.

The expenditure of CDBG funds supported a variety of activities including public facilities, mobile home repairs, public services and program administration. Performance measure reporting in PY19 indicates that CDBG funds were used for the purpose of providing decent housing, by funding owner occupied mobile home repairs which addressed the needs of 19 LMI households.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

The MOA's PY19 HOME award amount was reduced by \$285,843, as a voluntary reduction to offset a prior year ineligible expenditure of program funds. The amount of HOME funds awarded in PY19 was \$377,364. The MOA reported the receipt of \$115,000 in program income. A total of \$1,107,239, which includes prior year funds and program income, were expended during the year. HOME funding was used for tenant-based rental assistance, homebuyer development, rental development and program administration. Performance measure reporting for PY19 indicates that the use of HOME funds improved housing affordability and availability by providing rental housing development benefiting 3 households, and tenant-based rental assistance for 36 households.

Emergency Solutions Grant Program

The MOA was awarded \$146,461 of ESG funds for PY19. A total of \$178,054, which includes prior year funds, were expended during the year. 169 persons received homeless prevention assistance, and 15 households received tenant based rental assistance/rapid re-housing assistance. ESG matching funds were used to assist 232 households with utility payment assistance.

Other HUD Programs

The MOA has received HUD Housing Trust Fund (HTF) monies as a subgrantee of Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. The MOA has awarded the FY2016 and FY2017 HTF project funds totaling \$980,077 to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, for a 46-unit rental housing renovation project. The MOA awarded FY 2018 HTF project funds totaling \$441,222 to Cook Inlet Housing Authority, for new construction of a 20-unit rental housing project. A total of \$157,923 of HTF program administration funds have also been awarded to the MOA by AHFC.

In PY19 the MOA continued to partner with the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH). The purpose of the ACEH is to bring the community together to address homeless issues. The ACEH is the collaborative applicant for the Continuum of Care (CoC) applications from Anchorage non-profit organizations in HUD's homeless grant program competition. Anchorage CoC applicants received awards totaling \$3,982,876 in the federal fiscal year 2019 competition. In addition, the United Way of Anchorage continues to operate a \$1.3 million Pay for Success Permanent Supportive Housing grant that will provide funding in Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to address homelessness and reduces recidivism among those released from the criminal justice system.

HUD Conclusion

For PY19, the MOA directly received a total of \$2,243,979 in federal funds from HUD for housing and community development activities. This investment in the MOA has resulted in the creation and preservation of affordable housing, benefited existing homeowners, renters, homeless persons, and persons with special needs. In addition, the MOA continues working towards removal of impediments to fair housing. Based on HUD's review of the MOA's performance administering the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs during PY19, the following determinations have been made:

The MOA has carried out its program substantially as described in its ConPlan:

The Consolidated Plan submission as implemented complies with the requirements of the *Housing and Community Development Act of 1974*, the *Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act*, and other applicable laws and regulations;

The MOA has the continuing capacity to carry out the approved program in a timely manner.

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.525, this letter will be made available to the public by means of the HUD website at <https://www.hud.gov/states/alaska/working/cpd>. Availability of the letter will be announced in the "highlights" section of the home page, and an electronic copy can be accessed by clicking on the "Municipality of Anchorage" review letter link on the webpage.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please don't hesitate to contact Carma Reed, Director of Community Planning and Development, at (907) 677-9890.

Sincerely,

/s/

Colleen K. Bickford
Field Office Director

cc:

Heather Harris, MPH
Director
Anchorage Health Department

Nicole Lebo
General Services Manager
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