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# CITY OF NEW BERN

303 First Street, New Bern, NC 28560

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## FY 2023 Annual Action Plan

*For Submission to HUD for the  
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program*

*May 15, 2023*

**Mayor:**

Jeffrey T. Odham

**City Manager:**

Foster Hughes



# NEW BERN



CITY OF NEW BERN



# Table of Contents

**PART I. ES: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b) ..... 2

**PART II. PR: THE PROCESS**

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)..... 21

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)..... 22

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c) ..... 32

**PART III. ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2) ..... 35

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives..... 38

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d) ..... 41

AP-38 Project Summary ..... 43

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)..... 47

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g) ..... 50

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)..... 51

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)..... 53

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j) ..... 57

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k) ..... 59

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements ..... 65



## Executive Summary

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

#### 1. Introduction

The City of New Bern, North Carolina is a Federal entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. In compliance with the HUD regulations, the City of New Bern has prepared this FY 2023 Annual Action Plan for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. This Annual Action Plan is a strategic plan for the implementation of the City's Federal Programs for housing, community, and economic development within the City of New Bern. This is the fifth Annual Action Plan under the City's FY 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan is a collaborative effort of the City of New Bern, the community at large, social service agencies, housing providers, community development agencies, and economic development groups. The planning process was accomplished through public meetings, statistical data, review of the City's Comprehensive Plan, and other community plans.

#### Available Funds:

During the FY 2023 Program Year, the City of New Bern will receive the following Federal funds:

- **CDBG: \$294,122.00**
- **Total: \$294,122.00**

#### FY 2023 CDBG Programs Budget:

The City of New Bern proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2023 CDBG Funds:

- **CD-23-01 General Administration - \$58,824.00**
- **CD-23-02 Demolition/Clearance - \$70,500.00**
- **CD-23-03 Catholic Charities - \$24,000.00**
- **CD-23-04 My Sister's House - \$20,000.00**
- **CD-23-05 Omega Center Facility Improvements - \$35,000.00**

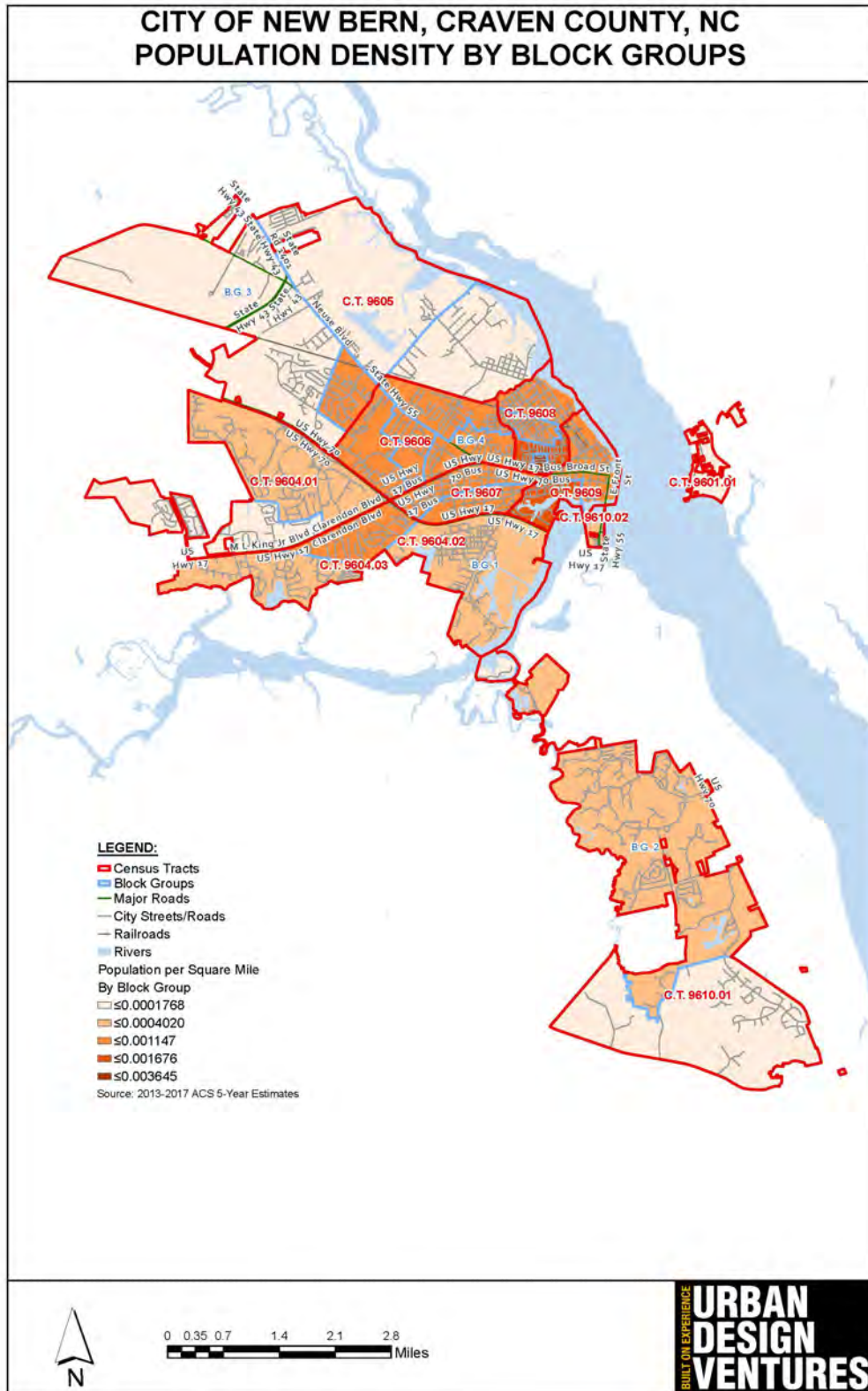
- **CD-23-06 The Village – Acquisition & Development of Playground** - \$50,000.00
- **CD-23-07 Sunnyside Area ½ Basketball Court Installation** - \$35,798.00

### **Maps**

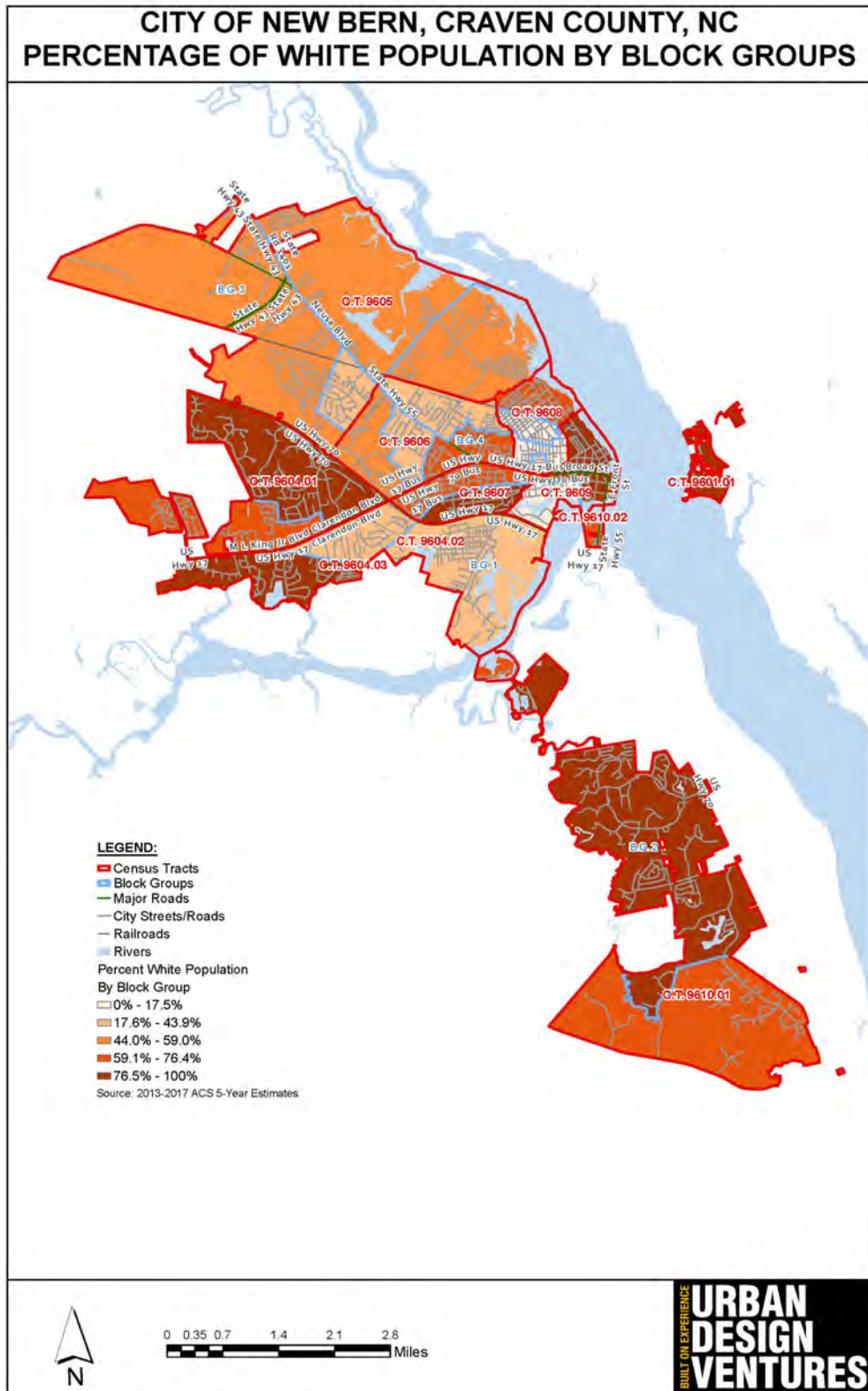
The following maps which illustrate the demographic characteristics of the City of New Bern:

- Percent White Population by Block Group
- Percent Minority Population by Block Group
- Number of People Aged 65+ by Block Group
- Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group
- Population Density by Block Group
- Housing Density 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
- Low/Moderate Income and High Minority Concentration by Block Group

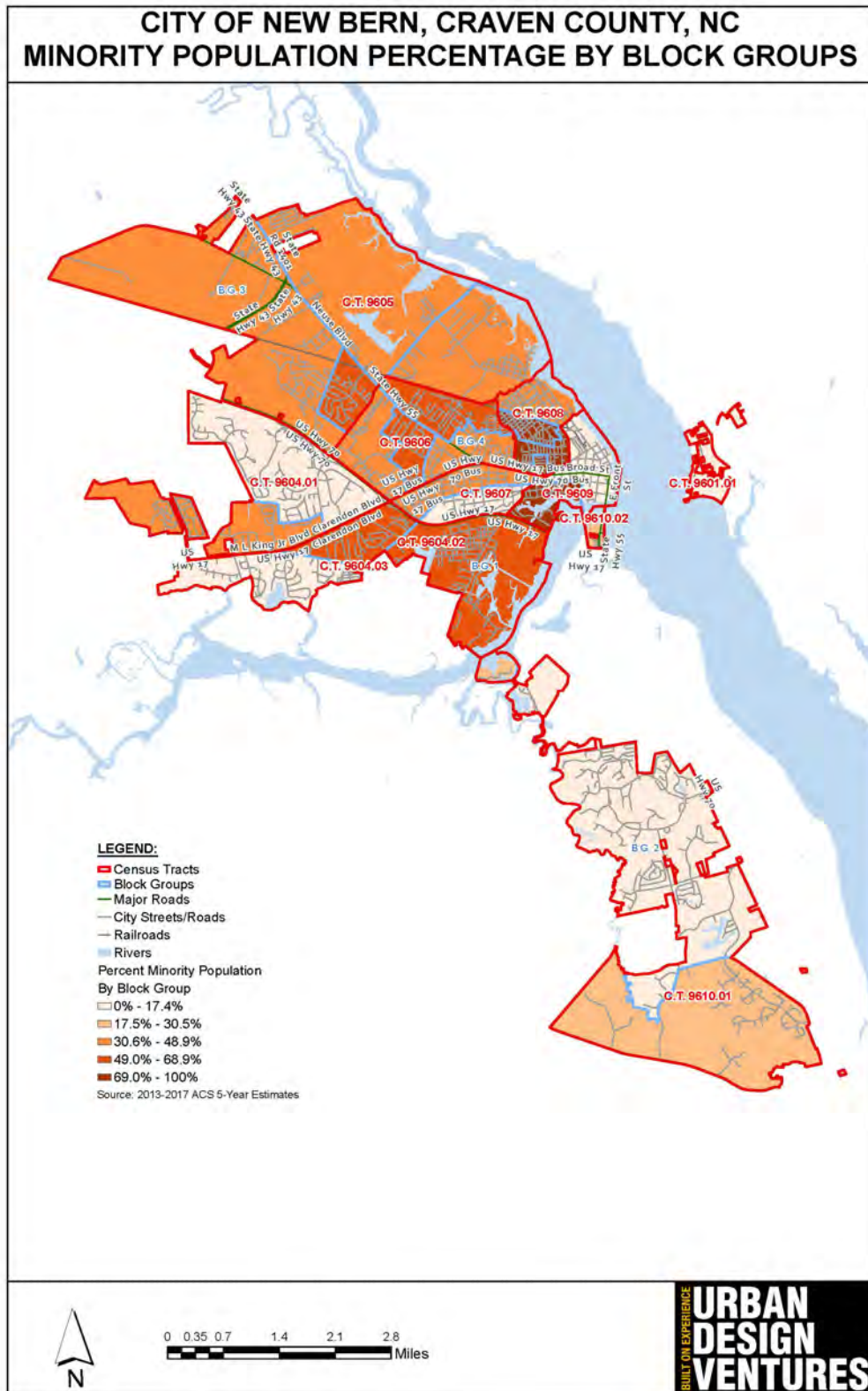
### Population Density by Block Group



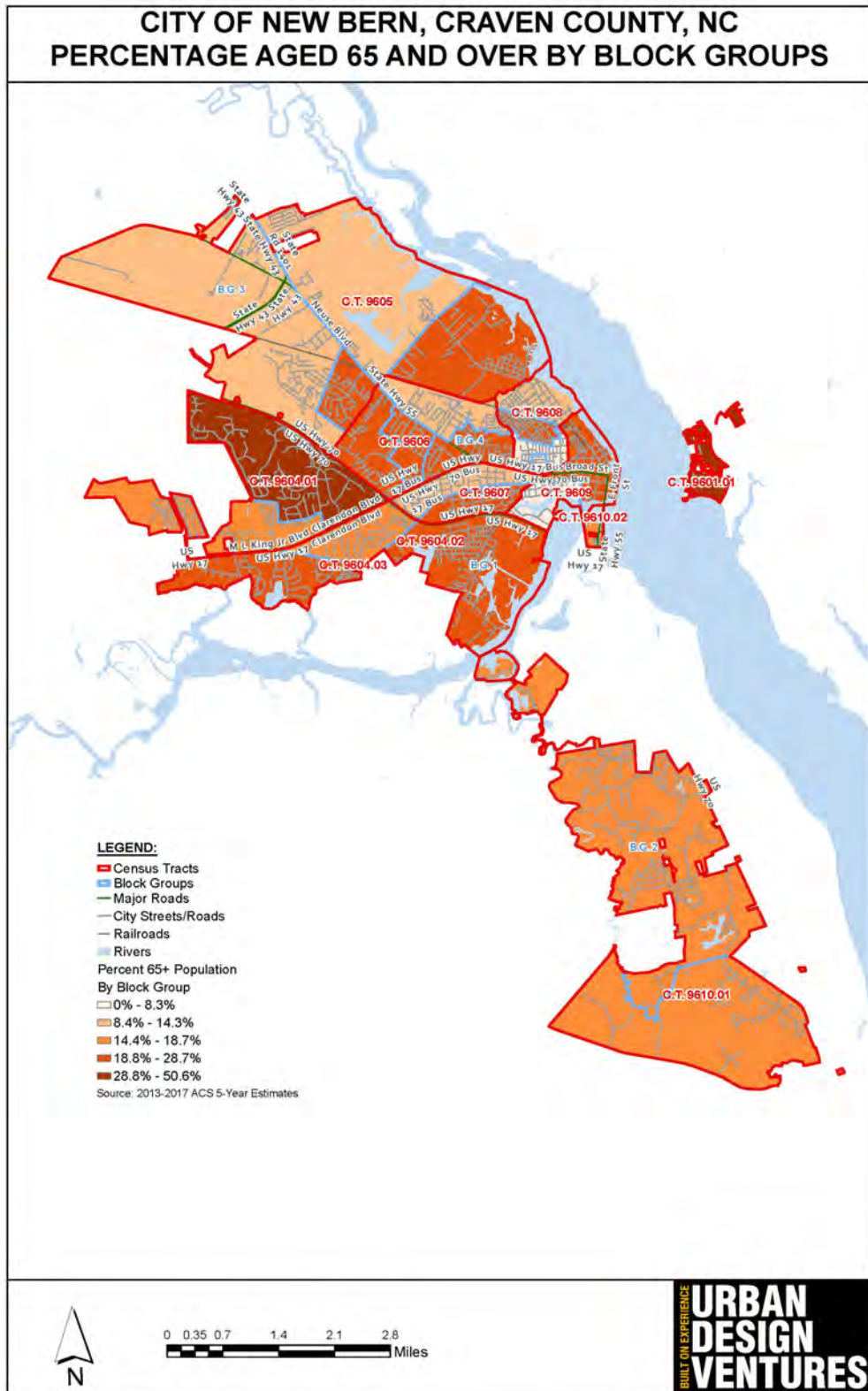
### Percent White Population by Block Group



### Percent Minority Population by Block Group

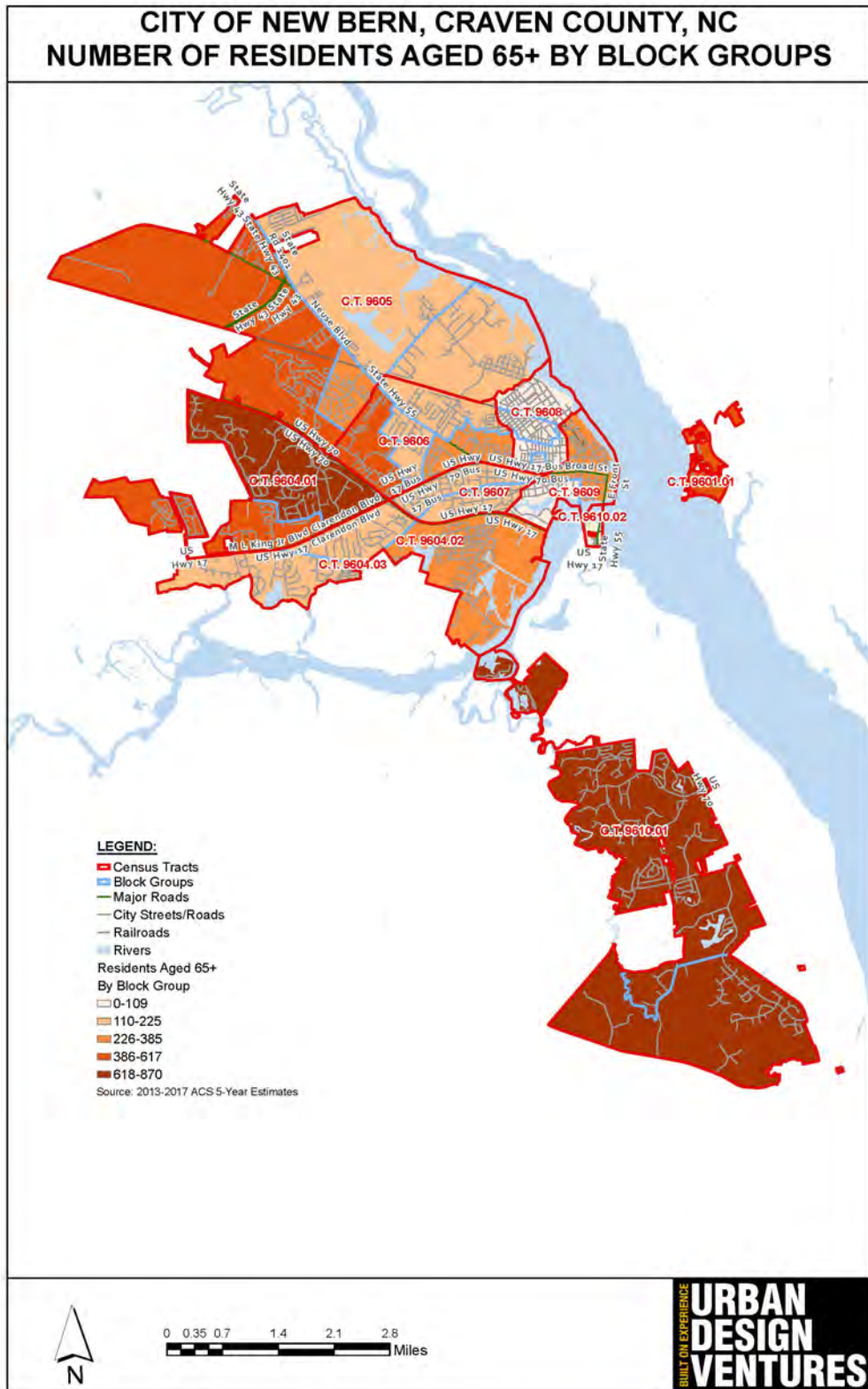


### Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group

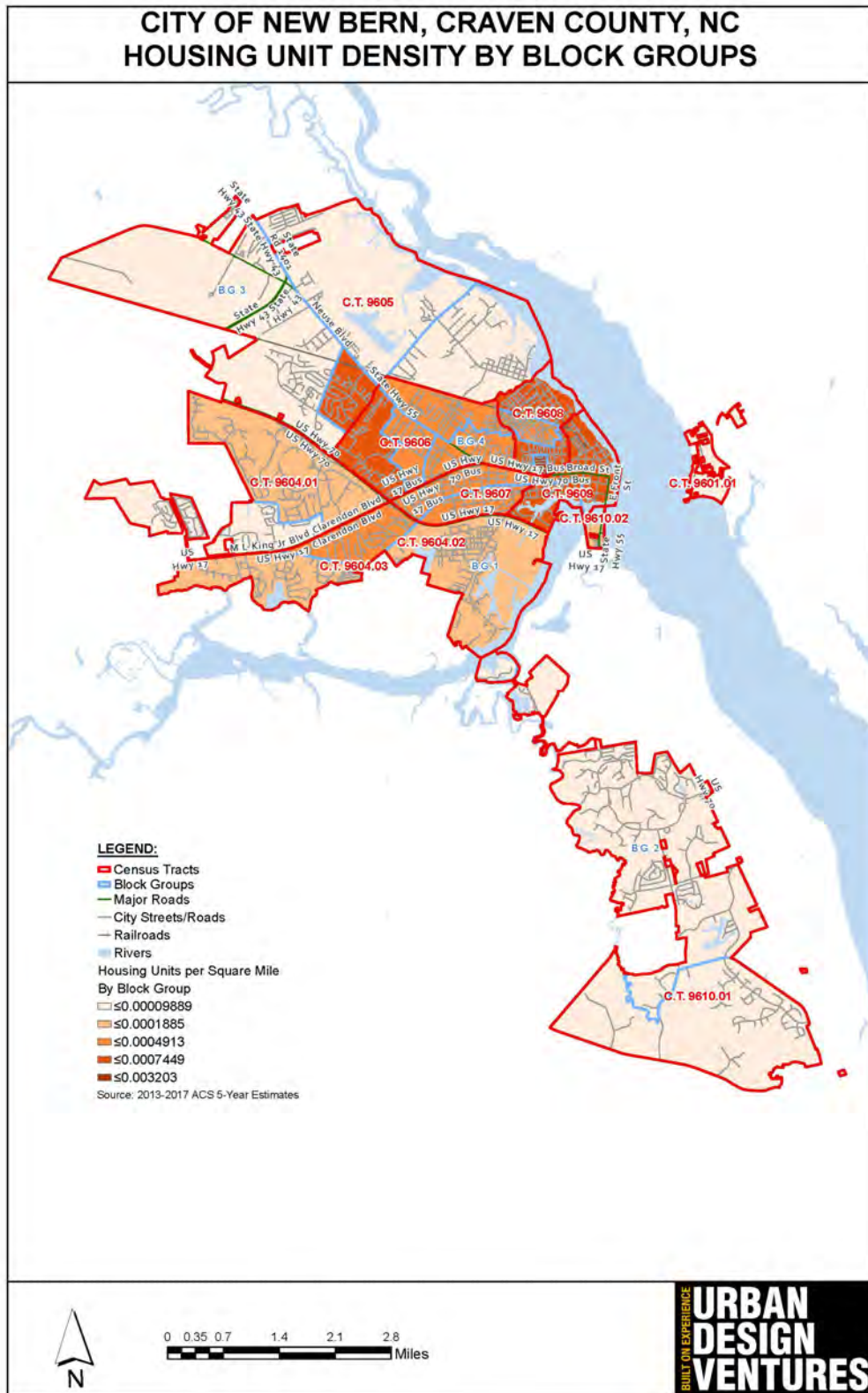




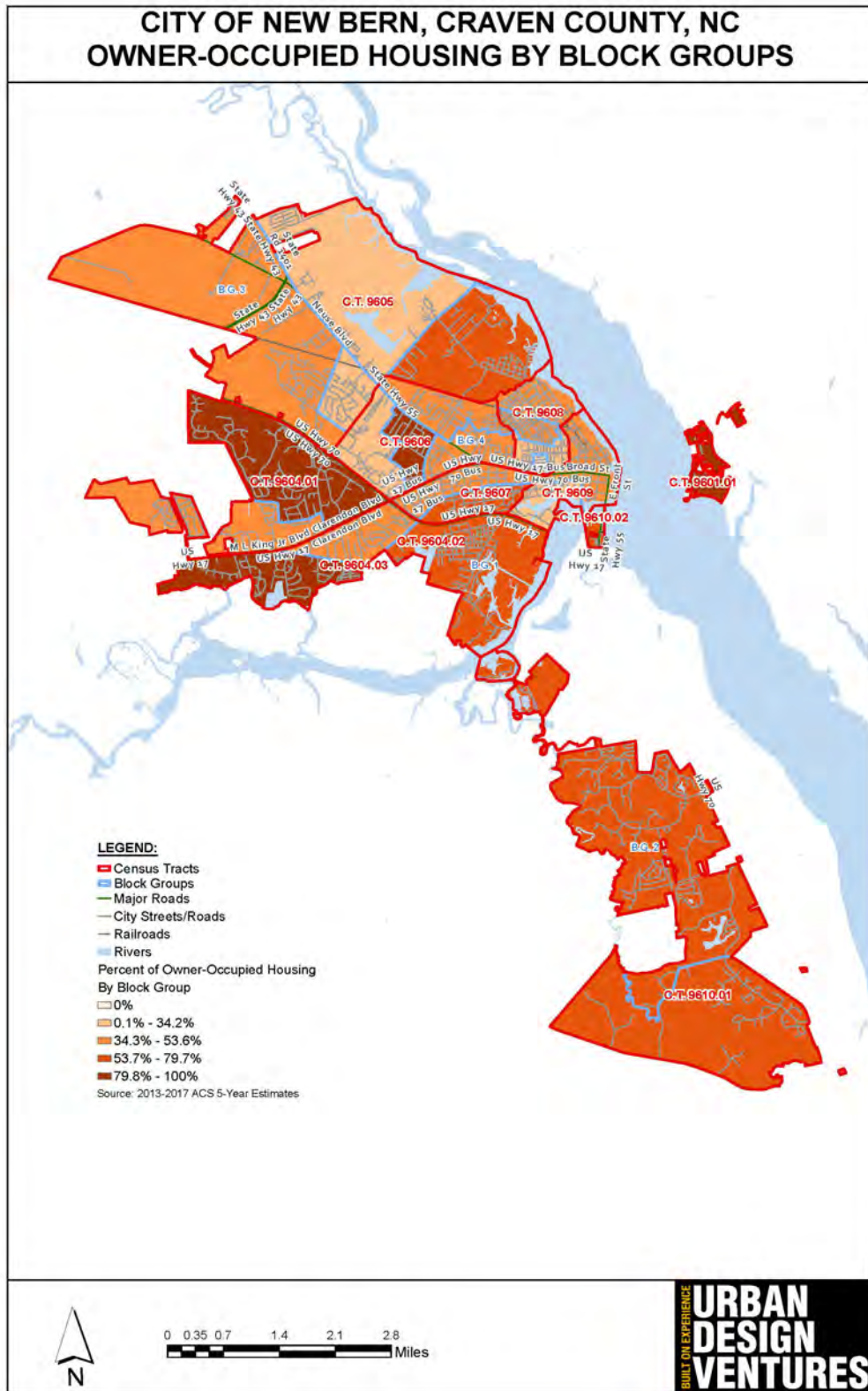
### Population Age 65+ by Block Group



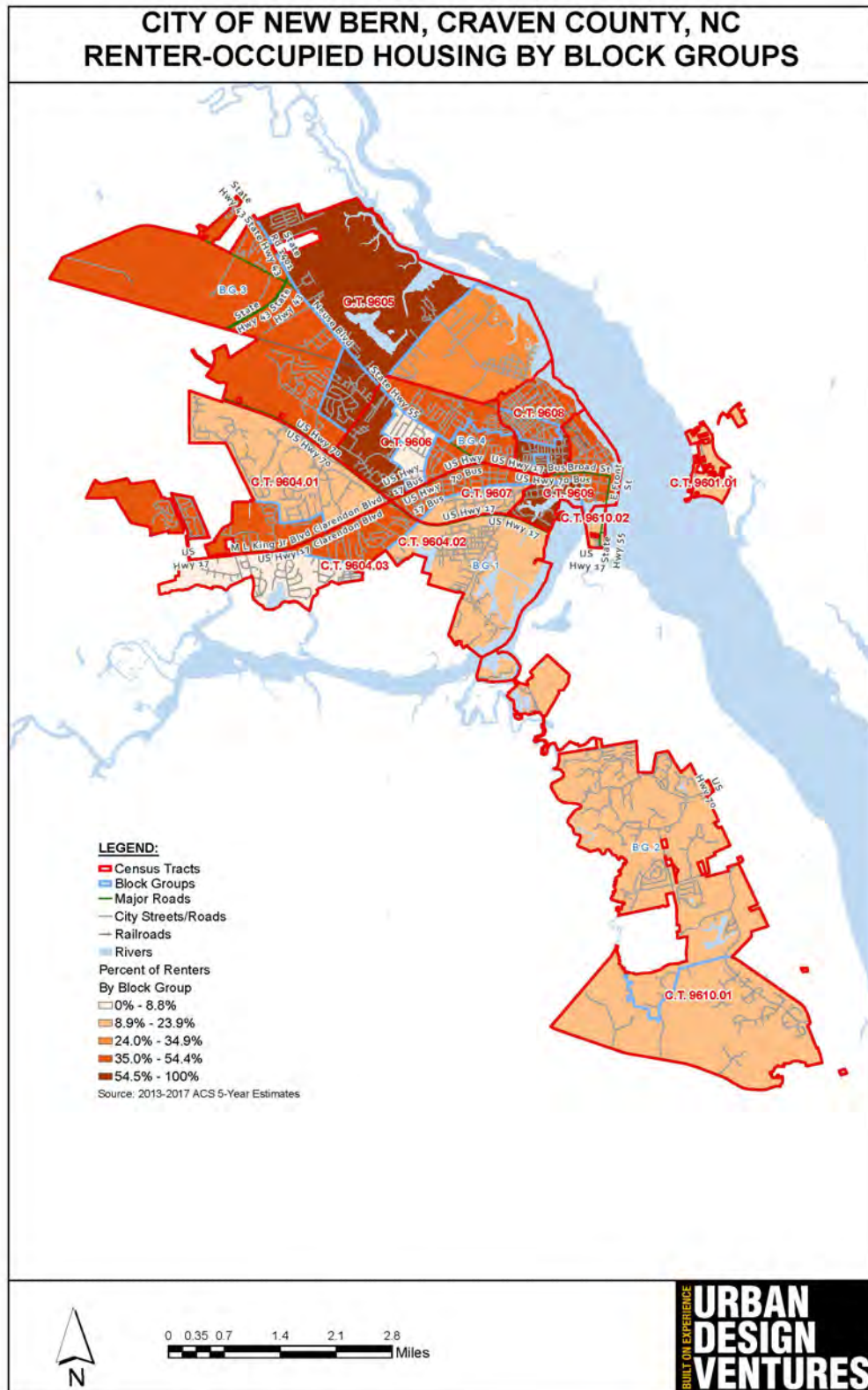
### Housing Density by Block Group



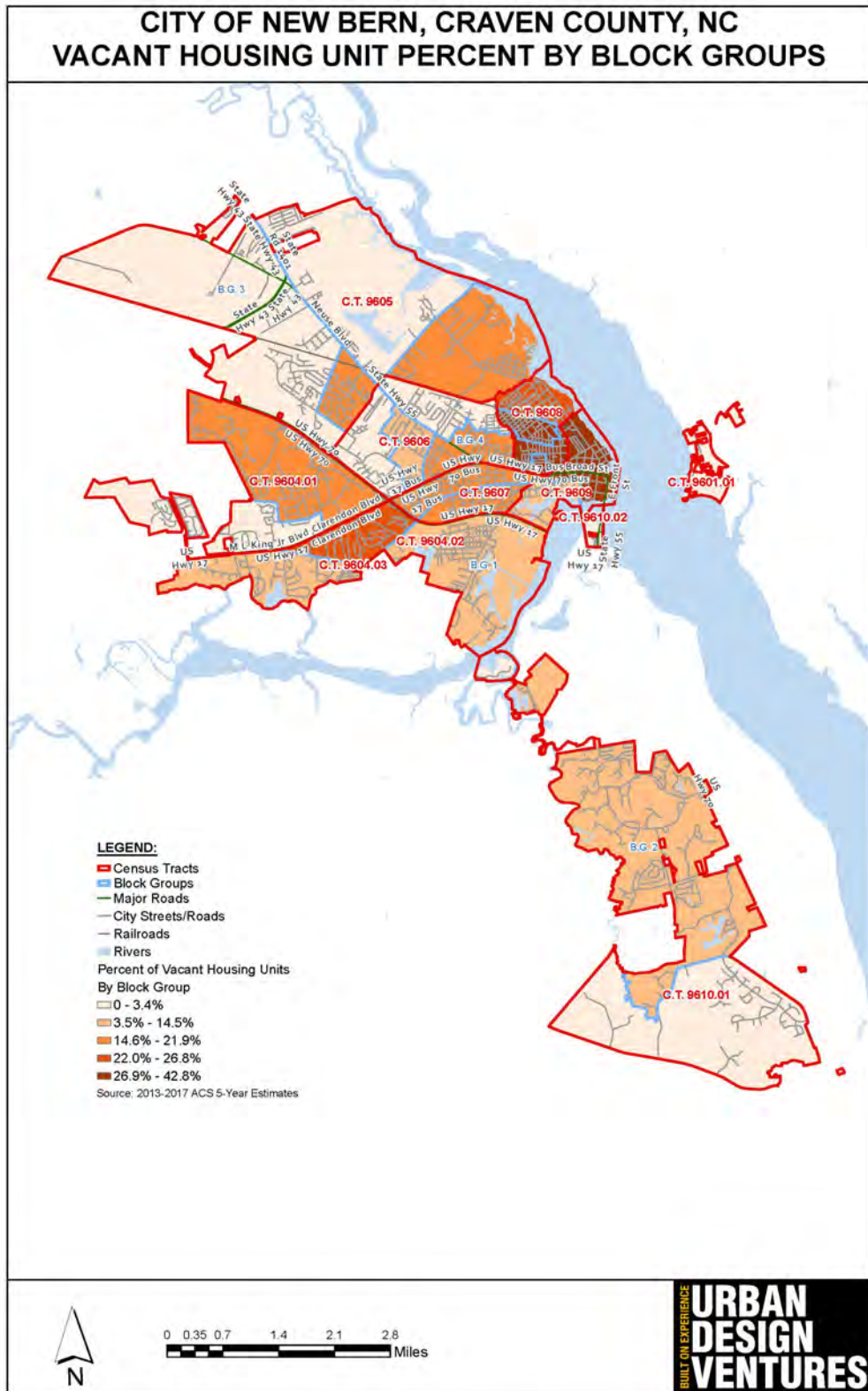
### Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



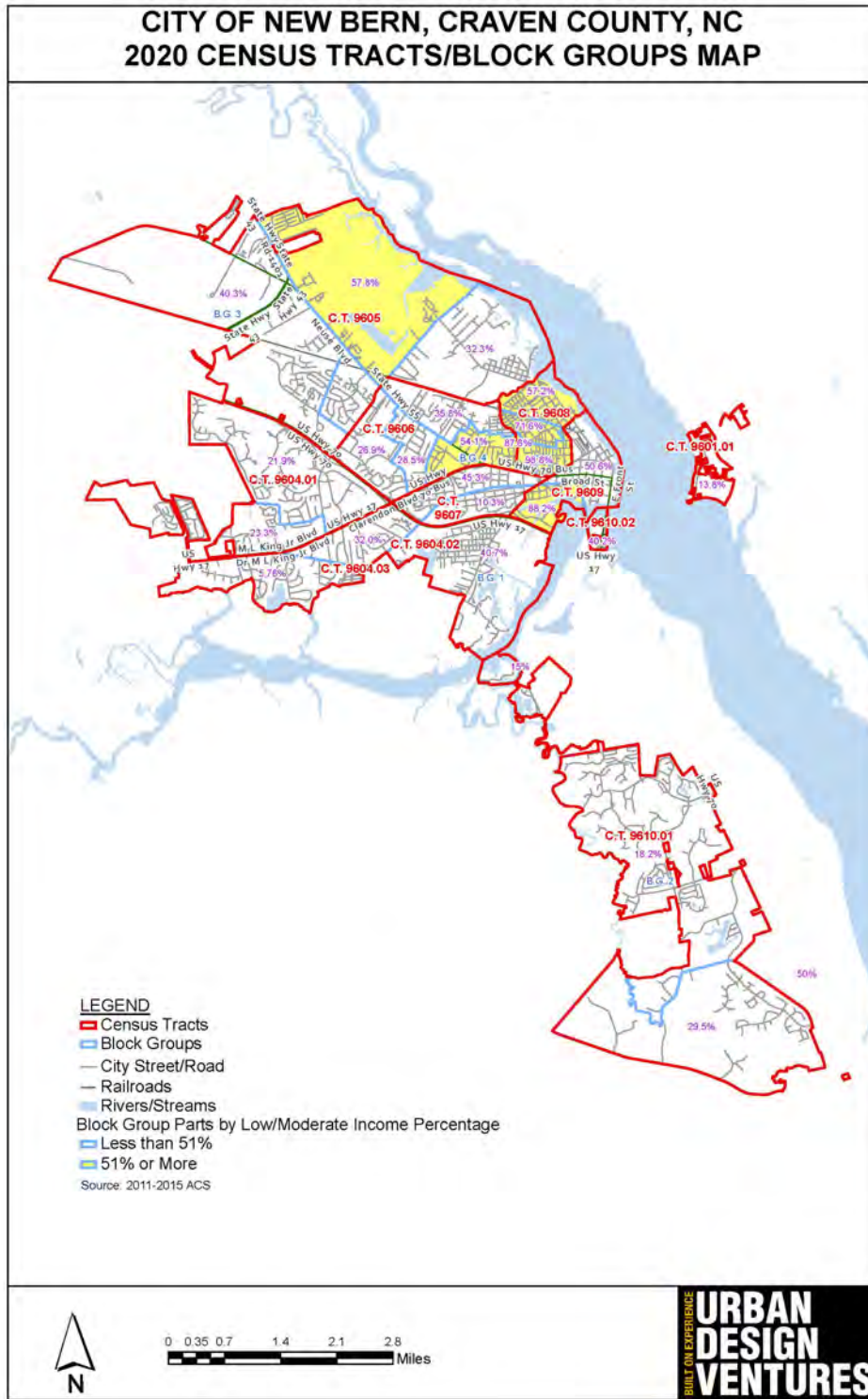
### Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



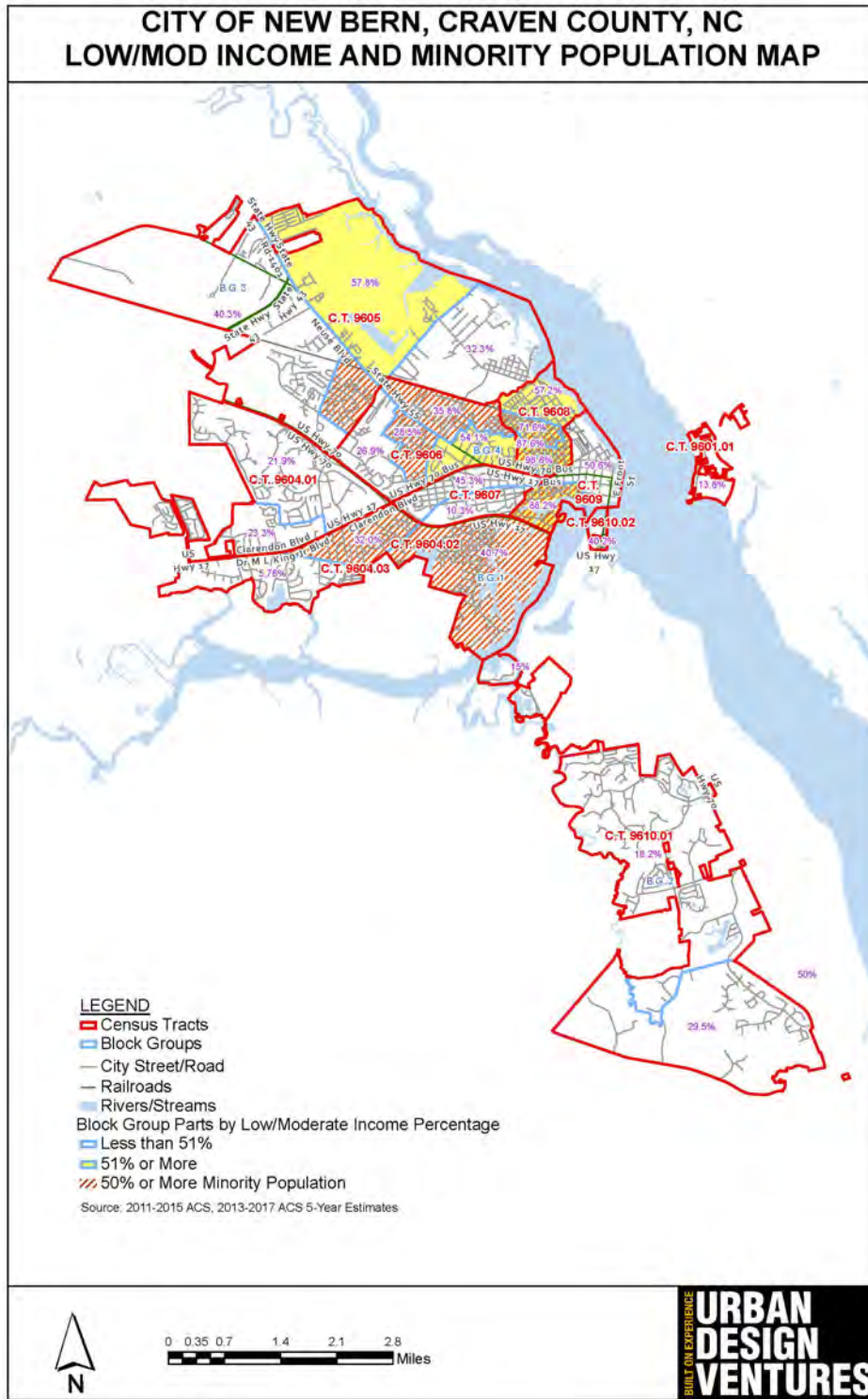
### Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group



### Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group



### Low/Moderate Income Percentage w/ Minority Overlay by Block Group



## 2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

*This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.*

This is the City of New Bern's fourth Five Year Consolidated Plan as an entitlement community. The "Vision" of this Five Year Consolidated Plan is to serve as a consolidated planning document, an application, and a strategic plan for the City of New Bern. As part of the Five Year Consolidated Plan, the community must develop goals and objectives. The following strategies with subsequent goals and priorities have been identified for the City of New Bern for the period of FY 2019 through FY 2023 for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds:

### **HOUSING STRATEGY - HSS**

#### **Goal:**

Improve, preserve, and expand the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income persons and families living in the City of New Bern.

#### **Objectives:**

- **HSS-1 Homeownership** - Promote and assist in developing homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons & families.
- **HSS-2 Housing Construction** - Promote and assist in the development of affordable housing, both rental and sales housing.
- **HSS-3 Housing Rehabilitation** - Promote and assist in the preservation of existing owner and renter occupied housing stock in the City.
- **HSS-4 Fair Housing** - Affirmatively further fair housing by promoting fair housing choice throughout the City of New Bern.

### **HOMELESS STRATEGY - HOM**

#### **Goal:**

Improve the living conditions and services for homeless persons and families in the City of New Bern and eliminate unfair housing practices that may lead to homelessness.

#### **Objectives:**

- **HOM-1 Housing** - Promote and assist in developing housing opportunities for homeless persons and families, and those who are at-risk of becoming homeless.



- **HOM-2 Operations/Support** - Promote and assist in program support services for the homeless.
- **HOM-3 Homeless Prevention** - Promote and assist in anti-eviction and prevention of unfair housing practices which may contribute to homelessness.
- **HOM-4 Rapid Rehousing** - Promote and assist in providing housing options for residents of the City of New Bern displaced by natural disasters or evictions.

#### **SPECIAL NEEDS STRATEGY - SNS**

##### **Goal:**

Improve, preserve, and expand facilities for persons with special needs and the disabled in the City of New Bern.

##### **Objectives:**

- **SNS-1 Housing** - Promote and assist to increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing housing and new construction of accessible housing.
- **SNS-2 Social Services** - Promote and assist in supporting social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs.
- **SNS-3 Accessibility** - Promote and assist in making accessibility improvements to owner occupied housing through rehabilitation and improve renter occupied housing by promoting reasonable accommodations for the physically disabled.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - CDS**

##### **Goal:**

Improve, preserve, and create new public and community facilities, infrastructure, and public services to ensure the quality of life for all residents of the City of New Bern.

##### **Objectives:**

- **CDS-1 Infrastructure** - Improve the City's infrastructure through reconstruction and new construction of streets, walks, curbs, ADA ramps, retaining walls, sewer, water, storm water management, bridges, bike trails, green infrastructure, etc.
- **CDS-2 Community Facilities** - Improve the City's parks, recreational centers, community centers, and public community facilities through rehabilitation and new construction.

- **CDS-3 Public Services** - Improve and increase public safety programs for the youth, the elderly, disabled, and target income population, including food programs and social/welfare programs throughout the City.
- **CDS-4 Public Transit** - Promote the development of additional bus routes, bus shelters, and improve public transportation for low- and moderate-income persons.
- **CDS-5 Clearance** - Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant and abandoned structures throughout the City.
- **CDS-6 Architectural Barriers** - Remove architectural barriers and make public and community facilities accessible to the physically disabled.
- **CDS-7 Public Safety** - Improve public safety through upgrades to facilities, purchase of new equipment, fire fighting and prevention, crime prevention, community policing, and ability to respond to emergency situations.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - EDS**

#### **Goal:**

Increase and promote job creation, job retention, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents of the City of New Bern.

#### **Objectives:**

- **EDS-1 Employment** - Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, employment, and job training services.
- **EDS-2 Financial Assistance** - Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development with technical assistance and low interest loan programs.
- **EDS-3 Redevelopment Program** - Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites, and facilities, and the revitalization efforts in the Greater Five Points Redevelopment Area and other residential neighborhoods.

### **ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING, AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - APM**

#### **Goal:**

Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of Federal, state, and local funded programs.

#### **Objectives:**

- **APM-1 Overall Coordination** - Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, state, and local funded programs, including planning

services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, performance evaluation, monitoring; and compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

*This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.*

Each year, the City of New Bern prepares and submits its CAPER to HUD within ninety (90) days after the start of the new program year. The FY 2021 CAPER is the most recent CAPER to be completed by the City of New Bern. The CAPER was approved by HUD. The City obligated 100% of its CDBG funds for the benefit of low- and moderate-income persons. The City expended \$30,619.32 for public service activities, which was below the 15% public services cap. The City obligated \$53,753.00.00, which met the 20% administrative cap. The City's drawdown ratio was 1.47, which is below the 1.5 HUD requirement.

### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

*Summary from citizen participation section of plan.*

The Annual Action Plan has many components to gather citizen participation which includes: citizen participation plan; citizen participation process; Consultation Process; and the development of the annual action plan. Each component of this plan principally serves the needs of the low- and moderate-income population in the City.

The City developed the plan based on citizen input, the information obtained from agencies/organizations, and meetings with other City staff and departments. A "draft plan" and budget are annually prepared and placed on public display for a 30-day review and comment period. This is advertised in a local newspaper of general circulation in the City, with the times, dates, and locations where the plan may be examined. A public hearing on the plan was also advertised and conducted. Citizen, agency, and organization comments were either incorporated into the plan or if not included, the reason why the comments were not accepted are included in the plan.

The City of New Bern held a needs public hearing on Monday, February 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM. The public hearing was able to be attended in person. This hearing provided residents, agencies, and organizations with the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG Program and to provide suggestions for future priorities and activities. The City of New Bern advertised the public needs hearing in the "Sun Journal" on Friday, February 3, 2023.

The Second Public Hearing Notice was published on Thursday, April 6, 2023 in the "Sun Journal" and the Second Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM. During the Second

Public Hearing, the residents were given the opportunity to comment on the draft version of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.

The "FY 2023 Annual Action Plan" was on display for a 30-day period beginning Friday, April 7, 2023 and ending Monday, May 8, 2023. The availability for review of the "draft plan" was advertised in the local newspapers and the plan was on display at the City of New Bern's website [https://www.newbernc.gov/departments/development\\_services/index.php](https://www.newbernc.gov/departments/development_services/index.php).

#### **Schedule:**

The following schedule was used in the preparation of the FY 2023 Action Plan:

- **Publish Notice of Needs Hearing** – Friday, February 3, 2023
- **First Public Hearing** – Monday, February 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Development Services Office and virtually
- **Publish Notice of Display of Draft and Public Hearing in the Newspaper** – Thursday, April 06, 2023
- **Annual Action Plan on Display** – Friday, April 7, 2023
- **Second Public Hearing** – Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the City Hall Courtroom
- **End of Annual Action Plan on Display** – Monday, May 8, 2023
- **Board of Aldermen Adopts FY 2023 Annual Action Plan** – Tuesday, May 9, 2023
- **Submission of Annual Action Plan to HUD on or before** – May 15, 2023

A more detailed analysis and description of the citizen participation process is contained in Section PR-15 Citizen Participation.

## **5. Summary of public comments**

*This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.*

A public hearing was held to seek input from interested residents and community organizations for the FY 2023 funds on Monday, February 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Development Services Office and virtually. The City of New Bern advertised in the "Sun Journal" on Friday, February 3, 2023. There was a total of fifteen (15) persons in attendance including one (1) City staff members.

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan was placed on public display on Friday, April 7, 2023 and a Second Public Hearing was held in the City Hall Courtroom, 300 Pollock Street, New Bern, NC 28560 on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM. A newspaper notice announcing that these documents were placed on public display was published on Thursday, April 6, 2023 in the "Sun Journal," a newspaper of general circulation in the area. Comments that were received at the Second Public Hearing are included in the Citizen Participation Section of the Annual Action Plan, which also includes the newspaper ads, sign-in sheets, agendas, and summaries of the meeting minutes.

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

All comments and suggestions that were received have been accepted and incorporated into the planning documents.

## 7. Summary

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan for the City of New Bern includes the City's CDBG Program and outlines which activities the City will undertake during the program year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024. This is the City's fifth year of the FY 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

During the FY 2023 Program Year, the City of New Bern, North Carolina anticipates the following Federal financial resources:

- **CDBG: \$294,122.00**
- **Total: \$294,122.00**

During the FY 2023 CDBG, the City of New Bern proposes to address the following strategies from its Five-Year Consolidated Plan:

- Homeless Strategy
- Community Development Strategy; and
- Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy

A "draft" of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan was placed on public display on the City's website at [https://www.newbernncc.gov/departments/development\\_services/index.php](https://www.newbernncc.gov/departments/development_services/index.php). The display period started on Friday, April 7, 2023 through Monday, May 8, 2023 for a 30-day display period. In addition, the City put the draft Plan on its website ([https://www.newbernncc.gov/departments/development\\_services/index.php](https://www.newbernncc.gov/departments/development_services/index.php)). The Final Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Craven Community College, Orringer Auditorium before the Board of Alderman to discuss the proposed activities and solicit resident comments. Upon completion of the 30-day comment period, the City of New Bern submitted the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Greensboro Office on or before Monday, May 15, 2023.

**PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)**

**1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan**

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	New Bern	Development Services Department
CDBG Administrator	New Bern	Development Services Department

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative (optional)**

The City's Development Services Department is the Lead Agency that maintains and administers the City's CDBG funds and responsibilities. The City prepares the Five-Year Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records (ERR's), the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, IDIS, and oversight of the programs on a day to day basis. In addition, the City of New Bern has retained the services of a private planning consulting firm to assist the City on an as needed basis.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

Ms. D'Aja Fulmore  
 Community Development Coordinator  
 City of New Bern's Development Services Department  
 Economic and Community Development Office  
 303 First Street, PO Box 1129, New Bern, NC 28563  
 Phone: (252) 639-7586  
 Fax: (252) 636-2146  
 Email: [fulmored@newbernc.gov](mailto:fulmored@newbernc.gov)  
 Website: <http://www.newbernc.gov>

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**AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)****1. Introduction**

While preparing the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan, the City of New Bern consulted with the Housing Authority of the City of New Bern, Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc., social services and housing agencies, and member organizations of Region 13 of the North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care.

**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(l))**

The City of New Bern works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern** – Improvements to public housing communities.
- **Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc.** – Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.
- **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.
- **Community and Economic Development Agencies** – funds to improve services to low and moderate income persons.

As part of the CDBG application planning process, local agencies/organizations are invited to submit proposals for CDBG funds for eligible activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings, consultation via phone and/or email, and submission of funding applications.

**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 leadership of Region 13 is responsible for acting as a member of the Balance of State CoC Steering Committee, the Coordinated Entry lead for the Region, the Point-in-Time and Housing Inventory Count lead for the region, and reviewing projects and processing state ESG grants for the regional geography.

Currently, Religious Community Services conducts its own referrals for services, and receives information from other agencies, shelters, police departments, hospitals, and churches. Once referred, Religious Community Services places Veterans first in their Emergency Shelters, and

follows up by filling beds with other families or individuals. All referrals to Religious Community Services through other entities are required to check with the local police department first. Religious Community Services has recently opened a Veterans transitional shelter in the area to complement its family emergency and transitional housing shelters.

The Point in Time Counts for Sheltered and Unsheltered homeless persons are completed on a designated date twice a year in the months of January and July. The results of the counts are available to the public on the North Carolina Balance of State CoC website.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS**

**ESG** – Coastal Women’s Shelter and Religious Community Services receives ESG funds from the state. ESG funds for member counties and cities in the North Carolina Balance of State CoC are administered through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Aging and Adult Services. The CoC is consulted by NCDHHS regarding past program performance and involvement of ESG applicants. The CoC provides input on ESG applications and rates, ranks and reviews projects. This includes homeless service providers, Community Action Partnerships (CAPs), local/county/state governments, Housing & Redevelopment Authorities, and domestic violence, aging, mental health, and faith-based organizations.

**Develop Performance Standards and Evaluate Outcomes** – The North Carolina Balance of State CoC’s written standards focus on a Housing First Model and follow the best practices of that model. The written standards utilize several strategies to increase the number of people who exit Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Re-housing to Permanent Housing destinations. Evaluations of these standards will be based on the length-of-time homeless measure of an individual or family who resides in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or rapid re-housing. The CoC seeks to make progress on the turnover rate of individuals and families, the targeting of individuals and families based on risk, and the number of positive exits into Permanent Housing.

**HMIS** – Throughout different times of the year, the CoC and the HMIS Lead work together to assess data quality throughout the CoC. This includes working on the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), the Point In Time (PIT) count, project reviews/ranking, and working with individuals programs while completing their Annual Performance Reports (APRs). The system ensures data quality by requiring many of the universal data elements upon enrolling a participant into a program. Additionally, the system has an alert system with exit date reminders. The work flow of data entry has been updated to improve data quality. The HMIS Lead supports users through the staffing of a Help Desk and ongoing training opportunities. Agency users are able to run self-reports to assess their program’s data quality. CoC-funded organizations are motivated



to provide good data quality, because the CoC has moved toward a data-driven project review and ranking system. Projects with poor data quality are more likely to show poor outcomes, which can impact their funding.

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

<b>1.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>City of New Bern</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	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 Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy Community Development Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City of New Bern was the lead entity on the Five Year Consolidated Plan. The City reviewed its program and funded activities that met the goals and objectives as outlined in the City’s Five Year Consolidated Plan.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>New Bern Housing Authority</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing PHA
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy Community Development Strategy

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern was contacted to determine the housing needs of its very low-income clients. The City reviewed its program and funded activities that met the goals and objectives as outlined in the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan to address these housing needs.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Habitat for Humanity of Craven County</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	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 Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Habitat for Humanity was contacted to determine the housing needs of its very low-income clients.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>TWIN RIVERS OPPORTUNITIES, INC</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing PHA Services - Housing

	<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment                  Public Housing Needs                  Homelessness Strategy                  Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless                  Homeless Needs - Families with children                  Homelessness Needs - Veterans                  Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth                  Non-Homeless Special Needs                  Economic Development                  Market Analysis                  Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p><b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. was contacted to determine the housing needs of its very low-income clients.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization</b></p>	<p><b>Religious Community Services</b></p>
	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b></p>	<p>Services - Housing                  Services-Children                  Services-Elderly Persons                  Services-Persons with Disabilities                  Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS                  Services-Victims of Domestic Violence                  Services-homeless                  Services - Victims                  Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care</p>
	<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment                  Public Housing Needs                  Homelessness Strategy                  Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless                  Homeless Needs - Families with children                  Homelessness Needs - Veterans                  Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth                  Non-Homeless Special Needs                  Economic Development                  Market Analysis                  Anti-poverty Strategy</p>

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Religious Community Services was contacted to determine the needs of the community.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>City of New Bern Redevelopment Commission</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Housing Redevelopment Authority
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Members of the City of New Bern Redevelopment Commission was contacted to determine the housing needs of its very low-income clients.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>CRAVEN COUNTY</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	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-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Other government - County Regional organization Planning organization

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	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 Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Craven County was contacted to determine the needs of the community.
8.	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>My Sister’s House</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	My Sister’s House was contacted to determine the needs in the City. My Sister’s House submitted an application and was funded.
9.	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>The Village</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Education
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Community Development Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Village was contacted to determine the needs of the youth in the City. The Village submitted an application and was funded.

<b>10.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Other government - State Regional organization Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Lead-based Paint Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	NCDHHS was contacted for health and lead-based paint statistics and information.
<b>11.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>CenturyLink</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Broadband Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	CenturyLink was contacted to determine the broadband access needs of the community.
<b>12.</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Spectrum</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Broadband Strategy

<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Spectrum was contacted to determine the broadband access needs of the community.
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**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

**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?
<b>Continuum of Care</b>	North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care	The City of New Bern is located in Region 13 of the North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care. The goals of the City and the Consortium of Care are complementary.
<b>Annual and Five Year Capital Plans</b>	The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern	The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern is the lead agency providing public housing assistance in the City of New Bern. The goals of the City and the Housing Authority are complementary.
<b>FY 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated Plan</b>	City of New Bern, NC	The FY 2022 Annual Action Plan adopts the goals of the FY 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated Plan. The activities undertaken during this program year will fall under one of the goals outlined in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.
<b>Greater Five Points Transformation Plan</b>	City of New Bern Redevelopment Commission	They are incorporated in the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
<b>The New Bern Gateway Renaissance Plan</b>	City of New Bern Redevelopment Commission	They are incorporated in the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
<b>Emergency Management Plan</b>	Craven County Emergency Manager	They are incorporated in the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
<b>State Broadband Plan</b>	North Carolina Department of Information Technology	They are incorporated in the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative (optional)**

The City of New Bern's Department of Development Services' Economic and Community Development Office is the administrating agency for the CDBG program. Close coordination is maintained with other City departments such as the Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Public Utilities, Administration, Police and Fire Departments, the City of New Bern Housing Authority, Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc., and the City of New Bern Redevelopment Commission, as well as County departments such as the Eastern Carolina Council, Craven County Economic Development, Craven County Schools, and the North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care. Coordination with various non-profit organizations, such as the Coastal Women's Shelter, Religious Community Services of New Bern, Interfaith Refugee Ministries, and NCWorks helped aid the planning process and develop priorities. The City works closely with the Craven County Commissioners and County staff to address projects and activities that extend beyond the City limits. The City and the County agencies have a good working relationship.



**AP-12 Participation – 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**

This Annual Action Plan was developed in accordance with the City’s Citizen Participation Plan. The City of New Bern advertised for a needs hearing in “The Sun Journal” on Thursday April 6, 2023. On Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm, the City of New Bern held both an in person and a virtual public needs hearing.

A “draft” of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan was placed on public display on the City’s website at ([https://www.newbernc.gov/departments/development\\_services/index.php](https://www.newbernc.gov/departments/development_services/index.php)). The display period started on Friday, April 7, 2023 and ended on Monday, May 8, 2023 for a 30-day display period. A second public hearing was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM to discuss the proposed activities and solicit resident comments. Upon completion of the public comment period, the City of New Bern submitted the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on or before Monday, May 15, 2023.

**Citizen Participation Outreach**

#	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 #1	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies / Organizations	None.	None.	None.	Not Applicable.

#	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of Response / Attendance	Summary of Comments Received	Summary of Comments Not Accepted and Reasons	URL (If applicable)
2.	<b>Public Meeting #1</b>	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted /broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies / Organizations	The City held a public needs hearing on Monday, February 20, 2023 at 6:00 pm. There was a total of fifteen (15) attendees in addition to the one (1) City staff member. See meeting summary comments and agendas for the Public Hearings in the Exhibit Section.	See the Public Hearing comments in the Exhibit section of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.
3.	<b>Internet Outreach</b>	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted /broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies / Organizations	None.	None.	None.	<a href="https://www.newbernnc.gov/departments/development_services/index.php">https://www.newbernnc.gov/departments/development_services/index.php</a>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Newspaper Ad #2</b>	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies / Organizations</p>	None.	None.	None.	Not Applicable.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Public Hearing #2</b>	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Social Services and Housing Agencies</p>	<p>The City held its Second Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm to discuss the Draft FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.</p>	<p>See the Second Public Hearing comments in the Appendix section of the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan.</p>	None.	<p><a href="https://www.newbernnc.gov/departments/development/service/index.php">https://www.newbernnc.gov/departments/development/service/index.php</a></p>

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

The following financial resources are identified for the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan to address the priority needs and goals/strategies identified in the City of New Bern’s FY 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The City of New Bern is receiving \$294,122.00 in CDBG funds for the FY 2023 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. These funds will be used to address the following strategies:

- Homeless Strategy;
- Community Development Strategy; and
- Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be 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: \$		
<b>CDBG</b>	public federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$294,122.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$294,122.00</b>	\$0.00	Seven (7) projects/activities were funded based on the FY 2023 CDBG allocation.

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**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

In addition to the entitlement funds, the City of New Bern anticipates the following Federal resources may be available to local non-profit organizations to undertake the housing strategies identified in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

- Supportive Housing Program
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC)
- Section 8 Rental Assistance Program
- Public Housing Capital Fund Program
- Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)

Private and non-Federal resources that may be available to the City of New Bern in FY 2023 to address needs identified in the FY 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated Plan are listed below.

- **EDA Workforce Development Grant** – The United States Economic Development Administration fields a competitive application for workforce development funding.
- **Golden LEAF Funding** – This North Carolina grant supports workforce development in rural areas of the state of North Carolina that were once dependent on agriculture and tobacco farming.
- **Tobacco Trust Fund Grant** – The North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund (NCTTFC) was created to assist current and former tobacco farmers, former quota holders, persons engaged in tobacco-related business, and individuals displaced from tobacco-related employment that were affected by the major tobacco settlement in 1998. These funds are used for projects that support employment for these groups.
- **Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program (AHP)** – Congress has mandated that ten (10%) of the Federal Home Loan Bank's profits be allocated to provide affordable housing. The FHLB encourages its members to work with public agencies and non-profit housing development organizations in creating highly leveraged affordable housing initiatives. Both sales and rental housing are eligible.

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

The City of New Bern owns 118 vacant lots in the Greater Five Points Area. The City intends to build affordable housing on these lots. The lots are scattered throughout the Area. Some are buildable and meet the zoning requirements, others are not and will be transferred by sale or donation to adjacent property owners.

**Discussion**

Not Applicable.

## 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.	<b>HOM-3 Homeless Prevention</b>	2019	2023	Homeless	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas	Homeless	CDBG: \$24,000	Homelessness Prevention: 32 Persons Assisted
2.	<b>CDS-2 Community Facilities</b>	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	Greater Five Points Low- and Moderate-Income Areas	Community Development	CDBG: \$120,798	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1,110 Persons Assisted  Other: 3 Other
3.	<b>CDS-3 Public Services</b>	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	Greater Five Points Low- and Moderate-Income Areas	Community Development	CDBG: \$20,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 8 Persons Assisted
4.	<b>CDS-5 Clearance</b>	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	Greater Five Points Low- and Moderate-Income Areas	Community Development	CDBG: \$70,500	Buildings Demolished: 3 Buildings

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5.	<b>APM-1 Overall Coordination</b>	2019	2023	Administration	Greater Five Points Low- and Moderate-Income Areas	Administration, Planning, and Management	CDBG: \$58,824	Other: 1 Other

**Table 5 – Goals Summary**

**Goal Descriptions**

1.	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>HOM-3 Homeless Prevention</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Promote and assist in anti-eviction and prevention of unfair housing practices which may contribute to homelessness.
2.	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>CDS-2 Community Facilities</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve the City's parks, recreational centers, community centers, and public community facilities through rehabilitation and new construction.
3.	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>CDS-3 Public Services</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve and increase public safety programs for the youth, the elderly, disabled, and target income population, including food programs and social/welfare programs throughout the City.
4.	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>CDS-5 Clearance</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant and abandoned structures throughout the City.
5.	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>APM-1 Overall Coordination</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, state, and local funded programs, including planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, performance evaluation, monitoring; and compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.



**Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):**

During the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan, the City of New Bern is not funding any affordable housing projects/activities with CDBG funds. Not Applicable.

## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan outlines the needs, resources, priorities and proposed activities of the City of New Bern to be undertaken with the FY 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The City of New Bern has participated in CDBG as an Entitlement recipient since 2014.

The City’s Development Services Department is the Lead Agency that maintains and administers New Bern CDBG funds and responsibilities, including completion of the Annual Action Plan. The planning process actively encouraged participation of City housing and community service organizations, including the Housing Authority of the City of New Bern, Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc., affordable housing providers, service agencies that assist the low- and moderate-income and principally low- and moderate-income clientele, advocates, and others.

The City of New Bern encourages citizens to provide input and participate in planning, implementation and assessment of the CDBG program. The FY 2023 Annual Action Plan was developed through public hearings, the use of existing data from previously approved plans and studies, consultation with local non-profit agencies, and discussions with other City of New Bern departments. For-profit, non-profit, community and faith-based organizations were engaged throughout the year to assess City needs and priorities.

The City of New Bern proposes to undertake the following activities with FY 2023 CDBG funds:

#### Projects

#	Project Name
1.	Administration
2.	Demolition/Clearance
3.	Catholic Charities
4.	My Sister’s House
5.	Omega Center Facility Improvements
6.	The Village – Acquisition & Development of Playground
7.	Sunnyside Area ½ Basketball Court Installation

**Table 6 - Project Information**

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

The City of New Bern has allocated its CDBG funds based on principally benefiting Low/Mod income persons; or an activity in which predominantly low- and moderate-income areas or which has a presumed benefit; or an activity with an income requirement of low- and moderate-income persons. All allocated funding has been utilized in a timely manner and within budget.

Many of the obstacles to addressing underserved needs are outside of the City's control. The largest obstacle is the lack of local, state, and federal resources available to the City of New Bern to adequately address these needs. This reduction in funds, combined with increasing numbers of individuals in need of housing, social service, homeless, or infrastructure support, unfortunately means that the City of New Bern is at a disadvantage in addressing underserved needs in the community. However, the City of New Bern maintains close cooperation with the County, the Housing Authority, housing providers, economic development agencies, and social service providers, to address any underserved needs in the City.

The proposed activities and projects for FY 2023 are located in areas of the City with the highest percentages of low- and moderate-income persons, and those block groups with a higher than average percentage of minority persons. The following census tracts and block groups have at least 51% of the households with low- and moderate-incomes:

- C.T. 9605, B.G. 2
- C.T. 9606, B.G. 4
- C.T. 9608, B.G. 1
- C.T. 9608, B.G. 2
- C.T. 9608, B.G. 3
- C.T. 9608, B.G. 4
- C.T. 9609, B.G. 2

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Introduction

The City of New Bern proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2023 CDBG funds:

### Project Summary Information

1.	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Administration</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	APM-1 Overall Coordination
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$58,824.00
	<b>Description</b>	Overall program administration of the CDBG Programs, including: staff salaries, wages, and benefits; related costs to administer the programs including supplies, materials, mailings, duplications, etc.; monitoring and oversight; advertising and public hearing costs; market studies; planning activities and the preparation of the Annual Action Plan, Environmental Review Record, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report, Fair Housing, etc.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2024
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	1 Organization
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The Matrix Code is 21A General Program Administration.
2.	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Demolition/Clearance</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CDS-5 Clearance
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$70,500.00
	<b>Description</b>	Demolition of vacant substandard structures to remove slums and blight on a spot basis in the City.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2024

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	3 Structures
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Slum and Blight Removal on a Spot Basis (SBS). The HUD Matrix Code is 04, Clearance and Demolition.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Catholic Charities</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	HOM-3 Homeless Prevention
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$24,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will be used to pay for rent and utility assistance to low-moderate income households to prevent homelessness.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2024
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	32 Households
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Housing (LMH). The HUD Matrix Code is 05Q Subsistence Payments.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>My Sister’s House</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Greater Five Points
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CDS-3 Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$20,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will be used to pay for additional staff salaries for two (2) residential aides to be added to agency.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2024

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	8 persons
	<b>Location Description</b>	524 Roundtree St, New Bern, NC 28560
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC). The HUD Matrix Code is 05Z Other Public Services Not Listed in 03T and 05A-05Y
<b>5.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Omega Center Facility Improvements</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Greater Five Points
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CDS-2 Community Facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$35,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will be used to pay for the cost for ADA compliant bathroom stalls (total of 12) and improvements to the fire suppressant system.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2024
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	30 persons 1 Public Facility
	<b>Location Description</b>	Census Tract 9608, Block Group 1 and 4 800 Cedar Street, New Bern, NC 28560
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA). The project matrix code is 03E, Neighborhood Facilities.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>The Village – Acquisition &amp; Development of Playground</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Greater Five Points
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CDS-2 Community Facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$50,000.00

	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will be used to pay for the cost for the acquisition of the two (2) adjacent properties to expanded the facility’s outdoor play space by installing a playground and fencing in the property.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2024
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	75 persons 1 public facility
	<b>Location Description</b>	1046 Broad Street, New Bern, NC 28560
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The national objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC). The project matrix code is 05D Youth Services
<b>7.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sunnyside Area ½ Basketball Court Installation</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CDS-2 Community Facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$35,798.00
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will be used to pay for the cost for the construction of an outdoor, half-court basketball court for neighborhood use. The proposed site is City owned and is adjacent to the existing neighborhood park.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2024
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	1 Public Facility 1,005 persons
	<b>Location Description</b>	Census Tract 9608, Block Group 2 1805 National Avenue, New Bern, NC 28560
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The national objective is Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA). The project matrix codes is 03F Parks, Recreational Facilities.

**Table 7 – Project Summary**

## **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 the City of New Bern. This information was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau American Factfinder website, <http://data.census.gov>. The 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (ACS) were used to analyze the social, economic, housing, and general demographic characteristics of the City of New Bern. The Decennial Census and 5-year estimates are the most recent data available for the City. The 2010 Decennial Census data and 2005-2010 ACS data is included when necessary.

### **Population**

Key points are:

- The City's population was 29,524 in the 2010 ACS
- The City's population was 31,058 according to the 2017-2021 ACS (a 5.2% increase)

### **Age**

Key points are:

- Median age in New Bern is 40.5 years of age
- Youth under age 18 account for 21.8% of the total population

### **Race/Ethnicity**

Composition from the 2017-2021 American Community Survey:

- 55.6% of population is White
- 33.1% of population is Black or African American
- 5.2% of population is Asian
- 1.9% of population is Two or More Races
- 7.7% is Hispanic or Latino

### **Income Profile**

The current Median Income for a family of four (4) in Craven County, North Carolina Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is \$75,000 according to HUD's FY 2022 Income Limits. The following is a summary of income statistics for the City of New Bern:

- At the time of the 2017-2021 American Community Survey, the median household income in the City of New Bern was \$45,829 which was lower than the State of North Carolina (\$61,972).
- 39.5% of households have earnings received from Social Security income.
- 25.6% of households have earnings, received from retirement income.



- 8.9% of households have earnings received from public assistance.
- 39.5% of female-headed households with children were living in poverty.
- 30.5% of all youth under 18 years of age were living in poverty.

**Low/Mod Income Profile**

The low- and moderate-income profile for City of New Bern is a measurement of the area's needs. The City of New Bern has an overall low- and moderate-income percentage of 40.67%.

**Economic Profile**

The following illustrates the economic profile for the City of New Bern as of the 2017-2021 American Community Survey:

- 35.5% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as management, business, science and arts.
- 18.0% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as sales and office.
- 24.2% were in the service sector.
- Natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, transportation and material moving occupations represented 22.3% of those employed.
- 18.5% of workers were considered in the government class of employment.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, the preliminary unemployment rate for the City of New Bern in January of 2023 was 4.0%. New Bern’s unemployment rate was higher than the January 2023 rates of the State of North Carolina (3.8%) and the national percentage of 3.4%.

**Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Low- and Moderate-Income Areas	64%
Greater Five Points	36%

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**

**Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

The proposed activities and projects for FY 2023 are located in areas of the City with the highest percentages of low- and moderate-income persons, and those block groups with a higher than average percentage of minority persons. The following census tracts and block groups have at least 51% of the households with low- and moderate-incomes:

- C.T. 9605, B.G. 2
- C.T. 9606, B.G. 4
- C.T. 9608, B.G. 1

- C.T. 9608, B.G. 2
- C.T. 9608, B.G. 3
- C.T. 9608, B.G. 4
- C.T. 9609, B.G. 2

The total amount of FY 2023 CDBG funds available is \$294,122 of which 20.0% (\$58,824) is for administration and 80.0% (\$235,298) is allocated for project activities. Approximately 70% (\$164,798) will principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons, while 30% (\$70,500) will be used for slum and blight removal.

### Discussion

The geographic locations and the public benefit for the FY 2023 CDBG Activities are as follows:

- **General Administration** - 303 First Street, New Bern, NC 28560
- **Demolition/Clearance** - Citywide; To be determined.; Slum and Blight Removal on a Spot Basis (SBS)
- **Catholic Charities** - Citywide; Low/Mod Income Clientele Benefit (LMC)
- **My Sister's House** - 524 Roundtree St, New Bern, NC 28560; Low/Mod Income Clientele Benefit (LMC)
- **Omega Center Facility Improvements** - Census Tract 9608, Block Group 1 and 4; 800 Cedar Street, New Bern, NC 28560; Low/Mod Income Clientele Benefit (LMC)
- **The Village - Acquisition & Development of Playground** - 1046 Broad Street, New Bern, NC 28560; Low/Mod Income Clientele Benefit (LMC)
- **Sunnyside Area ½ Basketball Court Installation** - C.T. 9608, B.G. 1; Census Tract 9608, Block Group 2; 1805 National Avenue, New Bern, NC 28560; Low/Mod Income Areas (LMA)

## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

The City of New Bern is not utilizing its CDBG funds to support housing activities during this program year.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>0</b>

Table 9 - 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	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>0</b>

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

#### Discussion

During this program year the City is not funding any affordable housing projects/activities with CDBG funds.

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern’s mission is:

- Providing affordable housing opportunities in a safe environment
- Revitalizing and maintaining neighborhoods
- Providing opportunities for low and moderate-income homeownership
- Forming effective partnerships to maximize housing, social, and economic opportunities
- Continuing its partnership with the City of New Bern for the revitalization of communities
- Pursuing funding for the development of affordable housing for the residents of New Bern

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern is not rated as a “troubled” agency by HUD.

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern owns and professionally manages family communities and elderly/disabled rental apartments. NBHA had one (1) public housing development: Trent Court. NBHA had also previously owned a second property: Craven Terrace. This property was sold. Before Hurricane Florence hit the City, NBHA had a total of 218 public housing units, with 11 accessible units. After Hurricane Florence caused flooding in many of the units in Trent Court, the Housing Authority was left with 110 units, of which 4 are accessible. NBHA also owns and manages Section 8 Housing for elderly residents in New Bern Towers. There are 106 units in New Bern Towers. The waiting list remains open.

Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. assists families who wish to live in privately owned housing and receive rental subsidy through the Housing Choice Voucher Program instead of NBHA. Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. administers 998, 36 of which are for residents that were displaced from Trent Court. There are currently 689 households on the waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers and the waiting list is open.

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

During this program year the Housing Authority will continue to maintain its 110 units. The Housing Authority is continuing to look for more buildable sites for affordable housing and to continue to promote its self-sufficiency programming for its residents.

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

According to the Annual Plan for 2023, NBHA’s progress in meeting their mission and goals states that NBHA set the goal of cooperating with the City of New Bern and other neighborhood partners to promote neighborhood revitalization and economic development in designated areas of the City, as evidenced by the resident input in the development of the Gateway Renaissance Plan and Greater Five Points Transformation Plan. New Bern Towers has an active resident council that expresses needs for both the New Bern Towers community and the public housing under the Housing Authority of the City of New Bern

as a whole. Trent Court formerly had an active resident council, but Hurricane Florence caused the council to disband, and the residents of Trent Court have struggled to restore it.

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern does not support any homeownership initiatives. NBHA previously held homeownership classes in Trent Court and Craven Terrace, and these classes had active participation. However, these classes have ceased since Craven Terrace was sold.

Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. runs the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program. The program gives Section 8 voucher holders the opportunity to set and reach goals that they set for themselves and their families, as well as save a significant amount of money. Section 8 voucher holders may also use their vouchers to realize the American dream of becoming a homeowner. Both of these opportunities are available to Section 8 holders who choose to become participants in Section 8's Family Self-Sufficiency Program. There are two parts to the program. The first part of the program is the Self-Sufficiency program where participants have the opportunity to work towards and meet goals that they set for their families as well as save money that will become theirs when they have completed their goals. The second part of the program is the Homeownership Program. In this part of the program, a Section 8 participant can choose to use his or her Section 8 voucher to assist with the purchase and payment of a home.

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

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern is not designated as a troubled housing authority.

**Discussion**

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern is continuing to meet its goals by securing funding through RAD and CNI for the revitalization of the Greater Five Points area. The Housing Authority will also continue to apply for funding for additional affordable housing.

Trent Court, one the Housing Authority's public housing communities, was severely affected by Hurricane Florence. The residents displaced by the Hurricane have been given Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc., will ensure the placement of these residents.

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

### **Introduction**

The North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness is collaborative applicant for the North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care. The 79 counties covered by the Continuum of Care are divided into 13 regions. The City of New Bern falls under the purview of Region 13 of the CoC, which is known as the Housing Alliance of Coastal Carolina (HACC) and includes Carteret, Craven, Jones, Onslow, and Pamlico Counties.

The leadership of Region 13 is responsible for acting as a member of the Balance of State CoC Steering Committee, the Coordinated Entry lead for the Region, the Point-in-Time and Housing Inventory Count lead for the region, and reviewing projects and processing state ESG grants for the regional geography.

The City of New Bern works closely with the homeless service providers within the City to identify and resolve issues of homelessness within the community. The Department of Development Services partners with statewide entities, as well as the local service providers including Religious Community Services, Coastal Women’s Shelter, and Reviving Lives Ministries.

The 2022 Point-In-Time Count revealed that 26 homeless individuals resided in Craven County. There was no data available for the City of New Bern specifically. All 26 of the homeless persons counted were recorded in Emergency Shelter. The 2023 Point-In-Time Count was completed in January 2023 but the data is still being analyzed.

The following shelters were open in the City of New Bern during FY 2023.

- Religious Community Services - Emergency Crisis Shelter
- Religious Community Services - Families in Transition
- Religious Community Services - Veterans Transition Shelter
- Women’s Coastal Shelter - Domestic Violence Shelter
- Reviving Lives Ministries - Addiction Recover Shelter

The FY 2023 CoC awards have not yet been announced.

### **Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including: Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

The Point-In-Time Count for Craven County in 2022 counted a total of 26 homeless persons and 23 homeless households. Of these, only 0 persons were unsheltered. There were no persons in transitional housing, and 26 persons that were housed in emergency shelter. There was one (1) homeless family with children, and no chronically homeless families with children. There was three (3) unaccompanied youth that were homeless in 2022. Of the 26 homeless people counted, two (2) were considered chronically

homeless. There were five (5) homeless Veterans and one (1) of the homeless Veterans was considered chronically homeless. This indicates a need for greater outreach and shelter/housing options for these special needs groups.

**Families with children** – The Point-In-Time count for 2017 counted 4 homeless households with children in Craven County, for a total of 15 persons. Numbers were lower in 2018 at 4 homeless households and 9 persons. County breakdowns were unavailable for 2019. The numbers were lower in 2020, at 1 homeless household with 3 persons. In 2020, there was 1 homeless household with 3 persons.

**Veterans and their families** – There are large numbers of Veterans and support systems because of the nearby military base in Havelock. The NCWorks Career Center works both employment and housing issues for homeless Veterans. Homeless Veterans often require additional services, with mental health services being the most commonly cited need. The number of homeless Veterans in Craven County has decreased from 4 in 2017, to 4 in 2018, and 2 in 2020. County breakdowns were unavailable for 2019 and 2022.

**Unaccompanied youth** – Teens aging out of foster care, and young adults in the 18-24 transition stage can be hard to locate. Many of them are staying with friends and family temporarily and are technically homeless. Unaccompanied youth may also move between different shelters. There were 2 unaccompanied youth counted in the 2017 Point-In-Time count, 5 unaccompanied youth counted in 2018, 1 unaccompanied youth counted in 2020, and 3 unacc for Craven County. County breakdowns were unavailable for 2019.

According to the NC Balance of State CoC Application for 2019, the CoC restructured its board to greater represent the diverse groups that make up the homeless population. The CoC utilizes Coordinated Entry to track the various subpopulations and divides them up into 13 local referral zones across the 79 counties that the CoC serves. Much of the area served by the CoC is rural, and the CoC creates advertisements and hotlines to target these subpopulations and allow them to access the Coordinated Entry process.

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

The 2022 Point-In-Time Count saw a return to typical levels for homelessness in Craven County following Hurricane Florence. Though many of the barriers to emergency housing in the City of New Bern and Craven County had been removed in response to Hurricane Florence, it remains a challenge to rapidly re-house families. The Point-In-Time count for 2016 counted 3 homeless households with children in Craven County, for a total of 8 persons. There were 4 homeless households with children in Craven County, for a total of 15 persons. Numbers were lower in 2018 at 4 homeless households and 9 persons. County breakdowns were unavailable for 2019. In 2020, there was 1 homeless household with 3 persons. There were 21 homeless persons counted overall, and all 21 homeless persons counted were in emergency shelters. In 2022, there was 1 homeless household with 4 persons. There were 26 homeless persons counted overall, and all 26 homeless persons counted were in emergency shelters.

Religious Community Services provides much of the shelter space for individuals and families in the County while also partnering with Craven Community College for job training and Craven-Pamlico Re-Entry to

assist ex-offenders with housing, transportation, and vocational skills. NCWorks provides job training and assists in housing homeless veterans. Coastal Women's Shelter partners with local landlords to provide stable housing and keep children of families experiencing domestic violence in the same schools to assist these children in maintaining stability. Crossroads is the major mental health provider in the area, but the need for mental health care far surpasses the amount of assistance that Crossroads can provide. Religious Community Services has the following emergency shelter beds for homeless populations:

- **Homeless Families** – 4 beds
- **Homeless Women** – 6 beds
- **Homeless Veterans** – 5 beds

The Coastal Women's Shelter prioritizes providing safe, affordable housing for victims of domestic violence. The shelter has 19 total beds, 3 of which are infant cribs. The Coastal Women's Shelter will work with trusted landlords to place people in housing, but there is a shortage of trusted landlords.

**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**

The North Carolina Balance of State CoC's written standards focus on a Housing First model and follow the best practices of that model. The written standards utilize several strategies to increase the number of people who exist Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Re-housing to Permanent Housing destinations. Evaluations of these standards will be based on the length-of-time homeless of an individual or family in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Rapid Re-Housing. The CoC will seek to make progress on the turnover rate of individuals and families, the targeting of individuals and families based on risk, and the number of positive exits into Permanent Housing.

The CoC Steering Committee has approved written standards that conform to best practices for Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Prevention and Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Coordinated Entry Programs on September 6, 2016. There are additional policies for follow-ups to those that have exited Rapid Re-Housing, Anti-Discrimination, and Emergency Transfers based on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The Balance of State CoC provides additional guidance to rural Continuums of Care.

The number of homeless Veterans in Craven County has decreased from 11 in 2016, to 4 in 2017, 2 in 2020, and went up slightly to 5 in 2022. In addition to housing, there is a need for wrap around services for veterans. These services largely include mental health care and recovery systems for those with addictions. There are a number of instances of PTSD in the area due to the presence of the military base.



Crossroads provides addiction counseling for Veterans, but they are limited to three (3) day emergency shelter stays. Volunteers will transport Veterans with addictions to Crossroads for these services. Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. received VASH vouchers for Veterans.

**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.**

Discharge policies at local hospitals are designed to prevent those leaving the hospitals from being referred to Religious Community Services. Religious Community Services supports homeless in the community through operating emergency shelters and food and clothing services for those in need. By providing other supportive services, Religious Community Services intends to assist people who may be extremely low income and help feed and clothe them so that other family income may go to rent.

Local services such as Craven-Pamlico Re-Entry Council, Children's Developmental Services Agency, and Carolina East Health work with various populations that are at-risk of becoming homeless. Wraparound services are necessary to prevent homelessness and encourage self-sufficiency. Discharge policies are also put in place to direct low-income individuals who are at risk of homelessness to services that may assist them. There is a need for additional caseworkers to expand these services.

### **Discussion**

Not Applicable.

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

### **Introduction:**

Eastern North Carolina lags behind the urban centers of the state economically. As a result, low- and moderate-income people have less income, and housing affordability is a greater issue in the area for all residents. Residents in protected classes can face even more housing affordability challenges, particularly when they cannot prove discrimination.

The most common fair housing complaint in the City of New Bern, as is the case nationally, is on the basis of disability. In Eastern North Carolina, there have been multiple instances of residents that faced evictions because landlords were unwilling to provide reasonable accommodations.

Transportation is a common barrier to affordable housing in the area. The local public transit system is unreliable. To access services and employment, residents must live near service providers and employers.

One of the major barriers to affordable housing in the City of New Bern is that cases go largely unreported. Though there are likely more instances of discrimination in the area, very few complaints are filed and little data is available on the types of complaints.

Hurricane Florence has also affected access to fair housing in the region. Many affordable housing units were destroyed in the Hurricane. This has resulted in the relocation of low- and moderate-income people. Following these relocations, people often find themselves farther away from the services.

### **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**

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern provides reasonable accommodations for its residents upon request. There is a need for additional accessibility improvements, which the City will undertake over the course of the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

The City of New Bern is going to continue to partner with CARTS, the local transit agency, to improve services and transit-related infrastructure. CARTS has adopted a strategic transit plan to increase ridership, which the City will support with supplemental infrastructure projects.

To address the issue of unreported complaints, the City will conduct education and outreach on fair housing so that residents can know their rights and be aware of the instances when those rights are violated.

**Discussion:**

The City of New Bern proposes to undertake the following activities during the FY 2023 Program Year to affirmatively further fair housing:

- The City of New Bern will continue to work with the New Bern Housing Authority and Twin River Opportunities, Inc. to address issues of accessible housing.
- The City continues to work with Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. to mitigate the concentration of minority households and Section 8 Voucher holders.
- The City of New Bern continues to collaborate with Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. to implement strategies to provide consistent communication about the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program.
- The City of New Bern will partner with local agencies and groups to raise Fair Housing awareness and conduct fair housing trainings. Past groups that have conducted trainings include Legal Aid of North Carolina and the North Carolina Housing Coalition.

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

The City of New Bern has developed the following actions which address the obstacles to meeting underserved needs, fosters affordable housing, reduces lead-based paint hazards, reduces the number of families living in poverty, develops institutional structures, and enhances coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

Despite efforts made by the City of New Bern and social service providers, a number of significant obstacles remain to meeting underserved needs. With funding resources being scarce, funding becomes the greatest obstacle for the City of New Bern to meet its underserved needs. Insufficient funding lessens the ability to fund many worthwhile public service programs, activities, and agencies. Through its planning efforts, the City will use its limited resources to address the City of New Bern's greatest needs and improve the quality of life for its residents. The following obstacles need to be overcome in order to meet underserved needs:

- Lack of decent, safe, sound, and affordable owner and renter housing.
- High cost of construction and rehabilitation work, exacerbated by Hurricane Florence.
- Aging in place population who need accessibility improvements.
- Need major rehabilitation of the City's aging housing stock.
- The increasing number of vacant and abandoned properties, exacerbated by Hurricane Florence.
- Low wages in the service and retail sector job market.
- Displaced residents from Hurricane Florence.
- Continued social pressures due to the recovery from Hurricane Florence.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

To foster and maintain affordable housing, the City proposes the following Five-Year Goals and Strategies:

- **HSS-1 Homeownership** - Promote and assist in developing homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons & families.
- **HSS-2 Housing Construction** - Promote and assist in the development of affordable housing, both rental and sales housing.
- **HSS-3 Housing Rehabilitation** - Promote and assist in the preservation of existing owner and renter occupied housing stock in the City.
- **HSS-4 Fair Housing** - Affirmatively further fair housing by promoting fair housing choice throughout the City of New Bern.

The City will partner with the Housing Authority of the City of New Bern, Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. and other fair housing agencies to promote fair housing in the city, through fair housing trainings, education, and promotions.

The City of New Bern will continue to work with the City's Human Rights Commission during this program year to again provide education and outreach.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

According to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 34.7% of the housing units in the City of New Bern were built before 1980 and are therefore at risk for containing lead-based paint. According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' 2019 Lead Surveillance Report, 2,335 children (ages birth-6 years) were tested in Craven County for elevated blood lead levels. Of those tested, seven (7) had a blood lead level of 5-9 µg/dL or greater. With 0.2% of children tested having blood lead levels greater than 5 µg/dL, Craven County compares favorably to the rest of North Carolina, which averages 0.3% of children tested having blood lead levels greater than 5 µg/dL.

The revised Federal Lead-Based Paint Regulations published on September 15, 1999 (24 CFR Part 35) have had a significant impact on many activities – rehabilitation, tenant based rental assistance, and property acquisition – supported by the CDBG program. The City of New Bern will comply with Title 24, Part 35: Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention in Certain Residential Structures (Current Rule).

The City of New Bern reviewed the Blood Lead Level Screening Plan provided through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services – North Carolina Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP). Additionally, the City reviewed the Blood Lead Level testing data provided through the Center for Disease Control and Prevention – Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

If the City of New Bern will ensure that the following will be done in conjunction with its Housing Rehabilitation activities:

- 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.

- 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 document ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.
- Program staff monitors owner compliance with ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.

In addition, in conjunction with its Housing Rehabilitation activities, the City will 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 safety requirements.
- The level of federal rehabilitation assistance is properly calculated and the applicable lead-based paint requirements determined.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

According to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 19.1% of all people in the City of New Bern have incomes below the poverty level. Additionally, 39.5% of female headed households with children with no husband present live in poverty. Individuals living on the threshold of poverty were faced with a collection of obstacles that prevent them from escaping their situation. Some may need adequate affordable housing, job skills training, day care for children, treatment for medical or substance abuse issues or they may be children and adults with educational needs.

The City allocates its Community Development Block Grant program to improve the living environments of low to moderate-income persons, specifically improving the lives of low- to moderate-income youth in order to break the cycle of poverty.

During this program year, the City of New Bern will fund the following activities to address the needs of individuals and households who live in poverty:

- **CD-23-03 Catholic Charities** - CDBG funds will be used to pay for rent and utility assistance to low-moderate income households to prevent homelessness.
- **CD-23-04 My Sister's House** - CDBG funds will be used to pay for additional staff salaries for two (2) residential aides to be added to agency.
- **CD-23-05 Omega Center Facility Improvements** - CDBG funds will be used to pay for the cost for ADA compliant bathroom stalls (total of 12) and improvements to the fire suppressant system.
- **CD-23-06 The Village - Acquisition & Development of Playground** - CDBG funds will be used to pay for the cost for the acquisition of the two (2) adjacent properties to expanded the facility's outdoor play space by installing a playground and fencing in the property.

## Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of New Bern works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **City of New Bern - Development Services** - oversees the CDBG program.
- **Housing Authority of the City of New Bern** - oversees the improvements to public housing communities.
- **Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc.** - oversees the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program and the development of scattered site affordable housing.
- **Social Services Agencies** - the City provides funds to address the needs of low- and moderate-income persons.
- **Housing Providers** - the City provides funds to rehabilitate and develop affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families and individuals.
- **North Carolina Balance of State CoC** - oversees the Continuum of Care Network for 79 counties including Craven County. For planning purposes, the CoC is divided into thirteen (13) regions. Craven County is located in Region 13.

As part of the CDBG application planning process, local agencies, and organization are invited to submit proposals for CDBG funds for eligible activities.

The Development Services Department continues to look for gaps in the institutional structure. Maintaining and enhancing communication amongst all community and economic development stakeholders, is essential in addressing the needs identified in the City of New Bern's Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

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

**Public Institutions:** The City will act as a clearinghouse and facilitator for many of the activities described in the annual action plan. As the local unit of government, the City is empowered to apply for and administer certain types of grants. Support from the City, expressed as a certification of consistency or some other instrument, may be all that is required for some activities. Other activities will involve the more direct participation of the City for funding, acquisition of land or buildings, or in convening meetings of various agencies to iron out differences or strategies on how to seize opportunities. The City will continue to administer the CDBG program.

The Housing Authority of the City of New Bern administers public housing. Twin Rivers Opportunities, Inc. administers Section 8 Rental Assistance Programs in the City. This Authority is responsible for the management and maintenance of public housing units. The Housing Authority will continue in its efforts to modernize these public housing units in order to provide decent, affordable housing in the City.

**Non-Profit Organizations:** Non-profit housing agencies play a role in the implementation of this plan. Through the construction of new housing, and the rehabilitation of existing units, these agencies access

financing sources such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, Greenleaf Funding, and charitable contributions that increase the supply of affordable housing. While some groups focus on the rehabilitation of single units for resale to first time homebuyers, others have attempted to create assisted rental developments. In the future, the union of such groups with social service agencies that serve specific special needs populations will address the Five Year Consolidated Plan strategy for creation of supportive housing and affordable housing opportunities.

Non-profit educational institutions provide an important partnership for the City. Craven Community College is currently partnering with the City of New Bern on the construction of the VOLT Center. Craven Community College will provide job and vocational training at the center, which is located in the Greater Five Points Redevelopment Area.

Social service agencies are a link between the provision of housing and the population it is intended to serve. The agencies work directly with providers of services to persons with special needs including: mental health, mental retardation, elderly, drug and alcohol addiction and families that are at-risk of becoming homeless. Although these agencies cannot provide housing, they can direct housing efforts where needed and are integral in the planning of housing and services for target populations. Emergency shelters, including the Religious Community Services and Coastal Women's Shelter, will continue to provide shelter for the homeless.

**Private Industry:** Several lending institutions cooperate with the City to provide funding for downtown improvements. Those lending institutions play an important role by providing financing that would not otherwise be available. Additionally, the private businesses located in the area contributed to the Hurricane cleanup in Downtown New Bern.

### **Discussion:**

### **Monitoring:**

The Monitoring Plan represents the City of New Bern's strategy for overseeing the activities of entities that carry out CDBG assisted activities. The Monitoring Plan identifies the following:

- The organizations to be monitored
- The issues to be explored and the methodology to be utilized in conducting the monitoring
- Identification of the specific Development Services staff members that will assume responsibility for monitoring
- The follow-up measures to be followed in communicating the results of the monitoring to affected organizations and the methods that will be utilized to obtain feedback from affected organizations

The CDBG monitoring will be carried out at two (2) separate levels. First, the City will conduct an internal monitoring to review the homeowner rehab program and to ensure that the CDBG Program is being administered in accordance with CDBG and other federal regulatory and statutory requirements. Second,



the City will conduct an external monitoring to review the activities of its sub-recipients.

The purpose of the City's monitoring efforts is:

- to identify and correct issues that prevent the City from achieving full compliance with the regulatory requirements of the CDBG Program and other Federal requirements before deficiencies lead to HUD monitoring findings, and
- to learn more about the strengths and weaknesses of the various organizations that plays a role in the City's CDBG program and to use this knowledge as the basis for structuring future CDBG activities.

## Program Specific Requirements

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

**Introduction:**

The City of New Bern receives an annual allocation of CDBG funds. Since the City receives this federal allocation, 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
<b>Total Program Income</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

#### 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.	<b>70.00%</b>

**CDBG Percentages:**

- **Administrative Percentage:** 20.0%
- **Public Service Percentage:** 15.0%
- **Low and Moderate-Income Percentage:** 70.0%
- **Slum and Blight Activities:** 30.0%