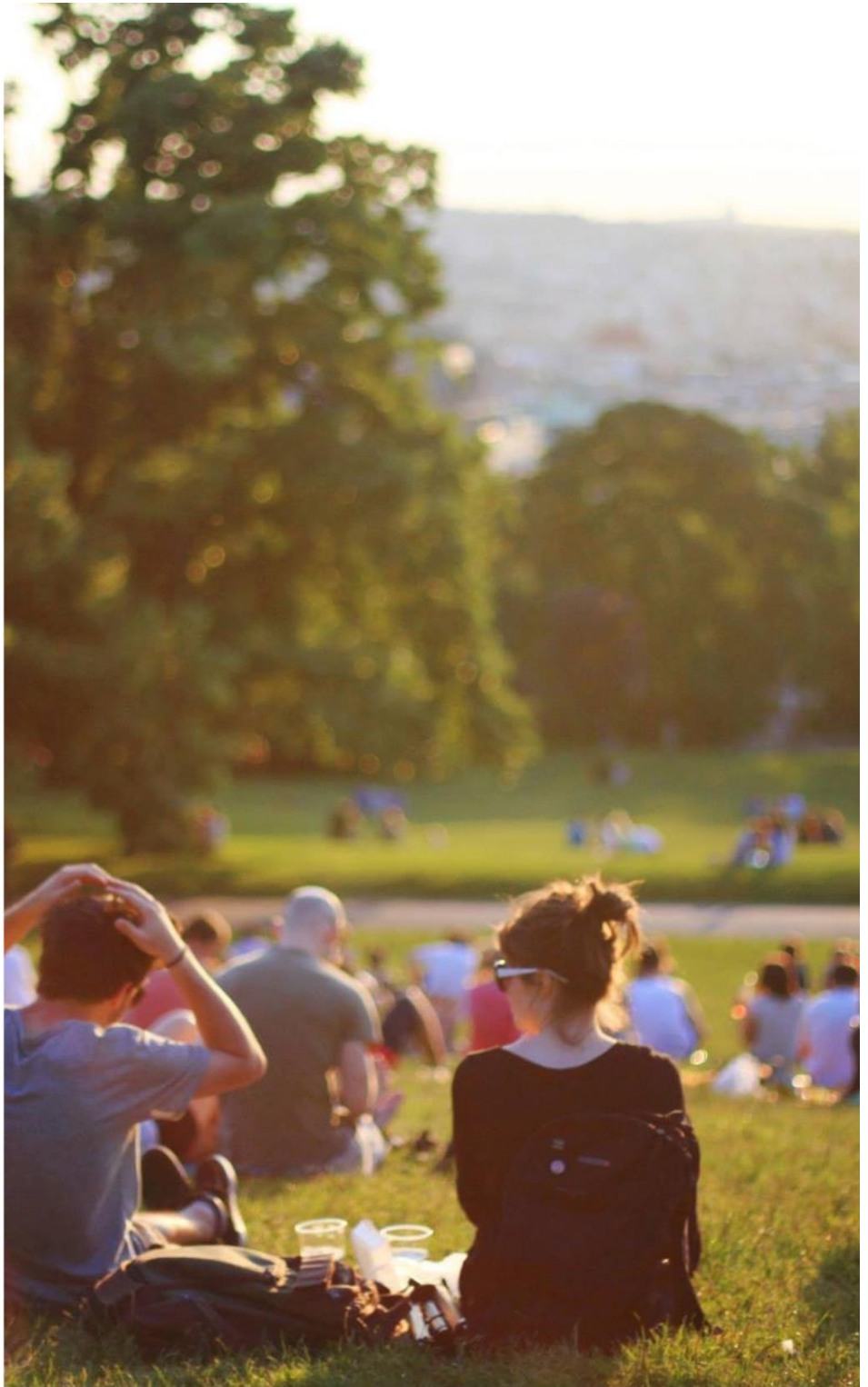


PY24 ACTION PLAN

COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT
(CDBG)



October 1, 2024 to
September 30, 2025

33 E. Broadway
Meridian, Idaho
ccampbell@meridiancity.org

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Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary

24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction:

The City of Meridian is an Entitlement Community receiving annual funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program since 2007. The City is currently operating under the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) for program years 2022-2026. The Con Plan outlines strategies, goals, and community development needs identified through collaboration with community members and local entities.

This Action Plan is for the third year of the 2022-2026 Con Plan, providing guidance to the City's CDBG Program for Program Year 2024 (PY24), covering October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025. The PY24 Action Plan summarizes the actions, activities, and resources to be utilized during PY24 to address the goals and priority needs identified in the 2022-2026 Con Plan.

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

Meridian's 2022-2026 Con Plan is a five-year strategic plan that provides an outline of actions for the community as it works toward meeting the housing and community development needs of its low and moderate-income and special needs households. The plan's development includes a profile of the community and its economy, an assessment of housing and community development needs, and the development of long-range strategies to meet those needs.

The Con Plan serves the following functions:

- A planning document for the City, which builds on a participatory process among citizens, organizations, businesses, and other stakeholders;
- A submission for federal funds under HUD's formula grant program for jurisdictions;
- A strategy to be followed in carrying out HUD programs; and
- A management tool for assessing performance, tracking success, and determining the course of future Con Plans.

The 2022-2026 Con Plan was prepared in accordance with Sections 91.100 through 91.230 of HUD's Consolidated Plan Final Rule.

Below are HUD's objectives and the City's projected outcomes over the course of the 2022-2026 Con Plan:

1. **Provide decent housing** by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing.
2. **Provide a suitable living environment** through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of LMI residents throughout Meridian, increased housing opportunities, and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods.

3. **Expand economic opportunities** through homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low- and moderate-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

3. Evaluation of past performance:

At the end of its program year, Meridian is required to provide an annual report to HUD that summarizes its performance for the program year. This report is called the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The CAPER must include a description of the resources made available, the investment of available resources, the geographic distribution and location of investments, the families and persons assisted (including the racial and ethnic distribution of persons assisted), the actions taken to affirmatively further fair housing, and other actions indicated in the Strategic Plan and the Action Plan.

Performance reporting meets three basic purposes:

1. Provides HUD with the necessary information to meet its statutory requirement to assess each grantee's ability to carry out relevant CPD programs in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations;
2. Provides information necessary for HUD's Annual Report to Congress, also statutorily mandated; and,
3. Provides grantees an opportunity to describe to citizens their successes in meeting objectives stipulated in their Con Plan.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process:

Citizen participation includes actively encouraging citizens, particularly the low and moderate-income population, to participate in the planning process for the five-year Con Plan, the Action Plan, the submission of Substantial Amendments, and the development of the Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER).

The City encouraged and sought broad participation but especially encouraged participation from low- and moderate-income persons, residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, minorities, non-English speaking persons, persons with disabilities, public housing residents, local and regional institutions, businesses, developers, and nonprofit organizations.

All public meetings were held in a location convenient to residents, particularly potential or actual beneficiaries.

Citizen participation played a critical role in the needs assessment, market analysis, and the construction of the goals and priorities featured in the Con Plan. It was also vital in developing this year's Action Plan, ensuring that previously identified goals and priorities continue to meet the community's needs.

5. Summary of public comments:

Meridian acknowledges and documents all comments received during the public participation process. This includes recording and analyzing feedback from the online survey. The comments and survey results played a critical role in shaping the specific priorities and goals outlined in the Con Plan and subsequently addressed in the current Action Plan. By incorporating public input, Meridian ensures that the Action Plan continues to align with the identified needs and goals of the community.

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

Meridian accepts and records all comments.

7. Summary:

Meridian has implemented and adopted a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) in conjunction with the 2022-2026 Con Plan. This CPP serves as a framework for facilitating public input and engagement in the allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds granted to the City. The CPP outlines the methods and procedures for providing notice and conducting outreach to residents regarding public hearings related to all aspects of the CDBG process. The CPP ensures that the community has opportunities to participate and provide input in the decision-making processes related to CDBG funding.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies

24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	MERIDIAN	Economic Development, Mayor's Office

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative:

The Meridian CDBG Program is overseen by the Mayor's Office. The Program collaborates closely with various departments within the city, including the Community Development Department, Planning Division staff, Economic Development Division staff, as well as other departments like Public Works, Finance, and Parks and Recreation. This collaborative approach ensures coordination and integration of efforts across different departments to effectively implement CDBG-funded projects and initiatives in Meridian.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information:

Crystal Campbell, Community Development Program Coordinator
 Mayor's Office
 City of Meridian
 33 E. Broadway Avenue
 Meridian, ID 83642
 208-489-0575

AP-10 Consultation

24 CFR 91.100, 24 CFR 91.200(b), 24 CFR 91.215(l)

1. Introduction:

The City of Meridian values agency consultation to identify and address priority needs within the community. This inclusive process involves active participation from non-profit organizations, private citizens, and public agencies, fostering a collaborative effort. Through extensive outreach and consultation, the City engaged with citizens, local municipal officials, non-profit agencies, public housing agencies, governmental agencies, private organizations, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) in the development of the Plan. By involving a diverse range of stakeholders, the City ensures that the Con Plan and subsequent Action Plans accurately reflects the needs and aspirations of the community.

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)):

While there are no public housing units in Meridian, an estimated 8 percent of the housing authority's total voucher supply are used within Meridian City limits. The City collaborated with the Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA), the local public housing authority, to assist the City in better understanding ACHA's resources and needs. ACHA and the City are both involved with the CoC. The CoC meetings provide an opportunity to collaborate with regional and local housing providers (public, non-profit, and private) and health and social service agencies (including private and non-profit mental health, emergency, and healthcare providers).

Additionally, the City has developed a socioeconomic profile of Meridian to identify gaps in service, likely partnerships, and needs of the community. The City is dedicated to extending further support to organizations that help meet the community's identified needs.

One need that is readily apparent is the need for housing affordability and rental support. Meridian is dedicated to increasing its affordable housing inventory to ensure residents of all income levels can find housing in Meridian and provide necessary supportive services. City staff will continue to stay engaged with the housing affordability and supportive service community so the City can better provide important tools and resources to affordable housing developers and supportive service providers.

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 City of Meridian actively coordinates with the Continuum of Care (CoC), known locally as Our Path Home Connect, to address the needs of homeless individuals and families, particularly those who are chronically homeless, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth. The CoC consists of representatives from various organizations that provide services related to housing, health, social services, victim support, employment, and education for low-income individuals and families, as well as those experiencing homelessness.

The City's collaboration with the CoC involves engaging staff members from neighboring communities, along with representatives from public and private entities. These entities include housing providers, healthcare facilities, mental health service providers, foster care and youth programs, corrections programs and

institutions, victim services, law enforcement agencies in Ada County, nonprofit organizations, state departments, and school districts, among others.

By bringing together these diverse stakeholders, the City aims to develop comprehensive strategies and initiatives to prevent homelessness, provide support and resources to homeless individuals and families, and address the underlying causes of homelessness. This collaborative effort ensures that the City works closely with publicly funded institutions and systems of care that may discharge individuals into homelessness, such as health-care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions.

Through the coordinated efforts of the CoC, the City of Meridian strives to enhance services, improve access to affordable housing, provide necessary healthcare and mental health support, and create a supportive environment for individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

In 2017, Our Path Home Connect launched coordinated entry, which provides a single point of entry for households experiencing homelessness. Due to the data collected through coordinated entry, Our Path Home Connect has identified four strategic initiatives:

1. End family homelessness,
2. Prevent first-time homelessness,
3. Expand supportive housing opportunities, and
4. Evolve the partnership.

The involvement of foster care and other youth programs has encouraged the City to further evaluate the non-traditional homelessness experienced by youth and their families in Meridian.

The City of Meridian has enhanced its collaboration with Our Path Home Connect (the local Continuum of Care) by including a CoC representative in the CDBG Scoring Committee. This representative serves in an advisory capacity, ensuring CoC perspectives are considered in evaluating applications for public service and housing project funding. This inclusion leverages the CoC's expertise in addressing homelessness, aligning CDBG fund allocations with CoC priorities and goals. The City's objective is to promote informed decision-making and a comprehensive approach to tackling homelessness and its associated challenges in Meridian.

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:

The City of Meridian does not directly receive ESG funds, as the state is the sole recipient. However, Meridian staff attend CoC meetings where ESG fund allocation is discussed. The City aligns with the CoC's strategy for using ESG funds by funding homeless prevention activities, as Meridian does not have any emergency shelters. Additionally, the City participates in executive meetings and the FUND and PREVENT Committees to identify funding opportunities and streamline homelessness prevention services. Although Meridian does not directly utilize HMIS, it supports the CoC's efforts in the operation and administration of HMIS.

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:

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Meridian actively consults and engages with the Ada County Housing Authority to understand the public housing needs in the community and improve services. Through phone calls and meetings, they aim to identify opportunities for coordination and cooperation to enhance housing access and stability in Meridian. By collaborating with the housing authority, the city seeks to gain insights into the specific challenges faced by individuals and families in need of housing, including barriers to affordable options. Through ongoing communication, they aim to develop strategies and initiatives such as streamlining processes and expanding affordable housing options to ensure long-term stability. The anticipated outcome is to improve housing access and stability, creating a more inclusive and supportive community for all residents.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims

		<p>Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Other government - State Other government - Local Regional organization Planning organization</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Our Path Home serves as the Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care (CoC) and is composed of representatives from various agencies, groups, and organizations involved in addressing housing, homelessness, and fair housing in the community. Through monthly scheduled meetings, subcommittee meetings, and email exchanges, Our Path Home collaborates with the city to provide valuable insights into the needs of the community in these areas. The city actively engages with Our Path Home to gather information and perspectives that inform funding recommendations and strategies to address homelessness, homelessness prevention, and fair housing activities. By working together, the city and Our Path Home aim to develop effective solutions, allocate resources appropriately, and create a community that is inclusive, supportive, and responsive to the housing needs of its residents.</p>
3	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Boys and Girls Club of Ada County</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services-Children Regional organization</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City of Meridian regularly consults and engages with the Boys & Girls Club, an organization that focuses on providing support to youth and families in the community. Through meetings and communication via email and phone calls, the city aims to assess the needs of school-age children, particularly those from low- to moderate-income families. By consulting with the Boys & Girls Club, the city seeks to identify specific requirements and provide assistance to these families, allowing them to allocate their income towards maintaining stable housing. The anticipated outcome of these</p>

		consultations is to improve the overall well-being of youth and families in need within the community by coordinating efforts and providing support through collaborative initiatives.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Can/Ada Collaborative
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Other government - Local Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Can/Ada Collaborative is a collaborative group consisting of local entitlement communities in the region, including Boise, Meridian, Nampa, and Caldwell. Through regular meetings and email communication, the collaborative aims to ensure compliance with federal regulations, particularly related to HUD funding. The participating municipalities strive to align their activities and initiatives with regional needs while addressing local needs, maximizing the impact of CDBG funds. The collaborative approach allows representatives to share information, discuss best practices, and identify areas for collaboration, leading to a comprehensive and coordinated

		response to community development challenges. By working together, the Can/Ada Collaborative enables the participating communities to meet federal regulations, address regional needs, and effectively utilize CDBG funds for community development initiatives.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	CATCH, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	CATCH (Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless) is a crucial public-private partnership in Ada County dedicated to ending homelessness. The organization recognizes permanent housing as the fundamental solution to homelessness and views housing as an integral part of healthcare. CATCH's primary focus is on addressing homelessness among children and families in Ada County, and they collaborate actively with local partners to provide pathways to secure permanent housing. This collaboration encompasses various initiatives such as operating warming shelters, developing supportive housing plans, offering resolution assistance, and implementing prevention efforts. The city engages in consultations with CATCH through meetings and email exchanges to ensure effective coordination and communication. These consultations serve as a platform for discussing strategies, sharing information, and identifying opportunities for collaboration and improvement. By consulting with CATCH, the city aims to align its efforts with the organization's expertise and utilize their collaborative network to maximize the impact of homelessness prevention and support programs. The anticipated outcome is to enhance coordination, leading to more effective and comprehensive solutions to end homelessness for children and families in Ada County.

6	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Meridian
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy 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
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Meridian has actively engaged in providing insights and expertise in various areas relevant to the program. This includes sharing knowledge on planning and zoning regulations, building codes, disaster recovery, housing affordability, population growth, and the specific needs of low- to moderate-income residents. To ensure smooth coordination and effective implementation of the program, there is constant communication between CDBG staff and other departments. This communication occurs through various channels, such as in-person discussions, meetings, emails, and phone calls. The regular and daily contact with	

		<p>different departments allows for seamless information sharing and collaboration. The city's plan to streamline access throughout the city demonstrates its commitment to improving the program's efficiency and effectiveness. By streamlining access, the city aims to enhance the ease with which low- to moderate-income residents can access the resources and support provided by the program. This could involve simplifying application processes, improving information dissemination, or implementing measures to remove barriers to access. Overall, the City of Meridian's active involvement in providing insights, maintaining constant communication with other departments, and its plan to streamline access reflects its dedication to optimizing the program's impact and ensuring that low- to moderate-income residents can benefit from the resources available in an efficient and equitable manner.</p> <p>Additionally, the City actively participates in various projects and initiatives to improve connectivity and access to high-speed internet services. One of the ongoing projects is the development of a fiber ring that would interconnect facilities and provide infrastructure for ISPs to offer cost-effective fiber services in Ada County. While funding for this project is pending, the City is working to secure grants to support its implementation. A digital access study has been conducted to gather insights and inform efforts to bridge the digital divide in the community.</p> <p>Meridian has also collaborated with TDS and other providers such as Sparklight and Lumen to bring more competition to the area, resulting in improved pricing for residents. By engaging with these service providers, the City aims to enhance options and affordability for high-speed internet services.</p> <p>Through these initiatives, the City of Meridian demonstrates its commitment to addressing the connectivity needs of its residents and fostering a competitive market for internet service providers. By actively seeking partnerships and exploring innovative solutions, Meridian strives to ensure that its community has access to reliable and affordable internet services.</p>
7	Agency/Group/Organization	COMPASS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Regional organization Planning organization

	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Public Transit</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City of Meridian actively engages in consultations with COMPASS, including involvement in the housing affordability workgroup, and the transportation workgroup to improve access to affordable housing and transportation for its residents. These consultations involve regular meetings and ongoing communication through emails. COMPASS, as a regional planning organization, provides valuable insights into regional planning and development strategies, allowing the city to align its efforts with regional priorities and address housing and transportation challenges effectively. The housing affordability workgroup focuses on understanding the local housing market, identifying barriers to affordability, and exploring solutions to promote access to safe and affordable housing options. The transportation workgroup aims to improve transportation infrastructure, promote sustainable mobility, and ensure accessibility for all residents. Through these consultations, the City of Meridian seeks to foster collaboration, share knowledge, and develop strategies that enhance access to affordable housing and transportation, ultimately improving the quality of life for its residents.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>FACES of Hope</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City of Meridian collaborates with Faces of Hope, a local organization dedicated to supporting victims of violence, to enhance services and ensure access for those in need. These consultations involve email communication, workshops, and meetings, facilitating a comprehensive and collaborative approach. Faces of Hope plays a crucial role in providing resources and support to victims, and by consulting with them, the city aims to gain a deeper understanding of the specific needs of victims in Meridian. Through these engagements, they can identify opportunities for collaboration, address service gaps, and develop initiatives that improve access to</p>

		support services. The ultimate goal is to enhance the availability and accessibility of services for victims of violence, empowering them to heal and rebuild their lives within the community.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	The Housing Company
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Housing Company, a property management agency in Idaho, is consulted through meetings, emails, and phone calls. The purpose of these consultations is to explore strategies to increase the availability of affordable housing units for low-income earners. The city seeks to gain insights into the services and resources provided by The Housing Company to ensure that residents have access to guidance and support throughout the housing process. Additionally, consultations aim to understand the challenges faced by minimum wage earners in finding affordable and suitable housing. The anticipated outcome of the consultation and improved coordination is to explore collaborative approaches that mitigate the impact of rising costs and find creative solutions to make housing more affordable and accessible. Ultimately, this collaboration aims to ensure that underserved communities have access to decent and affordable housing options, promoting stability and well-being within the community.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Idaho Fair Housing Forum
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Fair Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City engages in virtual meetings with this group to consult on advancing the fair housing work of the City and the region. These consultations serve as a platform for discussions and exchange of ideas regarding fair housing law and practice. Through these meetings, the group has facilitated fair housing trainings and conferences to educate individuals about fair housing rights and regulations. The consultations also play a crucial role in informing the City's strategies and approaches to affirmatively further fair housing. By collaborating with this group, the City aims to promote awareness, understanding,

		and implementation of fair housing principles and practices within the community.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Idaho Housing and Finance Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Other government - State Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	IHFA serves as a financial institution and administrator of affordable housing resources in the state of Idaho. They are responsible for managing HUD's statewide ESG (Emergency Solutions Grants), HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS), and HOME funds. The City engages in consultations with IHFA through in-person meetings, phone calls, and meetings to achieve several expected outcomes. These include gaining a better understanding of the available resources for Meridian residents, ensuring that the City is aware of the programs and funding options that can benefit the community. Additionally, the consultations aim to enhance coordination and collaboration with statewide resources, enabling the City to leverage and align resources effectively to address affordable housing needs across the state.

12	Agency/Group/Organization	Idaho Legal Aid
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Fair Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Idaho Legal Aid is an organization dedicated to providing legal assistance and advocacy for low-income individuals and vulnerable populations in Idaho. They offer legal services to address a range of civil legal issues, including housing-related matters such as fair housing. In consultations conducted via email, the City sought input and guidance from Idaho Legal Aid to identify fair housing resources, understand the specific housing issues prevalent in the community, and explore potential strategies to address these issues. The anticipated outcomes of the consultation were to gather valuable insights, information, and resources from Idaho Legal Aid to effectively address fair housing concerns and ensure that the City's initiatives align with legal requirements and best practices.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Idaho Nonprofit Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Idaho Nonprofit is a state association representing over 800 nonprofit organizations, primarily located in the Treasure Valley. The organization plays a vital role in supporting nonprofits by providing training, resources, and advocacy services. They offer training programs in leadership development, financial literacy, and board training, as well as webinars to enhance nonprofit effectiveness. Through their lobbying efforts, they track state legislation affecting nonprofits and ensure that jurisdictions are well-informed at the state and local levels. Idaho Nonprofit also educates policymakers in the sector by analyzing macro-level indicators and advocating for grant funding best practices. Their aim is to facilitate the administrative side of grant funding, providing nonprofits with capacity-building support and guidance, so they can focus on fulfilling their missions. The City has engaged Idaho Nonprofit through email to gain a better understanding of the needs and resources required by nonprofits, ultimately leading to more effective support and collaboration within the sector.

14	Agency/Group/Organization	Idaho Youth Ranch
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Idaho Youth Ranch plays a crucial role in providing accessible programs and services for youth and families facing trauma and crisis. Their comprehensive range of services includes outpatient services, counseling centers, mental tele-health, e-point assisted psychotherapy, adoption services, and residential shelters in the Treasure Valley. To better understand the needs of the community and explore opportunities for collaboration, the city engages in consultations with the Idaho Youth Ranch through email and phone calls. Through these consultations, the city aims to gain insights into the specific needs of youth and families in crisis, identify gaps in services, and explore ways to work together to provide the necessary support and resources. By fostering collaboration, the city and the Idaho Youth Ranch can create a more coordinated and effective response to addressing the needs of youth and families experiencing trauma and crisis in the community.

15	Agency/Group/Organization	Intermountain Fair Housing Council
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Fair Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Intermountain Fair Housing Council serves as an important organization focused on promoting fair housing practices and combating housing discrimination. Through email consultations, the city engages with the Intermountain Fair Housing Council to gain a better understanding of fair housing concerns in Meridian. The purpose of these consultations is to gather insights and information regarding the specific fair housing challenges and issues faced by residents in the community. By consulting with the Intermountain Fair Housing Council, the city aims to enhance its understanding of fair housing laws, regulations, and best practices, as well as identify strategies to address any potential fair housing violations or barriers to equal housing opportunities. Ultimately, the goal is to promote fair and equitable housing practices, ensuring that all individuals in Meridian have equal access to housing and are protected from discrimination.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Jesse Tree
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Jesse Tree is an organization that serves as a vital resource in the community, particularly for individuals and families facing housing instability and the risk of eviction due to rising rents. The city engages in consultations with the Jesse Tree through email, phone calls, and meetings to gain insights and clarity into the need for their program. By consulting with the Jesse Tree, the city hopes to gather information on the specific challenges faced by residents, such as evictions and the increasing cost of housing. These consultations aim to provide a better understanding of the current housing landscape, including the impact of rising rents, and to identify strategies and resources to support individuals and families at risk of homelessness. The collaboration between the city and the Jesse Tree seeks to address the urgent housing needs within the community, mitigate the effects of rising rents, and develop solutions that ensure housing stability for all residents.

17	Agency/Group/Organization	Meridian - Mayor's Senior Advisory Board
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Civic Leaders Senior Advisory
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Meridian's Mayor's Senior Advisory Board plays a crucial role in advising and providing insights on matters related to the needs of senior citizens and individuals residing in assisted living or low-income senior housing. As part of their involvement, representatives from the board are included on the scoring committee, which indicates their input in assessing and evaluating relevant programs or initiatives. The city aims to gain a better understanding of the specific needs, challenges, and concerns of senior citizens through the consultation with the board. By actively engaging with the Mayor's Senior Advisory Board, the city can gather valuable insights and expertise to inform decision-making processes and develop strategies that address the unique requirements of this population. The collaborative efforts between the city and the advisory board aim to improve the quality of life for senior citizens, enhance the accessibility of services, and ensure the overall well-being of older residents in Meridian.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Meridian Development Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Meridian Development Corporation (MDC) is dedicated to overseeing the restoration and urban development of historic downtown Meridian, with a focus on enhancing accessibility, supporting local businesses, promoting affordable workforce housing, and fostering community engagement. MDC maintains regular meetings and email communications to collaborate closely with the city and ensure that their efforts align with the overall vision for downtown Meridian. Given that many of the city's low- to moderate-income (LMI) areas are located downtown, the collaboration between the city and MDC directly impacts potential recipients of the CDBG program. By working together, the city and MDC can streamline their efforts, effectively utilize available resources, and create a vibrant and inclusive downtown area that

		benefits the LMI beneficiaries and contributes to the overall development of Meridian.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Meridian Library District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Meridian Library plays a vital role in the community by providing access to a wide range of resources and services for people of all ages and abilities. Through offerings such as classes, books, materials, mentorship, and collaboration opportunities, the library fosters inclusivity and supports the diverse needs of the community. This includes services tailored to youth, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and other marginalized groups. The library offers various programs such as book clubs, after-school programs, career support, tutoring, and story time to cater to different interests and needs. The library staff is trained to prioritize and meet the needs of diverse populations, including those who are unstably housed, identify as LGBTQIA+, have mental health concerns, or have experienced interpersonal violence. Through meetings and email communications, the city seeks to gain a better understanding of the community's needs and collaborate with the library to provide relevant resources and support.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Meridian Police Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services - Victims Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated	The Meridian Police Department (MPD) plays a critical role in law enforcement and providing assistance to victims within the criminal justice system. They have implemented various

	outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	<p>programs and initiatives to serve the community effectively. The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program focuses on responding to mental health crises, ensuring that individuals in need receive appropriate care and support. The Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition (MADC) addresses substance abuse issues through community-based prevention efforts. The MPD also aims to foster positive relationships between the community and law enforcement by promoting a friendly image of the police. This includes activities such as School Resource Officers (SROs) in schools and neighborhood block parties that encourage interaction between community members and the police. The MPD engages in meetings, emails, and phone calls with CDBG staff to gain a better understanding of the city's issues and provide resources, particularly for officers working directly with community members in challenging situations. The collaboration between the MPD and CDBG staff ensures that resources are available to address community needs and enhance the effectiveness of police services.</p>
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Meridian Senior Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Meridian Senior Center plays a vital role in serving the senior population within the community. The center provides a range of services and programs tailored to meet the unique needs of seniors, promoting their well-being, social engagement, and overall quality of life. To ensure effective communication and coordination, the city engages in meetings, phone calls, and emails with the Meridian Senior Center. These interactions provide an opportunity for the city to gain a better understanding of the needs and concerns of seniors in the community. By actively seeking insights from the Senior Center, the city can identify areas where additional support and resources may be required, enabling them to better address the needs of seniors and enhance their overall experience and quality of life.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	NeighborWorks Boise
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services – Housing Services-Education

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The NeighborWorks Boise is a nonprofit organization dedicated to community development and addressing housing needs in the community. Their primary focus is on revitalizing neighborhoods and providing affordable housing solutions for low- to moderate-income individuals and families. Through emails, meetings, and phone calls, the city engages with NeighborWorks Boise to collaborate on identifying and addressing housing needs within the community. By working together, the city aims to gain insights and explore strategies to improve access to affordable housing, empower residents, and provide the necessary resources for individuals and families to obtain, retain, and maintain their homes. The collaboration with NeighborWorks Boise helps the city to develop and implement initiatives that effectively address housing needs and contribute to the overall well-being and stability of the community.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	Terry Reilly Health Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	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 - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Terry Reilly is a healthcare organization that offers comprehensive primary care, dental care, and behavioral health care services in the Treasure Valley, including the city of Meridian. The organization conducts outreach efforts to reach individuals and families facing barriers to care, such as farmworkers, the homeless, and very-low to moderate-income individuals. Terry Reilly's services are available to all residents,

		<p>regardless of insurance status, and fees are based on a sliding scale to ensure affordability.</p> <p>Through email communication, the city engages with Terry Reilly to gain a better understanding of the healthcare needs within the community and to collaborate on resources and strategies to improve access to these services. By working together, the city and Terry Reilly aim to identify gaps in healthcare access, address disparities, and ensure that residents, particularly low-to-moderate-income individuals, have the necessary resources and support to receive the care they need.</p>
24	Agency/Group/Organization	West Ada School District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	<p>Services-Children</p> <p>Services-Persons with Disabilities</p> <p>Services-Victims of Domestic Violence</p> <p>Services-homeless</p> <p>Services-Health</p> <p>Services-Education</p> <p>Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care</p> <p>Regional organization</p>
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	<p>Homeless Needs - Families with children</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p> <p>Homelessness Strategy</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs</p>
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	<p>The West Ada School District plays a crucial role in serving the families and children of Meridian. The district implements McKinney-Vento programs to support homeless and unstably housed youth and families, ensuring they have access to education and essential resources. Additionally, the district provides nutrition services, including the summer nutrition program, which offers meals to school-age children in area parks.</p> <p>Through emails, phone calls, and meetings, the city engages with the West Ada School District to gain a better understanding of the needs of Meridian's youth and families, as well as the specific housing challenges faced by West Ada students. The city aims to identify any gaps in services and collaborate with the school district to develop a comprehensive plan to address those gaps. By working together, the city and the West Ada School District can create a supportive environment that meets the diverse needs of students and families, promotes inclusion and diversity, and ensures access to education and vital resources for all.</p>

25	Agency/Group/Organization	Women’s and Children’s Alliance
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The WCA (Women's and Children's Alliance) plays a vital role in providing comprehensive services to individuals who have experienced interpersonal violence in the community. Their services are offered free of charge and are accessible to women, children, men, and individuals who are gender non-conforming. The range of services includes shelter, hotline support, court advocacy, counseling, case management, and financial empowerment classes. Affordable housing emerges as a critical need for the agency's clients, as it directly affects their ability to escape abusive or violent environments. Through meetings, emails, and phone calls, the city engages with the WCA to gain a better understanding of the community's needs and to coordinate services that address those needs effectively. By collaborating with the WCA, the city aims to provide support, resources, and coordinated efforts to empower survivors and ensure their safety and well-being.

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

The City continues to consult with all required organizations in helping to formulate a strategy for the efficient use of HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Every agency identified was offered an opportunity to participate in the development of the plan. While no agencies were left out, the City does not have a citizen's advisory group to consult with.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Our Path Home	Our Path Home and the City of Meridian are both committed to ensuring greater access to fair and affordable housing, the reduction/prevention of homelessness, and access to credit for homeownership. The City participates in many joint efforts and organizations with Our Path Home to help support increasing housing options for residents.

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

Meridian is committed to engaging residents and stakeholders in the planning process, recognizing the value of diverse perspectives and inclusive decision-making. The City sought input from a wide range of entities during the development of the Con Plan, including broadband service providers, to gain a comprehensive understanding of the community's connectivity needs and opportunities. By involving these stakeholders, Meridian gathered valuable insights and identified strategies to enhance broadband access and affordability for residents.

Collaboration between CDBG staff and other departments plays an important role in addressing the community's preparedness and response capabilities. By working closely with these departments, CDBG staff was able to incorporate emergency management considerations into its planning efforts, ensuring the safety and well-being of residents during times of crisis.

Meridian's commitment to stakeholder engagement and consultation extends beyond the Con Plan. The City intends to continue prioritizing this approach in the development of subsequent Action Plans. This iterative process allows for ongoing feedback, adaptability, and addressing emerging needs and priorities within the community. By maintaining an open dialogue with stakeholders, Meridian can ensure that its plans and actions remain responsive to the evolving requirements of its residents.

The City's resilience efforts are comprehensive, focusing on flood-prone areas, public land or water resources, and emergency situations. Through partnerships with agencies like the Ada County Office of Emergency Management, Meridian develops local response plans and implements hazard mitigation strategies. This collaboration encompasses various aspects, including flood response, hazardous materials incidents, wildfire response, emergency response, and hazard mitigation efforts. The mutual aid agreement with neighboring communities further strengthens Meridian's emergency response capabilities, allowing for the mobilization of additional first responders when necessary. In anticipation of fuel shortages during critical situations, Meridian has signed an MOU to ensure access to fuel for essential vehicles, such as those used by the police department, fire vehicles, and city generators, guaranteeing uninterrupted emergency services.

The City participates in programs like the national flood insurance program and the community rating system program, demonstrating its commitment to going above and beyond basic requirements. Meridian's hazard mitigation plan, which includes flood risk mitigation strategies, is designed to protect the community and minimize the impact of flooding incidents. Moreover, the City is exploring alternative fuel sources such as solar energy, battery power, and generators to diversify its energy sources, enhance resilience, and reduce its environmental footprint.

Addressing broadband internet access and narrowing the digital divide is a priority for Meridian and these goals have been incorporated into the City's strategic plan. The installation of conduit infrastructure is being considered to expand broadband access throughout the city. Exploring Wi-Fi implementation in public parks aims to provide increased connectivity options for residents.

To further support these efforts, Meridian is applying for an energy efficiency community block grant to facilitate the development of a comprehensive plan to address energy efficiency within the community. Staff intends to explore opportunities for partnering to increase efficiencies for low- and moderate-income residents, as well as initiatives to bridge the digital divide. By utilizing grants and available resources, Meridian remains committed to promoting broadband access, enhancing resilience, managing flood-prone areas, and ensuring the overall well-being and resilience of its community.

AP-12 Participation

24 CFR 91.105, 24 CFR 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation. Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting.

The citizen participation process in Meridian involves active engagement with community members to gather feedback and ensure their needs and preferences are considered in goal-setting for Meridian’s CDBG Program. This process includes several key steps:

1. **Outreach Events:** Regular outreach events are conducted to inform residents about proposed projects and to collect their input. These events include activities like voting on project priorities, mural activities for engaging children and adults, and interactive sessions where participants can express their views and suggestions.
2. **Surveys and Feedback Collection:** Surveys are distributed to gather detailed feedback from residents. These surveys ask specific questions to determine the relevance of feedback based on residency or connection to Meridian and include questions about support for various projects.
3. **Public Meetings and Comment Periods:** Public meetings are held to discuss proposed action plans, and there are designated periods for public comment. These meetings provide a platform for residents to voice their opinions and for officials to explain the plans in detail.
4. **Community Art Projects:** Innovative methods like puzzle piece drawing activities are used to engage residents creatively. These projects help visualize the community’s vision and values, providing a unique way to gather input.
5. **Letters and Direct Communication:** Letters are sent to homeowners and other stakeholders to inform them about proposed projects and invite their feedback. These communications include details about action plans, survey links, public comment periods, and upcoming presentations or hearings.

The feedback collected through these various methods significantly impacts the goal-setting process for the CDBG Program. The main outcomes include:

- **Identifying Community Priorities:** The input helps prioritize projects that are most important to the residents, ensuring that the goals align with the community’s needs.
- **Enhancing Transparency and Accountability:** By actively involving citizens, the process becomes more transparent, and the community feels a sense of ownership over the decisions made.
- **Improving Project Design and Implementation:** The detailed feedback provides insights into potential improvements for project plans, making them more effective and efficient.

- **Ensuring Inclusivity:** The process ensures that diverse voices, including those from low to moderate-income households, are heard and considered in the planning and implementation phases.

Overall, the citizen participation process ensures that the goals set for the CDBG Program are reflective of the community’s needs and preferences, leading to more successful and impactful projects.

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
1	Internet Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>Notices of the public comment periods, public hearings, and presentations were sent out using the City's social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Nextdoor).</p> <p>Notices of the public comment periods and public hearings were sent out using multiple distribution lists including that of the Meridian CDBG Program, Mayor's Office, Behavioral Health Board, and church groups.</p>	No comments received.	No comments received.
2	Newspaper Ad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community 	Legal notices were published in the Idaho Press newspaper that described the public presentations, comment periods, and hearings regarding the plan development and the draft action plan.	n/a	n/a

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 			
3	Public Comment Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>Public comment periods were held for the plan development from March 15 to April 7, 2024. It was originally scheduled until March 31, but Council extended it.</p> <p>The draft Action Plan was open for public comment from June 11 to July 15, 2024. The comment period was noticed in the local newspaper.</p>	n/a	n/a
4	Plan Development Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>As part of its plan development process for the PY24 Action Plan, the City conducted a survey from March 15 to April 7, 2024, to gather feedback on services needed over the past year and barriers to accessing those services. The survey was distributed through social media, an email distribution list, a media release, the city e-newsletter, the city website, partner sharing, in-person events, and a legal notice. The survey received responses from 50 residents.</p>	<p>50% of respondents reported that they or someone they know needed access to services in the past year, with eligibility requirements being the main barrier. Most suggested partnerships were with agencies the City currently works with, such as those providing mental health services, childcare scholarships, and emergency rental assistance. Additional outreach was requested for public transportation and credit repair. There was also a suggestion to</p>	<p>All comments were accepted and noted from the survey.</p>

				provide clothing for teens, although this is ineligible.	
5	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	On March 26, 2024, the City held a community presentation and public hearing. Although there were few in-person attendees, the meeting was livestreamed and recorded, making it difficult to determine the total number of viewers. The public hearing was continued until April 9, 2024.	Council was supportive of staff efforts and asked staff to return on April 9 so they could hear more about the community feedback.	All comments were accepted and recorded.
6	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	On April 2, 2024, an Open House was held at City Hall where staff spoke with approximately 50 people about the CDBG program and its functions.	Comments from the Open House were generally positive and acknowledged the need for services to help residents remain stably housed. A coin voting activity was conducted, further explained under the "Do the Right" section, as the results were primarily from this event.	All comments were accepted.
7	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities 	On April 4, 2024, the City coordinated the annual "Do the Right" event at Meridian Middle School. This event, which has been held for many years, encourages people to do something kind for the person to their right, such as helping a neighbor, appreciating a	<p>The community voted on the importance of various services as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intimate Partner Violence: 25% - Childcare: 24% - Emergency Rent: 24% 	All comments were accepted.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>classmate, or buying coffee for a coworker. This year, the City partnered with multiple stakeholders to hold the first annual community fair, attended by approximately 200 community members and 27 community organizations.</p> <p>At the fair, staff provided information about the CDBG program and conducted a voting activity where participants used coins to vote for the services they deemed most important. The services included intimate partner violence support, childcare, emergency rent assistance, utilities, legal aid, and "other". Each participant received four coins to allocate as they saw fit. Combined with the voting activity from the Open House, a total of 83 individuals participated, casting 332 votes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilities: 16% - Legal: 9% - Other: 3% (including Homeowner Repairs, Food for Families, Community Schools, WASD Fund, and General) 	
8	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community 	<p>On April 9, 2024, a presentation was held at City Hall. Although there were few in-person attendees, the meeting was livestreamed and recorded, making it difficult to determine the total number of viewers.</p>	<p>During the presentation at City Hall on April 9, 2024, the Council complimented staff for increasing community engagement efforts. They expressed appreciation for the feedback received from the community.</p>	<p>No comments received.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 			
9	Application Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Subrecipients 	<p>On April 11, 2024, the City held an Application Workshop where one potential applicant attended. Despite the lack of attendance, the City demonstrated its commitment to facilitating the application process by providing support and guidance to potential subrecipients. The City also reached out to organizations identified during the plan development process to encourage them to apply and make them aware of the workshop.</p>	<p>The attendee realized that this opportunity was not a good fit for them at this moment.</p>	<p>No comments received.</p>
10	Direct Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households located in the area of impact for public facility and infrastructure improvement projects 	<p>A letter requesting feedback was sent to homes that will potentially be affected by the LMA Walkability projects.</p>	<p>No comments received.</p>	<p>No comments received.</p>
11	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Households with children 	<p>Staff set up a table at the Boys and Girls Club the afternoon of June 11, 2024 in an effort to interact with parents during pickup times. Information was provided about the action plan.</p> <p>Many people stopped by to get more information on CDBG and to help complete the community puzzle.</p>	<p>People stopping by were able to vote on whether they did or did not support the projects. The results were: Emergency rental assistance: 14 support, 0 do not. Improved walkways: 13 support, 1 did not. Boys and Girls Club scholarships: 14 support, 0 do not.</p>	<p>All comments were accepted.</p>

				Homeowner repairs: 14 support, 0 do not.	
12	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community 	<p>Staff held an open house at City Hall on June 18 with information about the action plan.</p> <p>There was limited engagement, mostly staff stopped by.</p>	<p>People stopping by were able to vote on whether they did or did not support the projects. The results were: Emergency rental assistance: 4 support, 0 do not. Improved walkways: 3 support, 1 does not. Boys and Girls Club scholarships: 4 support, 0 do not. Homeowner repairs: 4 support, 0 do not.</p>	All comments were accepted.
13	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living • Elderly residents 	<p>Staff held an open house at the Meridian Main Library on June 20, 2024. Staff timed this event to coincide with library programs such as the Fit and Fall Proof/Needles, Hooks, and Books class and a STEM class.</p> <p>Many people stopped by to get more information on CDBG and to help complete the community puzzle.</p>	<p>People stopping by were able to vote on whether they did or did not support the projects. The results were: Emergency rental assistance: 10 support, 0 do not. Improved walkways: 12 support, 0 do not. Boys and Girls Club scholarships: 10 support, 0 do not. Homeowner repairs: 10 support, 0 do not.</p>	All comments were accepted.
14	Public Display	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish 	<p>A combined community puzzle was completed during the outreach events. The puzzle was on display in front of the Mayor’s Office from July 2, 2024 to July 31, 2024. An</p>	No comments received.	No comments received.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>image of the puzzle can be found in Attachment A.</p>		
15	Press Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>The City's Communication team reached out to a local reporter to conduct an interview of CDBG staff. The story ran on the local evening news and an article posted online July 1, 2024.</p> <p>The article can be found here: https://www.kivitv.com/news/local-news/in-your-neighborhood/meridian/how-meridian-plans-to-spend-over-half-a-million-dollars-in-federal-funding</p>	No comments received.	No comments received.
16	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>On July 16, 2024, the City held a community presentation and public hearing. Although there were few in-person attendees, the meeting was livestreamed and recorded, making it difficult to determine the total number of viewers.</p>	No comments received.	No comments received.

<p>17</p>	<p>Action Plan Feedback Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Living 	<p>The City conducted a survey from June 11 to July 17, 2024, to gather feedback on the PY24 Action Plan. The survey was distributed through social media, an email distribution list, a media release, the city e-newsletter, the city website, partner sharing, in-person events, and a legal notice. The survey received responses from 59 people who live or work with people who live in Meridian.</p>	<p>In general, the community is supportive of the program and the projects that were selected. Of those who responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time in the community: 0 Less than 1 year/18% 1-5 years/25% 6-10 years/58% 10+ years - 77% homeowners/23% renters - 20% 18-35 years/55% 36-59 years/25% 60+ years 	<p>All comments were accepted and noted from the survey.</p>
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Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources

24 CFR 91.220(c) (1,2)

Introduction:

The City of Meridian prioritized goals and objectives for using CDBG funding to strategically and effectively benefit low- and moderate-income residents by increasing decent housing, creating a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities.

The City of Meridian follows HUD guidelines and limits public services to no more than 15% and administration to 20% of the annual entitlement.

Anticipated Resources:

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$524,378	\$0	\$0	\$524,378	\$1,000,000	The City anticipates receiving roughly \$500,000 in annual entitlement funding during PY25 and PY26. There are not anticipated to be a significant amount of prior year resources to be allocated at this time.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The City of Meridian does not participate in or receive funding from any additional HUD programs that have matching requirements, such as HOME, HOPWA, or ESG. Our housing and public service projects are expected to leverage funds from local, state, federal, and/or private sources. Although we request matching funds as part of the year-end report, it is not a prerequisite for receiving funding. All other projects are managed by the city, utilizing city resources including staffing and supplies.

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

Meridian will continue to improve the livability of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and buildings. Projects centered around walkability improvements will help residents with mobility challenges better access the neighborhoods, public transportation, and outdoor recreation. The buildout of the public infrastructure improves low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. The City will support multi-modal paths, park upgrades, and public infrastructure improvements in low- to moderate-income areas.

Discussion:

The City anticipates that some of the current projects will have remaining funding upon completion. However, the exact amount cannot be identified at this time since the projects are still active and agreements are in place.

The City expects partners to leverage CDBG funding to the fullest extent possible to implement robust programs that will help further the needs of area residents.

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	Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements	2022	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Meridian Citywide	Create a Suitable Living Environment	CDBG: \$235,221	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 400 Persons Assisted
2	Public Services	2022	2026	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Meridian Citywide	Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons	CDBG: \$78,657	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 87 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 20 Persons Assisted
3	Housing	2022	2026	Affordable Housing	Meridian Citywide	Provide Decent Housing	CDBG: \$160,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit
4	Program Administration	2022	2026	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Meridian Citywide	Provide Decent Housing Create a Suitable Living Environment Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons	CDBG: \$50,500	n/a

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions:

<p>1</p>	<p>Goal Name</p>	<p>Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements</p>
	<p>Goal Description</p>	<p>Public Facilities and Improvements are publicly-owned facilities and infrastructure such as streets, playgrounds, underground utilities, and buildings owned by non-profits open to the general public. Safe and accessible infrastructure is essential to the quality of life and building communities that support community diversity and stability. In general, public facilities and public improvements are interpreted to include all facilities and improvements that are publicly owned or owned by a nonprofit and open to the general public. Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and installation of public facilities and improvements are eligible activities.</p> <p>Meridian's goal to improve and expand public facilities may include, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA Improvements • Senior Centers • Homeless and Domestic Violence Facilities • Neighborhood Facilities • Health Facilities • Sidewalks
<p>2</p>	<p>Goal Name</p>	<p>Public Services</p>
	<p>Goal Description</p>	<p>Public services are an integral part of a comprehensive community development strategy. Public Service activities provide for a wide range of activities that address needs in the community provided for the target population. Public services can strengthen communities by addressing the needs of specific populations. They can address a range of individual needs and increase CDBG dollars' impact by complementing other activities.</p> <p>The City of Meridian may allocate up to 15% of CDBG funds to public services programs that provide supportive services for low- to moderate-income persons or prevent homelessness. In general, these services are provided by local non-profit partners. This funding is capped at 15% of the CDBG entitlement plus program income.</p> <p>Meridian's goal to improve and provide public services may include, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child care • Health services • Behavioral health services • Services for homeless persons • Services for seniors • Welfare services (excluding income payments)

3	Goal Name	Housing
	Goal Description	<p>The City prioritized goals and objectives for using CDBG funding to strategically and effectively benefit low- and moderate-income residents by increasing access to decent housing and creating a suitable living environment while expanding economic opportunities for LMI persons. Meridian is committed to improving and expanding access to safe and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income (LMI) residents. Affordable and safe housing helps to provide financial stability, reduces the chances of a person becoming homeless, and promotes housing sustainability.</p> <p>Meridian's projects to improve housing sustainability may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeownership Assistance • Rehabilitation (single-unit residential and/or multi-family residential) • Energy efficiency improvements • Acquisition • The administrative cost for rehabilitation activities • Lead-based paint testing/abatement • Housing counseling
4	Goal Name	Program Administration
	Goal Description	<p>Program Administrative funds will pay reasonable program administrative costs and carrying charges related to the planning and execution of community development activities. Administering federal funds and ensuring compliance is critical for utilizing Federal resources. Meridian is committed to using CDBG entitlement funding for administration to help to continue growing a community development program that is efficient, effective, and resourceful.</p> <p>Meridian may have administration projects that include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General management, oversight, and coordination • Providing local officials and citizens with information about the CDBG program • Preparing budgets and schedules • Preparing reports and other HUD-required documents • Program planning • Public Information • Monitoring program activities • Fair Housing activities • Indirect costs • Submission of applications for Federal programs

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).

The only activity that will provide decent housing this year is homeowner repair. We estimate that 8 households with an income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) will be assisted under this project. Meridian does not specify that participants must be categorized separately as extremely low-income, low-income, or moderate-income to qualify; therefore, there is no anticipated breakdown of these categories.

This approach aligns with HOME 91.215(b) by addressing the overall affordable housing needs identified during the Consolidated Planning process. The city conducts an eligibility review to ensure that housing projects meet the priorities outlined in the housing market analysis. These priorities are used to identify and select activities that address the needs of households earning at or below 80% of the AMI, fulfilling the requirement to provide affordable housing as defined by HOME regulations. This process ensures that selected activities are in line with the goals and priorities established to support affordable housing for eligible households.

Projects

AP-35 Projects

24 CFR 91.220(d)

Introduction:

The City has allocated funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to support projects that align with the priority needs and goals outlined in the 2022-2026 Con Plan. The Con Plan serves as a comprehensive strategy for addressing community development and affordable housing needs within the jurisdiction. By allocating CDBG funds to these projects, the City aims to effectively address the identified priorities and work towards achieving its long-term goals for community development and housing.

Projects:

#	Project Name
1	2024 Emergency Rental Assistance
2	2024 Youth Scholarships
3	2024 Homeowner Repair
4	LMA Walkability NW 3 rd St.
5	LMA Walkability NW 7th (Phase 1)
6	Alternate: LMA Walkability NW 7th (Phase 2)
7	Alternate: LMA Walkability NW 7th (Phase 3)
8	Alternate: LMA Walkability W. Maple
9	2024 Administration
10	2024 Fair Housing

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The Federal CDBG funds are intended to provide low- and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and extended economic opportunities. Eligible activities include housing rehabilitation and preservation, homeownership opportunities, public services, community infrastructure improvements, planning, and administration.

The system for establishing the priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program;
- Meeting the needs of low- and moderate-income residents;

- Coordination and leveraging of resources;
- Response to expressed community needs;
- Sustainability and/or long-term impact; and
- The ability to demonstrate measurable progress and success.

The primary obstacles to meeting underserved needs are the limited resources available to address identified priorities. The City of Meridian will partner with other public agencies and nonprofit organizations, when feasible, to leverage resources and maximize outcomes in housing and community development. In the end, the need far exceeds the funding available from all sources combined.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information:

1	Project Name	2024 Emergency Rental Assistance
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons
	Funding	CDBG: \$43,698
	Description	This program provides case management coupled with emergency rental assistance.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 LMI individuals at risk of homelessness
	Location Description	Services will be offered in the community and at provider offices and will benefit households throughout Meridian. Services may also be provided virtually.
	Planned Activities	05Q Subsistence Payments

2	Project Name	2024 Youth Scholarships
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons
	Funding	CDBG: \$34,959
	Description	The Youth Scholarship Program provides free or reduced participation fees to low-income Meridian youth for summer programs and before/after school program.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	87 LMI children
	Location Description	Services will be provided at Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the Treasure Valley.
	Planned Activities	05L Child Care Services
3	Project Name	2024 Homeowner Repair
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Housing
	Needs Addressed	Provide Decent Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$160,000
	Description	The Homeowner Repair Program improves weatherization, accessibility, energy efficiency, and visitability of LMI Meridian residents existing homes, making them safer and more financially sustainable.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 LMI households
	Location Description	NeighborWorks Boise business offices are located at 3380 W. Americana Terrace, Ste 120 in Boise, but the application is available online. Project manager will complete project at the residence.
	Planned Activities	14A Rehabilitation; Single-Unit Residential/14H Rehabilitation Administration

4	Project Name	LMA Walkability NW 3rd St.
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Create a Suitable Living Environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	This is part of a multi-year project to improve the walkability in low-mod areas. Activities may include sidewalks, installation of trash receptacles, street lights, benches and trees. This was a backup project last year and has been partially funded in PY23 using funds reallocated during the PY22 CAPER and from under-budget projects, including PY22 Homeowner Repair (\$1,625) and PY23 Fair Housing (\$4,325).
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 people that live within an LMI area
	Location Description	W 3rd St from Broadway Ave to W Pine Ave and Broadway Ave from W 4th St to W 2nd St
	Planned Activities	03L Sidewalks
5	Project Name	LMA Walkability NW 7th (Phase 1)
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Create a Suitable Living Environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$195,221
	Description	This is part of a multi-year project to improve the walkability in low-mod areas. Activities may include sidewalks, installation of trash receptacles, streetlights, benches and trees.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 people that live within an LMI area
	Location Description	NW 7th St. from 1233 NW 7th St. to 1505 NW 7th St.
	Planned Activities	03L Sidewalks

6	Project Name	Alternate: LMA Walkability NW 7th (Phase 2)
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Create a Suitable Living Environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000
	Description	This is part of a multi-year project to improve the walkability in low-mod areas. Activities may include sidewalks, installation of trash receptacles, street lights, benches and trees. This is a backup project.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 people that live within an LMI area
	Location Description	NW 7th St. from 1505 NW 7th St. to W. Cherry Ln.
	Planned Activities	03L Sidewalks
7	Project Name	Alternate: LMA Walkability NW 7th (Phase 3)
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Create a Suitable Living Environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000
	Description	This is part of a multi-year project to improve the walkability in low-mod areas. Activities may include sidewalks, installation of trash receptacles, street lights, benches and trees. This is a backup project.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 people that live within an LMI area
	Location Description	NW 7th St. from 1233 NW 7th St. to W. Carlton Ave.
	Planned Activities	03L Sidewalks

8	Project Name	Alternate: LMA Walkability W. Maple
	Target Area	Meridian Citywide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Create a Suitable Living Environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000
	Description	This is part of a multi-year project to improve the walkability in low-mod areas. Activities may include sidewalks, installation of trash receptacles, street lights, benches and trees. This is a backup project.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 people that live within an LMI area
	Location Description	W. Maple Ave. from NW 2nd St. to NW 4th St.
	Planned Activities	03L Sidewalks
9	Project Name	2024 Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Provide Decent Housing Create a Suitable Living Environment Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons
	Funding	CDBG: \$43,500
	Description	Reasonable program administrative costs related to the planning and execution of community development activities.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	n/a
	Location Description	Administration office is located in Meridian City Hall at 33 E. Broadway Ave. suite 102.
	Planned Activities	21A General Program Administration

10	Project Name	2024 Fair Housing
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Provide Decent Housing Create a Suitable Living Environment Expand Opportunities for LMI Persons
	Funding	CDBG: \$7,000
	Description	This project will carry out activities that relate to fair housing. At a minimum, CDBG funds will be used to implement a Fair Housing Campaign in April. Other opportunities to promote fair housing activities will be evaluated as they arise.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	n/a
	Location Description	The Fair Housing Campaign will be promoted via television, radio, and social media.
	Planned Activities	21D Fair Housing Activities

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 Action Plan does not target specific geographic areas within the jurisdiction. Funds are distributed to maximize impact across different areas, as the City does not have a concentrated low- to moderate-income neighborhood. Some projects may focus on these areas, but they are not part of a larger reinvestment initiative or Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). The goal is to address the needs of low- to moderate-income residents community-wide. By distributing resources broadly, the City of Meridian promotes equitable development and improves the well-being of all residents.

Geographic Distribution:

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Meridian Citywide	100

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically:

The City did not identify a geographic target area as a basis for funding allocation priorities. Goals and projects are not limited to a specific area within the City.

Discussion:

All projects supported with CDBG funds are within the Meridian City limits. The projects listed in the Action Plan will benefit low- and moderate-income residents throughout the City of Meridian.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing

24 CFR 91.220(g)

Introduction:

Although lower-income homeowners do not undertake improvements annually, those who do typically devote a significant share of their incomes to these projects. In 2023, homeowners in the bottom income quartile spent about 12% of their incomes on remodeling projects, nearly three times the share of owners in the top income quartile and roughly twice the average share for all homeowners. Consequently, lowest-income homeowners have contributed about 8-10% of all national home improvement spending in recent years ([TheMReport](#)) ([Today's Homeowner](#)) ([Today's Homeowner](#)).

These homeowners, often living in older homes, spent significantly more on replacement projects (51%) compared to those in the top income quartile (40%). Conversely, lowest-income owners allocated a smaller portion of their budgets to kitchen and bath remodels and additions (22%) than top quartile owners (36%) ([Today's Homeowner](#)).

Given that national spending on replacement projects tends to be more stable than on discretionary projects, the expenditures by lower-income homeowners have also remained more stable over the remodeling cycle. This stability in spending helps maintain a balance in the home improvement market, but it also highlights the disparity between the housing conditions of the highest- and lowest-income households ([Today's Homeowner](#)) ([Today's Homeowner](#)).

During PY24, the City of Meridian will support the maintenance of affordable housing for low- to moderate-income residents. The city focuses on homeowner rehabilitation programs as a key strategy to help eligible residents maintain stable housing.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	8
Special-Needs	0
Total	8

Table 5 - 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	8
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	8

Table 6 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion:

Meridian's approach to affordable housing aligns with the definition of affordable homeownership specified in §92.254. While the city currently does not fund homeownership activities, its funding focuses on ensuring that any homebuyer assistance activities meet the definition of affordable homeownership.

Meridian is not currently funding any rental activities as part of its Affordable Housing Goals. Instead, the city promotes affordable housing through its homeowner repair program. This program aims to assist homeowners in maintaining their homes, ensuring they remain stably housed in affordable housing. By providing resources for home repairs and improvements, the city helps homeowners address critical issues and preserve housing affordability.

Through its homeowner repair programs, Meridian aims to promote stable housing conditions and affordability for low- to moderate-income residents. These efforts contribute to creating a sustainable and inclusive community where residents can thrive and maintain affordable housing options.

AP-60 Public Housing

24 CFR 91.220(h)

Introduction:

The Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA) does not currently operate any public housing units within Meridian; however, it does administer the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), also referred to as the Section 8 program, in that area. Serving approximately 2,251 low-income households throughout Ada County, equating to around 8% of Meridian households, this program enables participants to select rental units meeting program requirements within the county. Following identification of a suitable rental unit, tenants contribute a portion of the rent based on their income, while ACHA provides the rental subsidy directly to the landlord.

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

The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program is set to open its waiting list from May 28 to June 27 of 2024. Through a lottery system, 2500 households will be chosen and added to the waiting list. Priority will be given to elderly households, those with disabilities, families with children, and households transitioning from rapid rehousing/transitional housing programs designed for those experiencing homelessness.

ACHA continues to provide quality housing that is affordable to the low, very low, and extremely low-income households. Strategies pursued by the ACHA as outlined in the 5-year PHA plan continue to be successful and allows the authority to meet their mission to promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunities, and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

The organization's strategic goals are:

1. Expand the Supply of Assisted Housing
2. Improve the Quality of Assisted Housing
3. Operate at a High Level of Efficiency
4. Promote Self-Sufficiency and Asset Development of Assisted Households
5. Ensure Equal Opportunity and Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

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

ACHA actively promotes greater resident engagement in the management of public housing through its Resident Advisory Board Meetings. These gatherings serve as crucial platforms where residents are encouraged to voice their opinions, concerns, and suggestions. By fostering open dialogue and collaboration, ACHA aims to ensure that the needs and preferences of public housing residents are effectively addressed.

The Homeownership Program has encountered significant challenges in recent years, primarily due to the changing dynamics of the housing market. Escalating property values, heightened competition, and rising mortgage rates have made it increasingly difficult for low-income families to move from renting to owning a home. To address these issues and promote homeownership among public housing residents, we are actively providing, both directly and through referrals, resources such as financial education and counseling, partnerships with financial institutions, first-time homeownership classes, budgeting assistance, and more.

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

ACHA is not designated as a troubled PHA.

Discussion:

The City does not own or manage any public housing and relies on ACHA to provide those services to the community. The City works with ACHA on various initiatives to coordinate and promote services and resources to the community.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities

24 CFR 91.220(i)

Introduction:

The City coordinates with the Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care (CoC) to identify the strategies to address needs of those who are at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness.

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 City intends to continue to work with its partners to identify, understand, and support those experiencing homelessness (especially persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness) or at risk of homelessness with special needs in Meridian.

- **Continuum of Care Member** - The City of Meridian is a member of the Continuum of Care (CoC). The City has committed to better understanding the needs that Meridian residents who are currently or at risk of experiencing homelessness face and how to serve them better.
- **Community Collaboration** - City representatives are frequently involved in public discussions, presentations, and meetings with citizens, other government officials, and local service providers, including West Ada School District, Jesse Tree, and CATCH. This collaboration helps the community provide support, understanding, and outreach to those experiencing homelessness in Meridian.
- **Homeless Management Information System** - In previous years, the City worked with the CoC to add data points to the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to enable the City to determine how many Meridian residents are experiencing homelessness and the reasons for their housing crisis. The City is committed to serving the individual needs of Meridian's homeless population, as identified by the CoC and local organizations.
- **Point-in-Time Count** - The City has also worked with the CoC to conduct the annual Point-in-Time Count, which helps determine the number of people experiencing homelessness on a given day. This information allows the City to understand the level of homelessness in Meridian and develop a program that better serves those in need. The City will continue to assist with this process in upcoming years.
- **Emergency Rental Assistance** - Meridian's Action Plan includes funding for Emergency Rental Assistance. This program provides financial support to help residents at risk of homelessness remain in their stable housing.
- **PREVENT Committee** – The City is a member of this workgroup that focuses on ways to maximize resources we currently have for prevention efforts, and build out new ways of supporting our most vulnerable residents.
- **FUND Committee** – The City participates in this workgroup that aims to increase funding to match the scale of local need.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons:

While there are emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities located in other nearby cities in the Treasure Valley, none of these facilities are located within City of Meridian. The City has prioritized funding homelessness prevention to mitigate the need for these services, but also works with the CoC to assist Meridian residents who need emergency shelter. The City encourages agencies who provide these services to apply for CDBG funding, but there were no applications during PY24 for projects directly related to

emergency shelters or transitional housing projects. However, all services to be funded are available to those who qualify.

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:

Meridian recognizes the importance of addressing homelessness and supporting individuals and families in making the transition to permanent housing and independent living. The City has implemented several initiatives and partnered with various organizations to achieve these goals.

One of the key partnerships is with NeighborWorks Boise, which receives funding from the City to assist low- and moderate-income Meridian residents with homeowner repairs. This support helps individuals and families remain in housing they can afford, thereby preventing homelessness and promoting housing stability.

The City also collaborates with Jesse Tree, a local organization that provides rental and case management services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in Meridian. These services aim to prevent homelessness and address the immediate needs of those currently without housing.

Meridian has established extensive partnerships with committees, organizations, and networks involved in evaluating, understanding, and addressing the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness. These include local law enforcement agencies, neighboring cities, service providers like the Women's and Children's Alliance, Boys & Girls Clubs, school districts, food banks, and many others. Through these partnerships, the City works to coordinate efforts, share resources, and implement comprehensive approaches to address homelessness in Meridian.

The City's collaboration with CATCH (Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless) and the Continuum of Care (CoC) is particularly significant. These partnerships aim to support local service providers in assisting individuals and families experiencing homelessness, with a focus on shortening the duration of homelessness and facilitating the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

Meridian's relationships with the Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA), CATCH, and Jesse Tree are instrumental in creating access to affordable housing units for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The City works with these organizations to develop activities and programs that not only provide housing options but also prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless in the first place.

Overall, through collaboration, partnerships, and targeted initiatives, Meridian is committed to addressing homelessness, supporting homeless individuals and families, and ensuring access to affordable housing, with the aim of facilitating the transition to permanent housing and preventing future instances of homelessness.

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:

Meridian recognizes the importance of preventing homelessness, particularly among low-income individuals and families, including those who are at high risk due to various circumstances. The City is actively engaged in partnerships and collaborations to address these needs and provide support.

Meridian is an active participant in the Continuum of Care (CoC), which consists of representatives from organizations such as the Ada County Housing Authority (ACHA), Health and Welfare, mental health service providers, law enforcement, and correctional agencies. The CoC plays a critical role in coordinating efforts, collecting and reviewing data, and prioritizing strategies based on input from service providers. The coordinated entry process ensures that individuals and families across Ada County have access to necessary services and support. Regular case conferencing is conducted to discuss individual cases and develop appropriate interventions.

To further support individuals and families at risk of homelessness, the City provides funding to Jesse Tree. This partnership aims to keep families, individuals, and children who are at risk of eviction stably housed, ensuring they maintain housing stability and avoid homelessness. Meridian also collaborates with other organizations such as the West Ada School District to assess needs and provide appropriate services to individuals and families facing the risk of homelessness.

Through its involvement in the CoC and partnerships with organizations like Jesse Tree and the West Ada School District, Meridian is actively working to prevent individuals and families, especially those with low income and those transitioning from institutions, from experiencing homelessness. These efforts involve assessing needs, coordinating services, and providing financial assistance to ensure stable housing and access to support services.

Discussion:

The City of Meridian recognizes the importance of addressing the housing and supportive service needs of non-homeless special needs persons, including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, individuals with HIV/AIDS, and public housing residents. While the primary focus of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is housing stability for low- and moderate-income (LMI) residents, the City has implemented various actions to support these specific populations.

One area of focus is the provision of youth scholarships for childcare. This program helps low-income families, including those with special needs children, by offering financial assistance for childcare services. Access to affordable and quality childcare not only supports working parents but also promotes the well-being and development of children.

Additionally, the City is committed to improving walkability in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods. This includes infrastructure enhancements such as sidewalks, pedestrian pathways, and other amenities that make it easier for residents, including those with disabilities or mobility challenges, to navigate their communities. These improvements contribute to creating inclusive and accessible neighborhoods for all residents, including the elderly and individuals with disabilities.

Through these actions, the City of Meridian demonstrates its commitment to addressing the housing and supportive service needs of non-homeless special needs persons. By focusing on crisis services for victims of interpersonal violence, youth scholarships for childcare, and walkability improvements in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, the City strives to enhance the overall well-being and quality of life for these individuals and families in the community, regardless of their housing status.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing

24 CFR 91.220(j)

Introduction:

Housing prices continue to rise, severely impacting the availability of affordable housing in the United States. According to Brian Montgomery, Federal Housing Administration commissioner and assistant secretary for housing, constraints on housing not only reduce the supply of affordable housing but also increase the number of households that are cost-burdened, spending more than 30 percent of their income on rent.

Land-use policies and zoning regulations constrain the supply of affordable housing. Density limits, height restrictions, parking requirements, lengthy permitting and approval processes, and community opposition all contribute to increased housing prices.

Many local planning procedures currently in place enable community opposition that stalls housing production. Reshaping local regulations allows jurisdictions to make a lasting impact on the supply of affordable housing.

HUD, PD&R Edge, *"Regulatory Barriers and Affordable Housing Quarterly Update"*

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:

To remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing, the City of Meridian has implemented several actions.

Firstly, through its redevelopment plan for downtown, known as Destination Downtown, the City is actively working towards creating more diverse housing types. This includes apartments, townhomes, condominiums, duplexes, and single-family homes to cater to different housing needs and life cycles. By promoting a healthy mix of housing options, the City aims to attract residents and support new businesses, ensuring a vibrant and active downtown area.

The City has also facilitated multiple Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for publicly-owned properties in downtown Meridian. During this process, priority has been given to proposals that focus on developing mixed-use and high-density housing. By encouraging such development, the City aims to increase housing options and address the shortage of affordable housing in the area.

As part of these efforts, one awarded project, Downtown Lofts, will contribute to affordable housing in downtown Meridian. The project includes the dedication of six units specifically for participants of the local organization CATCH, which provides housing assistance to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

Through these actions, the City of Meridian is actively working to remove barriers to affordable housing by promoting diverse housing options, facilitating the development of mixed-use and high-density housing, and ensuring the inclusion of affordable units in new projects. These initiatives aim to create a more inclusive and accessible housing market while addressing the negative effects of public policies that may hinder the availability and affordability of housing in the community.

Discussion:

The City will continue to identify areas to reduce barriers to affordable housing.

AP-85 Other Actions

24 CFR 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Meridian continues to remain involved in several efforts to address the needs of the underserved and promote efforts to coordinate the many components related to housing, suitable living environments, and promoting safer living environments.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs:

The City's planned actions to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs demonstrate a proactive approach to improving the well-being of its residents and reducing disparities.

Engaging in conversations with neighboring communities and service providers is a valuable step in identifying and addressing underserved needs. By collaborating and sharing information, the City can gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by its residents and work towards effective solutions. This approach also fosters regional cooperation and allows for a more holistic approach to addressing community needs.

Allocating funding to provide housing stability for those at risk of homelessness and extended care programs for youth reflects the City's commitment to preventing homelessness and creating supportive environments. By investing in these initiatives, the City aims to address immediate challenges and provide individuals and families with the necessary resources and support to maintain stable housing and improve their quality of life.

The collaboration between the Economic Development Administrator and the CDBG program demonstrates an integrated approach to aligning the needs of residents with economic opportunities. This coordination can help identify strategies to enhance economic development, promote job growth, and improve access to employment and economic resources for underserved populations.

Expanding relationships with private providers, developers, and social services providers is another key action to reduce obstacles to achieving decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Building strong partnerships with these stakeholders can facilitate the development of affordable housing projects, encourage the provision of necessary services, and foster community-driven solutions to address unmet needs.

By implementing these planned actions, the City of Meridian aims to address obstacles, reduce disparities, and ensure that all residents have access to affordable housing, supportive services, and economic opportunities.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing:

The City intends to partner with local service providers that will assist in fostering and maintaining affordable housing.

Projects funded during PY24 will provide:

- Emergency assistance to families who are at risk of eviction and homelessness;
- Assistance for homeowners to make necessary improvements to maintain their current housing; and,

- Scholarships for children to participate in extended care programs so their caregivers can work.

Additionally, the City will be working with service providers that focus on providing stability to those with mental health and/or substance use disorders to allow them to gain or maintain affordable housing with access to care coordination. The City will also explore additional partnerships with mission-driven and private developers to bring more workforce housing into downtown and underutilized land parcels.

The City is actively working to develop workforce housing and opportunities for residents to increase their income to foster and maintain affordable housing.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards:

Meridian's CDBG projects, which require lead-based paint actions, are generally limited to housing rehabilitation.

The Lead-Safe Housing Rule (LSHR) process involves the following areas: notification, lead hazard evaluation, lead hazard reduction, and clearance. CDBG housing rehabilitation projects do not require ongoing lead-based paint maintenance. Lead-based paint activities apply to all homes built before 1978.

Meridian has written policies and procedures for all programs required to comply with the HUD lead-safe housing rule (LSHR). Additionally, the City requires lead-based paint policies and procedures with any partners who may administer these programs on the City's behalf. Contractors in the housing rehabilitation program have lead-based paint requirements integrated into their contract for services with the homeowner.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families:

The objectives of the CDBG program are to address the needs of low to moderate-income residents in Meridian. Generally, the CDBG-funded programs in the current Action Plan work toward this end, whether through direct service delivery through contracted subrecipients or infrastructure improvements to reduce blight and address accessibility issues.

In addition to the programs, the City has developed many partnerships with service providers, non-profits, state agencies, and other entities to address issues affecting poverty.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure:

In recent years the City made the CDBG Administrator position a full-time position and changed the position title to Community Development Program Coordinator. This position is now funded out of the City's general fund. This institutional change is designed to provide more time to effectively manage the CDBG program and provide flexibility for the position to expand efforts into economic and other areas that can help meet the community development needs of the City.

Staff will continue to work to attain relevant and appropriate professional development training during the program year to learn and address current and future institutional problems. Discussions will continue about the expansion and opportunities to add new program staff to assist in this community development work.

The City was involved in the institutional restructuring of the CoC and the implementation of new HMIS and Coordinated Entry standards for service providers in the County. These activities have altered the institutional framework of housing and other service providers in the region and have improved the efficiency and transparency of the collaborative work to address these needs. The City hopes to identify new institutional structures that can be developed, reformed, or changed to better support those most at risk in the region.

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

City staff will be working with the CoC to identify ways to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. As in many communities, there is not enough funding to provide the necessary level of services, so the CoC plans to identify a way of coordinating services that are available and reducing duplication of services for a more effective use of funding. Multiple methods will be explored including phone apps and enhancing services that are already available.

The City's partnership and funding relationship with local housing service organizations including NeighborWorks Boise, Jesse Tree, and Ada County Housing Authority will continue to expand in this program year. In addition, coordination with other organizations like CATCH, Boise Rescue Mission, Interfaith Sanctuary, Terry Reilley, El-Ada Community Action, Jannus, Idaho Office for Refugees, Agency for New Americans, Women's and Children's Alliance, and all members associated with the local CoC (including private housing developers) will continue to be built upon to improve networks, coordination, and problem solving in the jurisdiction.

Meridian's participation in the local CoC, housing and homelessness roundtables, and other regional coordination efforts outlines the City's continued action plan for enhancing the networking and coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Discussion:

The City intends to fund multiple projects that will improve access to affordable housing and suitable living environments for Meridian residents. Staff will be working with subrecipients to identify barriers within their programs and find ways to address them to provide more effective services. Staff will also identify ways to improve and expand Meridian's CDBG Program for future years.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements

24 CFR 91.220(l)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

The City is in compliance with the program-specific requirements outlined in 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1), (2), and (4) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Projects Table identifies the planned use of all CDBG funds, including program income and other funding sources.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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
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
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
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
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements:

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

The City's certification period includes program years 2024, 2025, and 2026. Outside of admin and fair housing, the City will allocate all funding for PY24 to LMI projects. The City commits to meet the 70% LMI benefit requirement of the federal CDBG program over the span of that three-year certification period.

Attachment 1: Citizen Participation

Planning for Action Plan

Public Comments

Public feedback on potential service providers and projects to be funded in the upcoming year was gathered from March 15 to April 7, 2024. Public hearings were held on March 26 and April 9, 2024. The City accepted comments via testimony at the public hearings, phone calls, emails, or by completing a survey that asked questions about the needs of the community.

The survey was completed by 50 participants that identified as either a Meridian resident or someone who works with Meridian residents. There were an additional 6 responses from people who were not connected to Meridian, these responses were not included in the feedback. Below are the results of the survey and comments received from all methods.

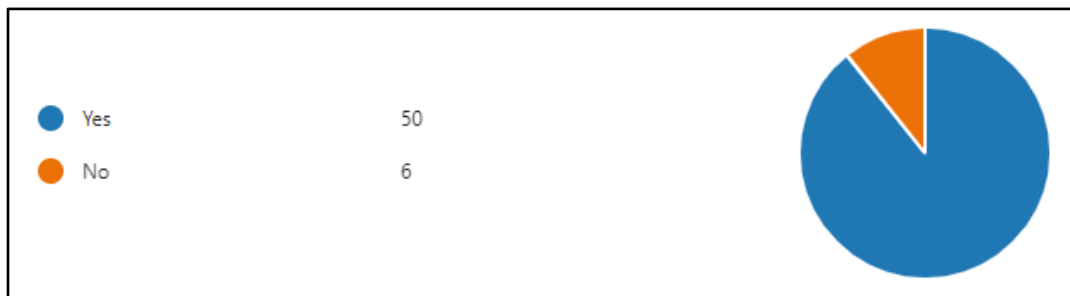


Figure 1: Number of survey participants reporting that they or someone they knew required services in the past year.

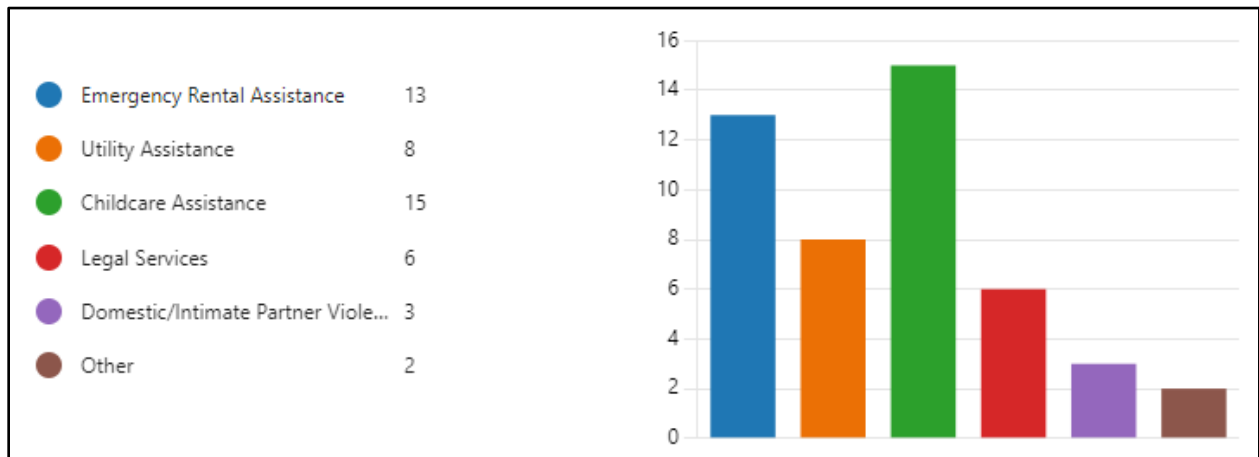


Figure 2: The types of services that were required from Figure 1.

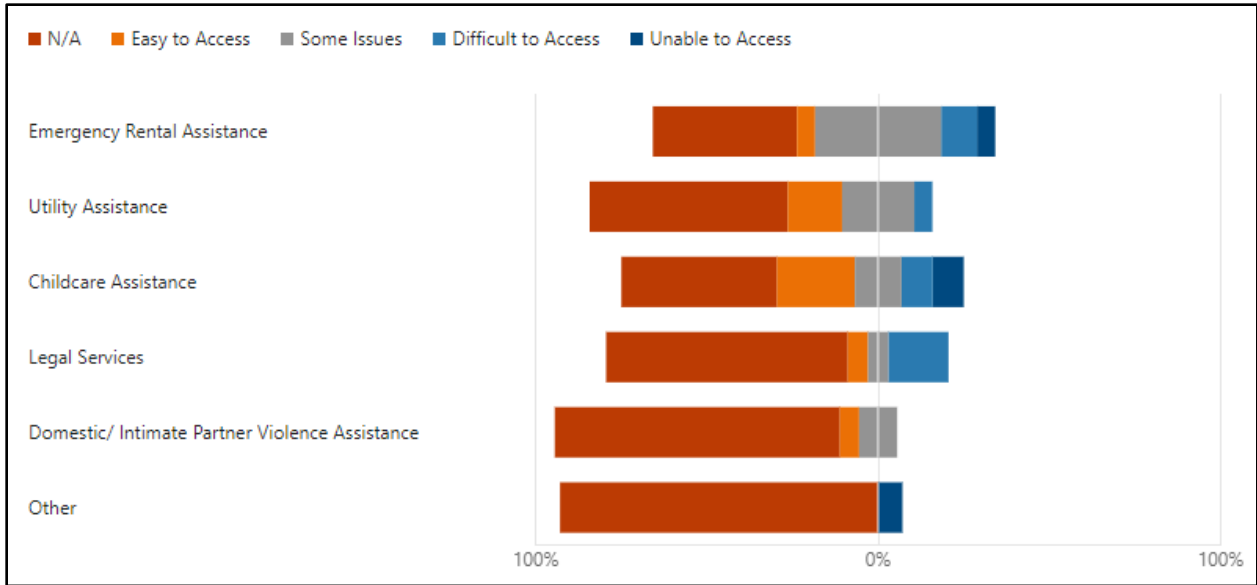


Figure 3: Level of ease accessing services.

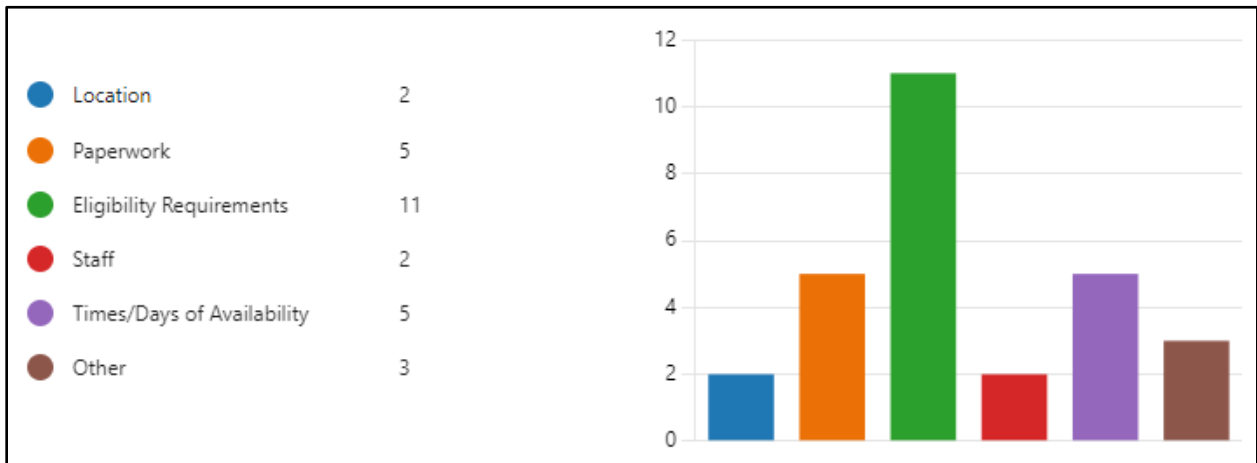


Figure 4: Barriers to accessing services.

Current Contacts	Emergency Rental Assistance Mental Health Childcare
Additional Outreach Required	Public Transportation Credit Repair
Ineligible Projects	Clothing for Teens

Table 9: Partnerships suggested during survey.



Figure 5: Voting during outreach events during the planning period.



Figure 6: Table at Do the Right event.

Commenter	Method of Submission	Summary of Comments
Anonymous	survey	As a parent with a child at Compass Public Charter School, which has Mondays off, finding affordable Monday child care is challenging. The Boys and Girls Club only operates before and after West Ada School days. Solutions could include the Boys and Girls Club opening all day on Mondays, tuition assistance for the Skyhawks Academy program with transportation to the Boys and Girls Club, or Meridian Homecourt offering all-day Monday childcare.
Anonymous	survey	As a disabled individual with metal allergies, I struggle with inadequate Medicaid coverage and housing needs. Unable to work and needing

		child care, I face uncovered costs for essential physical therapy, chiropractic treatments, and medical equipment. I urgently need more low-income, 3+ bedroom apartments to avoid homelessness due to bad credit. While one of my children received a scholarship and the Medicaid/EBT processes were smooth, other assistance is lacking. I urge the Idaho legislature to expand Medicaid for therapy and chiropractic care, increase housing options, cover The Wellness Center, provide emotional therapy with animals, and help repair my credit and identity. Additionally, I call for mental health programs like San Diego County's Catalyst to support the many residents in Idaho who need such services.
Anonymous	survey	I would appreciate more access through email and virtual communication. Jesse Tree and El Ada were great with this sort of communication.
Anonymous	survey	Jesse Tree's online application made it easier to access services.
Anonymous	survey	I found the service at the Meridian main branch very unhelpful and even slightly rude and condescending. I need someone more helpful and knowledgeable to assist with my inquiries regarding the Boys and Girls Club.
Anonymous	survey	I'm unaware if the city provides emergency rental assistance, aside from the expired Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority program and Jesse Tree. I have friends who might need rental assistance, but I don't think any have tried to apply. It would be helpful to have a page on the city website listing available assistance resources. Additionally, the city could consider purchasing VRT bus passes for Meridian residents who need transportation to access work opportunities.
Anonymous	survey	I did not qualify for ICCP (Idaho Child Care Program). The Boys and Girls Club has been very easy and helpful with everything else.
Anonymous	survey	General accessibility to transportation and its availability.

Table 10: Comments received during the public comment period for the planning process.

Affidavit of Publication

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
STATE OF IDAHO**

County of Canyon and Ada

21410 491069
1 MERIDIAN, CITY OF

33 E. BROADWAY AVENUE
MERIDIAN, ID 83642

SHARON JESSEN
of the State of Idaho, being of first duly sworn, deposes
and says:

1. That I am a citizen of the United States, and at all times hereinafter mentioned was over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the above entitled action.
2. That I am the Principle Clerk of the Idaho Press-Tribune, a daily newspaper published in the Counties of Canyon and Ada, State of Idaho; that the said newspaper is in general circulation in the said counties of Canyon and Ada, and in the vicinity of Nampa, Caldwell, and Boise, and has been uninterruptedly published in said Counties during a period of seventy -eight consecutive weeks prior to the first publication of this notice, a copy of which is hereto attached.
3. That the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, was published in said newspaper and on IdahoPublicNotices.com 1 times(s) in the regular and entire issue of said paper, and was printed in the newspaper proper, and not in a supplement

That said notice was published the following: 03/15/2024



 SHARON JESSEN
 STATE OF IDAHO

On this 15th day of March, in the year of 2024 before me a Notary Public, personally appeared. SHARON JESSEN, known or identified to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and being by me first duly sworn, declared that the statements therein are true, and acknowledge to me that he/she executed the same.



 Notary Public of Idaho
 My commission expires



AD# 491069AD#

<p>LEGAL NOTICE</p> <p>CITY OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Regarding Meridian's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program</p>	
<p>This Notice can be provided in a format accessible to persons with limited English proficiency upon request. Contact Crystal Campbell at ccampbell@meridiancity.org for assistance.</p>	
<p>Se le puede proveer esta notificación en un formato accesible para las personas con conocimientos limitados del inglés a pedido. Comuníquese con Crystal Campbell en ccampbell@meridiancity.org para obtener ayuda.</p>	
<p>ALL CITIZENS ARE INVITED to attend a public hearing on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 4:30 P.M. regarding the investment of CDBG funds in the Meridian community. Participants can attend in person at Meridian City Hall or virtually at https://meridiancity.org/live.</p>	
<p>A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD will open March 15, 2024 and continue through April 7, 2024. During this period, oral and written comments about planning activities for the 2024 CDBG Action Plan will be accepted. All comments should be addressed to Crystal Campbell at: City of Meridian, Community Development Department, 33 E. Broadway Ave., Ste. 102, Meridian, ID 83642; (208) 489-0575; or ccampbell@meridiancity.org.</p>	
<p>The City of Meridian is designated an Entitlement Community by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This designation allows the City to receive funds annually from HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.</p>	
<p>The City anticipates that it will receive an allocation of \$482,362 on October 1, 2024. In order to receive these funds, the City must submit an Annual Action Plan to HUD identifying the projects the City will undertake to meet the goals identified in the 2022- 2026 Consolidated Plan that will benefit low and moderate income residents in the upcoming year. The Consolidated Plan goals address public facility and infrastructure improvements, housing, and public services.</p>	
<p>All citizens may provide testimony. Copies of the Consolidated Plan goals and priorities are available on the City's CDBG website: http://www.meridiancity.org/cdbg. Special invitation is extended to persons with disabilities, residents of assisted housing, and Meridian business and property owners. Meridian City Hall is a handicapped accessible facility.</p>	
<p>If you require accommodations related to physical, visual or hearing impairments or if you require language interpretation, please contact the City Clerk at (208) 888-4433.</p>	
<p>Si requieren adaptaciones relacionadas con impedimentos físicos, visuales o auditivos o si requieren interpretación de idiomas, comuníquese con el Vendedor de Ciudad al (208) 888-4433.</p>	
<p>March 15, 2024</p>	<p>491069</p>

Draft Action Plan

Public Comments

Public feedback regarding the draft Action Plan and the designated projects was collected during the public comment period from June 11 to July 17, 2024 and during the public hearing held on July 9, 2024 and July 16, 2024. The City accepted comments via testimony at public hearings, phone calls, emails, or by completing a survey that asked questions about the value of the identified projects.

The survey was completed by 59 participants that identified as either a Meridian resident or someone who works with Meridian residents. There were an additional 2 responses from people who were not connected to Meridian, these responses were not included in the feedback. Below are the results of the survey and comments received from all methods.

Meeting the Needs of the Community

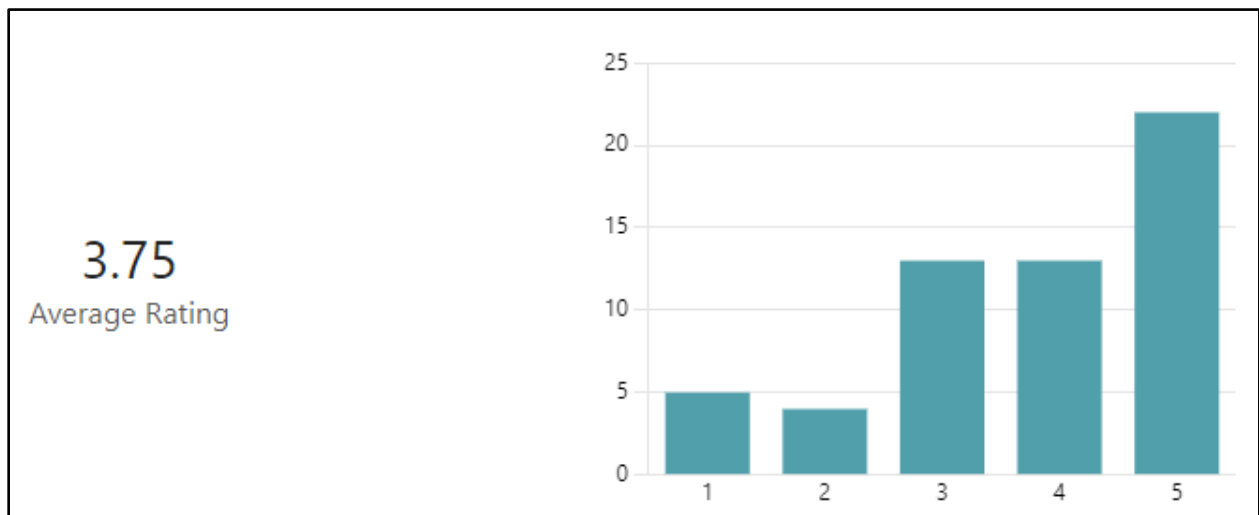


Figure 7: Proposed projects address the current needs of the community.

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	More emphasis could be placed on addressing the shortage of affordable housing options for community members.
2	anonymous	Well lit sidewalks are essential for a safe community. More people living in apartments may need better walking access to stores, schools and parks. Rental assistance is also important as in creating a community that cares about its neighbors. All needed so we can be good citizens.
3	anonymous	They all affect the needs (and not just wants) of those in need within the community.
4	anonymous	I've read the proposed plan and feel that it will meet the current needs of our community.

ID	Name	Responses
5	anonymous	<p>You keep trying to expand, and you've ruined a wonderful community. I left a major corporation to move stay here in 1992, when it was one of the best in the nation. You've helped make things unaffordable for many of the people here, and many are now homeless. You leader/s don't care about the community. You just want to Bragg about all the growth you've created, at the cost of the local people here who put you into office! Where is Tammy these days, she did a good job!</p>
6	anonymous	<p>I would love to see improved sidewalks on Black Cat from Ustick to Franklin, as my kids could ride their bikes to school if there was a safe path for them. The Rental Assistance and childcare scholarships do not affect me as I do not rent and I do not use childcare. I don't really know what the homeowner repairs consist of, but if they could help me replace my fence or make my house more energy efficient even though I use a gas furnace and not electric, than this might be beneficial. I wish there was another couple community pools throughout Meridian so the one location wasn't so busy and if at least once could be an indoor pool so we could have access year around, my family would love that! We live near Black Cat/Ustick and do not have neighborhood pool access.</p>
7	anonymous	<p>I think there is a lack of community engagement that educates the general public about what the actual needs are in the City of Meridian. Meridian overall paints itself as this warm and fuzzy bedroom community which is only partly true.</p>
8	anonymous	<p>These seem to be the most pressing needs of people in my community of low income as rent and childcare costs rise and people can't afford cars/gas and need to commute to work and complete household tasks by foot and bike.</p>
9	anonymous	<p>It's important that there are emergency programs to help people stay stably housing during emergencies. Many people live paycheck-to-paycheck, which leaves them one step away from not being able to afford rent and possibly losing their home. With rents at an all-time high, these programs can help make sure people are able to stay in their homes. The next most expensive cost to families is childcare costs. Having funds to help people cover the cost of childcare so they can go to work and continue to make money is very important to ensuring people are being taken care of. Next, homeowner repairs are important because a safe home can help people live and sustain healthy lives. Lastly, having safe and accessible sidewalks can ensure that people are able to walk and get to where they need without there being barriers to the locations they need to be.</p>
10	anonymous	<p>I believe these are all important areas to help people out who are struggling. Perhaps vehicle repair could be a future project. About a third of our clients have reported having unreliable vehicles that could cause them to not be able to drive to work.</p>

ID	Name	Responses
11	anonymous	Some I simply am just ignorant to.
12	anonymous	As a social worker who lives in Meridian and works with families in Meridian, I believe emergency rental assistance and childcare scholarships are vital to our community.
13	anonymous	It is no surprise to you there is an affordability crisis when it comes to housing cost and child care.
14	anonymous	I believe there should be better language access and PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, especially in low-to-moderate-income neighborhoods.
15	anonymous	Homeless prevention is of the upmost importance in our community
16	anonymous	The biggest foundation for improving the livelihood of Meridian residents starts with emergency rental assistance (stabilization) and is followed by scholarships, walkability improvements, and homeowner repairs, in that order.
17	anonymous	Childcare scholarships and rental assistance are very critical for those who earn below 80% of the average median income. This assistance helps them sustain employment and remain in good standing so their family can be safe and cared for.
18	anonymous	I think these are all needs that Meridian residents need and are struggling with at the moment.
19	anonymous	It's hard to know what to say on the little detail here. But in general I feel there are state programs and federal programs to help assist with childcare and rent. I feel like assisting the elderly/diabled with home improvements is reasonable and needed, like to see more programs that assist the community at large, community education. Classes that help a person become certified in skills and less dependent on the gov. Programs that help teens understand how to live as an adult-finance, budgeting, cooking. Parenting classes would also be valuable.
20	anonymous	What's the definition of an emergency? I'm absolutely supportive when it comes to real emergencies like victims of fire or natural disasters. I'm absolutely against supporting bad financial choices using our tax dollars. Same applies to the support of homeowners. I am a homeowner and it's a constant struggle to keep up with maintenance and repairs. I support community initiatives to help elderly who don't have family but I'm against the use of taxpayer dollars. Enhancement of sidewalks is ok, but our leadership always needs to go all in and wants to build now everywhere ultra wide sidewalks that many living alongside don't want.

ID	Name	Responses
21	anonymous	These projects will help renters, homeowners, lower income parents, children and seniors.
22	anonymous	While those are good programs, where do we find the list of all programs/items the grant can be used for?
23	anonymous	I feel it is rather broad, I wish it would cover actual working class, middle income families that don't qualify for anything. Low income get benefits, high income don't need it, lower middle class are truly struggling, yet don't qualify for anything and get taxed and pay for everything.
24	anonymous	lack of exposure
25	anonymous	Focus on home-related topics are hugely important! Having a safe home is the basis of stability and dignity.
26	anonymous	All proposed projects are needed with in Meridian, and will help the overall community.
27	anonymous	We should NEVER ACCEPT FUNDS from the FEDERAL GOVERNMENT!! that contract will ADD TERMS AND CONDITIONS that are NOT CONDUCIVE to the residents of Meridian and these FUNDS WILL IMPOSE restrictions to those residents of Meridian in a NEGATIVE WAY.
28	anonymous	Too few for the larger good. Mostly directed to benefit a few. I support walkability
29	anonymous	Projects 1 and 3 are specifically for a certain demographic, not the whole community.
30	anonymous	Looks good
31	anonymous	Traffic and cost of living are more of a problem.
32	anonymous	Why do you not have any senior programs lined up? We are an often forgotten segment of Meridian. Here we are, on fixed incomes, facing inflation and rising property taxes.
33	anonymous	All good, but traffic safety and parking is another.
34	anonymous	All good causes
35	anonymous	-Was the Boys and Girls Club the only option, what about further support for the Y. -The walkability concept: Before investing in sidewalks, the analysis should support an assessment that bike lanes would be a more accessible option to those within and transferring through

ID	Name	Responses
		these areas. -Community development, but nothing for creating or sponsoring a program (perhaps with schools or a child program) with the goal of planting trees.
36	anonymous	Haven't you heard the U S Taxpayers are broke! We don't have the money.
37	anonymous	We've got to make substantial steps in the affordable housing and rental housing space. It is coming, if it isn't here already, and we better get prepared
38	anonymous	Sounds good but depends on execution for results. We'll see how it turns out.
39	anonymous	the cost of housing needs to drastically be addressed. as a parent of a 26 year old single male with a child under the age of 6 the housing situation is so drastic that he is forced to live with me. i feel as though the income level needs to be addressed and the cost of living be taken into consideration. i as a homeowner struggle to keep all my bills paid so asking people to "rent" accommodations at a higher cost than what my house costs me is insane, how do we ever expect the working poor to be able to afford that.
40	anonymous	We have been wanting sidewalks in our older neighborhood for over a decade. It will be so much safer for kids to walk to school
41	anonymous	No amount of government money is going to help the housing crisis. The problem is people paying more for a house than it's worth, which in turn makes other houses expensive, and then with this over inflated house value, the government taxes people on a fake value, thus the cycle just keeps going.
42	anonymous	Better to help avoid losing home than at stage of homelessness. Home repair gives security and value, saves \$ for other important things
43	anonymous	This would better the community and help those in need. It would increase the visibility of neighborhoods making them look better and than other communities miles down the highway in the 2C area.
44	anonymous	I feel a north/south sidewalk expansion so close to 8th street is much farther down in importance. NW 7th does not have nearly the traffic it used to and the improvements around us have helped greatly. I think it is more pressing to connect east to downtown with improved/safe bike lanes and/or sidewalks. Additionally our old neighborhood has a certain feel that is hard to describe with people walking on the street. Neighbors slow down and talk and walkers present on the street is part of our neighborhood. With the new development to

ID	Name	Responses
		the east- please don't make us look like them. We moved here 20 yrs ago for the feel of this street.

Figure 8: Comments on the projects meeting the needs of the community.

Emergency Rental Assistance

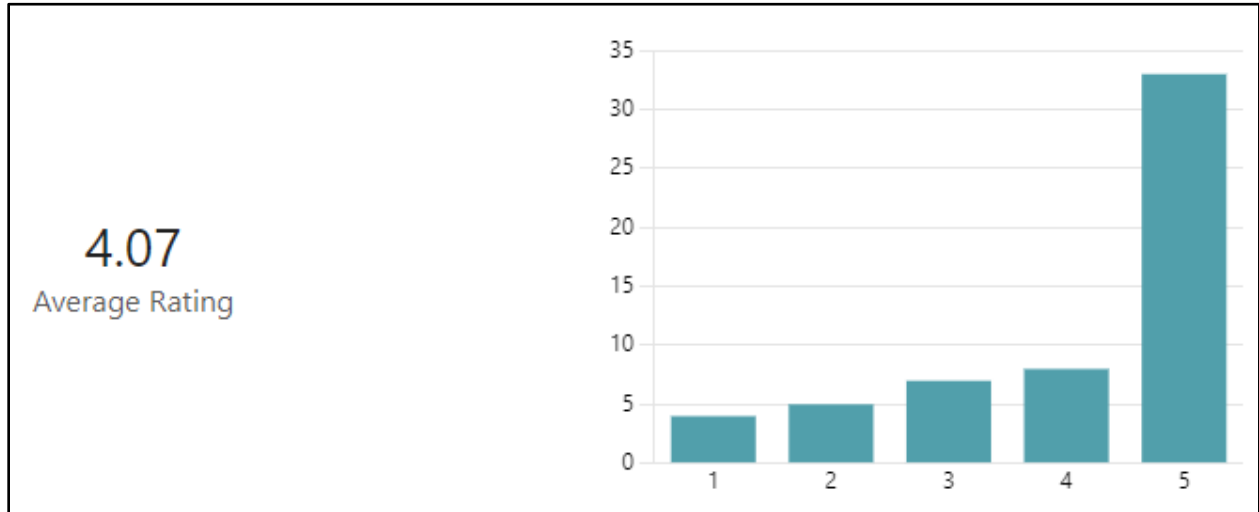


Figure 9: Importance of emergency rental assistance to maintain housing stability.

1	anonymous	I think it's a good first step, but should be partnered with other programs to strengthen and support those at risk of homelessness.
2	anonymous	Yes. Anyone can lose their job to illness or downsizing. Tough when even college grads have to live at home because they can't afford to rent.
3	anonymous	In many cases, yes. For those members living on the edge, this can be a lifeline. As with any charitable giving, there are always opportunities for abuse but, as COVID demonstrated, emergencies can happen to anyone.
4	anonymous	Yes. There are a lot of hard working people in our community who just can't make those ends meet. They can't qualify for government assistance because they make "too much money" but they can't afford to live.
5	anonymous	Yes to the extent \$43,698 will provide the assistance.

6	anonymous	No. It helps some, but doesn't come close to helping the hardworking people who can't afford to live here anymore
7	anonymous	I think the income limit is to high to receive assistance
8	anonymous	I think stopping companies from buying up all the land so that rental prices can be more affordable would help better.
9	anonymous	Absolutely a need and the annual requirement of less than 63K should shock people.
10	anonymous	Eviction is a rising problem in Meridian as the City continues to develop and have more renters living in homes and multi-family projects. As the cost of rent continues to increase along with population growth, wages likely will not keep pace and more renters will need support during a financial setback. it will only become more important for Meridian to invest in keeping people housed. Meridian does not have a serious homeless problem, however an increasing number of people are losing their homes in Meridian and being taken to eviction court. It will be important for Meridian to continue to invest in homeless prevention to stay ahead of this problem.
11	anonymous	Yes
12	anonymous	Yes, it's incredibly important! People who are living paycheck-to-paycheck are just one emergency expense away from not being able to pay rent and possibly facing eviction which costs even more money. People need to have a safety net in order to help them out of these situations. It's difficult now more than ever to save enough money to have for an emergency.
13	anonymous	Yes. The eviction process is a very fast process in Idaho. Rent owed to stay housed and avoid receiving an eviction judgment is a fraction of the cost it would take to rehouse a person who becomes homeless.
14	anonymous	Yes, prevention is far most cost effective then rehoming/rehousing.
15	anonymous	Yes, data shows that 95% of Jesse Tree clients are still housed 5 years after receiving ERA.
16	anonymous	Yes. Prevention dollars cost roughly \$2,000 per family per year compared to the \$53,00 per person per year post-homelessness.
17	anonymous	Absolutely. Keeping people from becoming homeless is a great way to keep people from being homeless.

18	anonymous	Yes, considering that the State of Idaho has not changed their minimum wage to meet the housing needs
19	anonymous	yes, it can be one unexpected event that puts a family behind on rent and it is much less expensive to provide rental assistance than it is to re-home a family after experiencing homelessness
20	anonymous	Yes. Emergency rental assistance is imperative to reducing homelessness in our community. Because of the sprawl in Meridian, it is easy to think there isn't as big of a housing crisis because so many folks who are experiencing homelessness might not be seen. Jesse Tree's work provides important support for Meridian residents since it isn't just a rent check. I think of it as them not just giving their clients a fish, but actively teaching their clients how to fish. When more money is put into prevention work, fewer folks are falling into homelessness, which allows the agencies that are addressing actively homeless populations more resources to support the folks who don't have the same resources as Jesse Tree clients.
21	anonymous	Yes, the landlord needs to be paid for the use of their home and so this offers a stop-gap solution to ensure payment is made while not making the financial situation for a low-income household untenable. As a landlord, I've experienced receiving a Jesse Tree payment while a tenant was unemployed and they found employment after two months and stayed in the home, while I was able to pay my mortgage and avoid default.
22	anonymous	Prevention is key. It is much cheaper to keep individuals or families housed than to take care of them once they are experiencing homelessness.
23	anonymous	These types of programs often delay what will happen anyway. Putting money into community education that teaches how to avoid these issues is better in the long run.
24	anonymous	Something is fundamentally wrong if someone ends up in such a situation. Using tax dollars to put a temporary bandaid on is not something I support.
25	anonymous	Rental assistance can help our neighbors stay in their home when faced with temporary financial issues. Many times people just need a little more time to catch up, this can give them the opportunity.
26	anonymous	Being that these numbers are not reported, is there really a need. If they are reported on a website why are they not put on more visible resources i.e. City of Meridian facebook etc?
27	anonymous	It is a temporary solution. It does not solve the real problem. Landlords that charge rent that is too high, wages are too low, and are politicians in Idaho are not doing anything to help actual

		citizens. They are worrying about irrelevant and made up problems from other states and taking away our rights.
28	anonymous	Absolutely! We need to focus on prevention more and get people the support they need to avoid homelessness.
29	anonymous	Yes, the research shows the efficacy of keeping people housed and it saves taxpayers money.
30	anonymous	Because I work at the Meridian Senior Center, I know there are some of my seniors who are struggling, hopefully this project will assist them as well.
31	anonymous	FUNDS from a Federal, state or City only continues the paths of 'dependency'. if someone wishes to find housing, they need a JOB, EMPLOYMENT so they can EARN the money to purchase a home or pay rent. there is NO ROLL in government for this.
32	anonymous	Nope
33	anonymous	No, I do not. There are other established agencies to assist those who are truly in an emergency homeless situation. Even though it's a 'grant,' it's still the result of taxpayers funds and I do not intend to fund those who become deliberately homeless, knowing that hardworking people with pay their bills.
34	anonymous	Our church has heard from people that the scope of who it helps is very narrow
35	anonymous	You can't buy self-discipline and ambition.
36	anonymous	I'm just not a handout type person. I lost my home to a short sale in 2013 and stayed in a homeless shelter for 1 night, then decided to stop feeling sorry for myself. It wasn't easy, but I worked 2 jobs, 7 days a week and gave up drugs and alcohol. I learned a trade and rebuilt my life. Now I own 2 homes without any type of public assistance. There are well paying all around the treasure valley. I just overheard my boss today, saying we could use 15 more workers (HVAC.)
37	anonymous	Depends on how it's used. If it's for an occasional emergency, like the loss of a job or an unexpected medical expense, then I think it's a good thing. If it's used because people can't live within their budgets or amass a lot of credit card debt, then we are just pushing the cart down the road to where those same helped individuals will soon become homeless. I'd rather see you accompanying the assistance with some kind of financial literacy programs.

38	anonymous	I believe so. There are plenty of people who fall into homelessness from factors outside of their control. Having emergency dental assistance can mean a family can still put food on the table for their children, and pay medical bills, with the assistance from rent.
39	anonymous	I assume it does.
40	anonymous	It is a poor placed band aid as there is normally an underlying reason for that rental issue. Who decides on who will get that money, will it be 50 families, there should be some type of agreement toward accepting the assistance and their activity/support for the community.
41	anonymous	No it just makes them more dependent on someone else paying their bills.
42	anonymous	We need to redouble our efforts. with inflation and interest rates, these are not poor people we are helping, its our neighbors in starter home neighborhoods
43	anonymous	How have no idea how effective it actually is.
44	anonymous	with the amount proposed i feel like it may help for some but for others no
45	anonymous	I don't know too much about it.
46	anonymous	Please provide a lot more information on who will qualify for these funds and any checks and balances you hat will be attached to the funds
47	anonymous	No, all it does is delay the inevitable. The rent situation is the same, landlords know they can charge an over inflated rent price and nothing people can do.
48	anonymous	Easier to help keep in place. Relief as needed due to a short term circumstance
49	anonymous	Yes. Not everyone can afford some necessary improvements and they shouldn't have to go into debt to maintain their homes.
50	anonymous	I don't have enough info to answer but overall am in support of helping people stay housed.

Figure 10: Emergency rental assistance helps keep people from becoming homeless.

Youth Scholarships

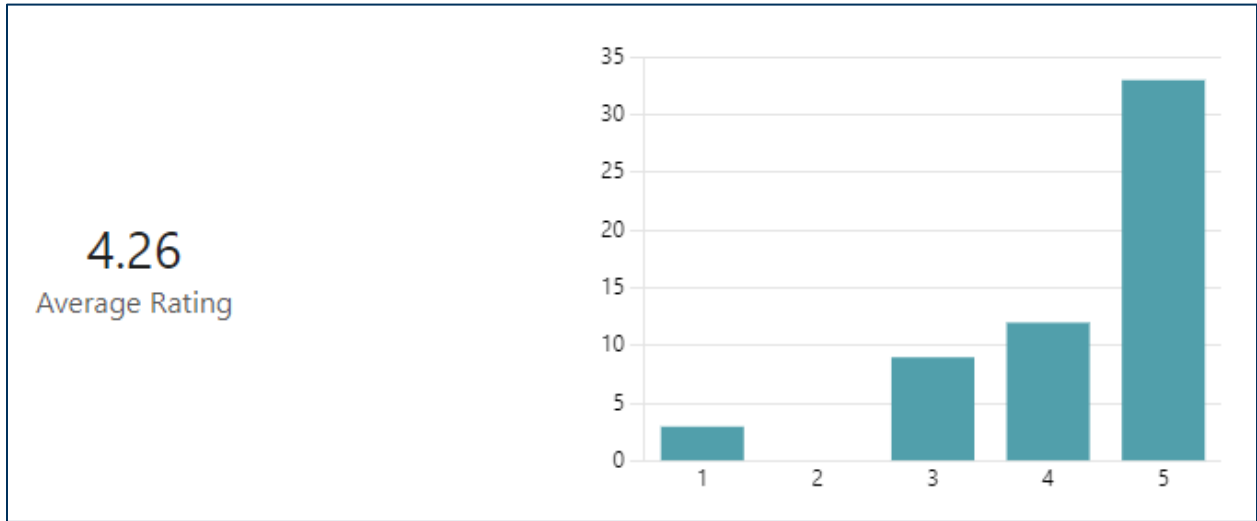


Figure 11: Childcare scholarships are critical to support families in our communities.

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Yes, giving families the ability to have low cost child care provides them the opportunity to work or go to school to improve housing stability.
2	anonymous	Paid maternity leave could solve this issue but in this state this will never happen. It is up to local communities to step up and help.
3	anonymous	It allows those who may not be able to afford childcare to work in order to meet their families' needs.
4	anonymous	There is not enough funding for American citizens in any way in this country, so any help is better than nothing.
5	anonymous	Yes, If the Boys and Girls Club is able to provide enough scholarships for \$34,959 for all those who need the support.
6	anonymous	Don't know much about it
7	anonymous	I think schools need to stop going to 4 days/week so that childcare doesn't have to be so necessary. I have a large family, 7 kids, and I could never afford childcare unless it was completely free for us. Fortunately we haven't had to use childcare but I think it should be affordable for all who need it.
8	anonymous	Yes and I would hope we are working on expanding the locations available with the City expansion.

ID	Name	Responses
9	anonymous	Yes, allowing parents to work to increase income to be able to pay bills like housing
10	anonymous	Summer childcare programs and extended care help parents who are working to make sure their kids have somewhere to go and people to look after them when they need to be at work. It's not feasible to have one working parent anymore with the rising costs of the economy. Anything to help kids stay engaged and learning throughout the summer is benefit to both kids and their parents.
11	anonymous	Yes, childcare costs have skyrocketed. Many families do not have the ability to maintain rent and bills and pay for childcare simultaneously.
12	anonymous	Yes, absolutely. Single parent households are a reality and without this support, parents are NOT able to go to work.
13	anonymous	Yes. Childcare is a huge expense for families and a major barrier to sustainability
14	anonymous	Childcare is a family's second highest expense after housing cost. Many families work a second job only to have the majority of that pay go toward paying for childcare. It is a vital service for family's yet no one can afford it.
15	anonymous	Childcare is notoriously extremely expensive and time consuming. Helping to remove this burden from families will make a tremendous difference
16	anonymous	I do, but I would stress that when we think of childcare we need to also consider having culturally appropriate and language accessible childcare. Spanish is no longer the only other language to consider in Treasure Valley/Idaho
17	anonymous	yes
18	anonymous	Childcare is expensive and inaccessible for many working families - providing scholarships to help those families (especially single-parent households) will allow folks to meet in the middle and still maintain their budget for rent, utilities and necessary goods like groceries and gas.
19	anonymous	Childcare costs are in some instances higher than rent when a family has multiple children, so yes affordable access to Boys & Girls Club services is critical to sustaining a family's household finances. Today, both parents have to work just to keep up with the bills and where are the kids to be then while the parents are at work? This is even worse for a single parent, so the Boys & Girls Club is vital to sustainability for a working parent.
20	anonymous	Absolutely. Every high expense families have to deal with increases the risk of housing instability.

ID	Name	Responses
21	anonymous	Having community funded centers is awesome!
22	anonymous	I think affordable childcare and good quality education is important. I also think it's the completely wrong approach to pump tax payer's dollars to private organizations. Own the matter and run affordable childcare centers free of religious or political agendas.
23	anonymous	Childcare help will help provide safe homes and neighborhoods. Children may be left home before they should be because affordable childcare is not there, and their safety is jeopardized so rent can be paid.
24	anonymous	I don;t know about the housing stability but I do agree with providing resources to children.
25	anonymous	I quit my job to take care of our only child and to be honest, we struggle financially. It bothers me that others get tax credits for child care and still get to work and make money.
26	anonymous	It is a great project but again, the word is not out there. I talk to people every day struggling with childcare and with the cost. They never heard about this.
27	anonymous	Having a childcare option for working parents is also super important.
28	anonymous	This is so important to support those families who are in need of assistant with childcare.
29	anonymous	Again, programs such as these foster DEPENDENCY. it is NOT the roll of the Government to FUND CHILDCARE. Having a child is the VOLUNTARY OPTION of the parent and thus is the sole responsibility of the Parent. there are a multitude of Charitable organizations who can offer assistance to parents while they need a short term helping hand.
30	anonymous	Nope
31	anonymous	Same answer as question #5.
32	anonymous	Self-discipline and responsibility are not solve by throwing money at it.
33	anonymous	Yes, I believe this is a valuable service. It's becoming impossible for families to make it on one income and raise their children properly. Especially single parents really need that help.
34	anonymous	I think it's an excellent solution, and helps to give a good place for children to grow as well.

ID	Name	Responses
35	anonymous	I don't know
36	anonymous	Though I agree with the need, I dont know how you get the actual stability without adjusting those facilities costs, and it should not be limited to the Boys and Girls Club as the 'Y' is just as valuable an option for kids in the summer and some churches that provide services.
37	anonymous	No it's not working, the taxpayer has been footing the bill for how long now and the problem keeps getting worse.
38	anonymous	I understand it is important but not more important than keeping people in their homes/apartments
39	anonymous	The intent is good, but I question how well the Boys and Girls Club performs.
40	anonymous	i dont feel as though the proposed amount will go very far
41	anonymous	It should but once again I would like to know the criteria for someone to get these funds
42	anonymous	Yes, because it helps the family with one expense that doesn't take away from housing money.
43	anonymous	Other types of day care are limited and expensive. This provides options for many
44	anonymous	Yes they do. Provides some shelter financially for families that are trying to raise their kids and live in these financially difficult times. Years later this would pay out as educated civilians make for better communities.
45	anonymous	Yes.

Figure 12: Childcare scholarships provide families with the option to maintain housing stability while meeting their childcare needs.

Homeowner Repairs

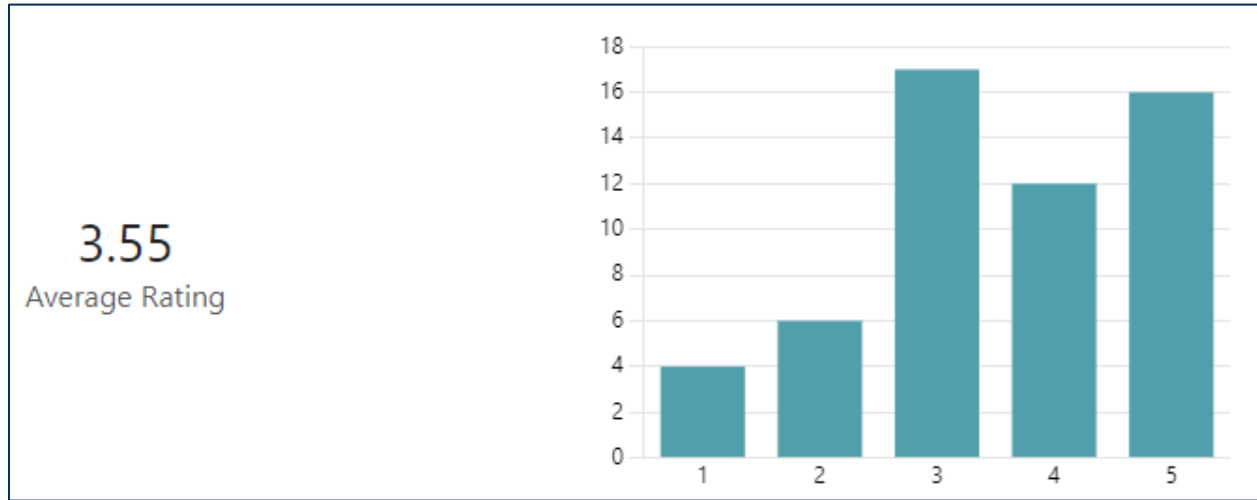


Figure 13: Homeowner repairs are necessary to improve housing stability.

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	In theory, yes. In reality, it seems that the majority of those at risk of experiencing homelessness are not homeowners and are instead renters.
2	anonymous	I'm not so sure. Seems like bigger projects could be avoided by simple maintenance. Ex. Cleaning out gutters. Yes no one likes to do it but it saves a lot of mess and damage if done twice a year. People just beef up take fond pride in their homes.
3	anonymous	Some large repairs are often out of reach for many people so assistance with those huge expenses can help them afford to stay in their homes.
4	anonymous	No. \$160,000 does not cover much repairs.
5	anonymous	No idea
6	anonymous	Only repairs that are heating and Electrical should be helped. Anything else they can do themselves. No one has helped with my repairs. I did then a little at a time as I could afford them.
7	anonymous	I think this assists the elderly and low income the most. There should be a program that is more accessible to middle income families that help houses be more energy efficient. Prices of windows and doors are outrageous.
8	anonymous	I am unsure if a 10% annual savings in energy cost makes up for the runaway property values that intern eat more of a persons cost of living. Wither in property taxes or monthly rent.

ID	Name	Responses
9	anonymous	Without knowing the detailed parameters of who qualifies for this project and what specific needs it would address, I believe this is a large budget for this item that could better go to emergency rental assistance
10	anonymous	Having a safe and stable home is important to make sure that people can live healthy lives. Emergency repairs on homes are extremely expensive and can oftentimes go without being done because people can't afford to pay for them up front. A leaky roof can turn into a moldy home which can lead to detrimental health issues.
11	anonymous	Homeowner repairs are very expensive however I am not sure how this helps maintain affordable housing in the community.
12	anonymous	Yes, home ownership is costly, any kind of support would assist families to maintain their housing to make sure it's compliant and safe.
13	anonymous	This is important for people to be able to maintain their homes, however there are much greater needs
14	anonymous	Not as much as providing access to housing.
15	anonymous	I do believe this, but again, we need to also consider culturally appropriate practices, and practices that will also include people with disabilities.
16	anonymous	not sure
17	anonymous	I think that homeowner repairs will help folks who are owners, but unless they are also assisting landlords in maintaining their properties for those who rent from them, it's not as pressing of an issue as emergency rental assistance or childcare scholarships are.
18	anonymous	I see this as a good measure to avoid junk properties, assuming it is only for those who cannot otherwise afford to make the improvements themselves, is strictly for emergency, accessibility (ADA), and weatherization repairs, and do not see it as high of a priority as rental assistance and childcare assistance. Given those comments, I generally support using funds to maintain the quality of housing in Meridian if the assumptions described are true and wealthy homeowners are not tapping into these funds for private beautification/improvement projects at taxpayer expense.
19	anonymous	I think this is less urgent than the other items listed to be honest.
20	anonymous	I'm 100% against the use of our tax dollars when it comes to this socialist group.
21	anonymous	Yes, keep our neighbors in their homes, our seniors and lower income homeowners need help with repairs, if they sell they can't afford to buy again. Let's keep investors from buying our homes and then making them unaffordable.

ID	Name	Responses
22	anonymous	How does this maintain affordable housing? Is your thinking repairing someone house will not require them to move into something that may be more expensive? If the house needs that many repairs to keep them in, then is the house habitable in the first place?
23	anonymous	Totally, but once again, who gets to benefit? Please address people that don't get benefits from all the other programs, and our barely making it, even though they work, but make "just" over what qualifies for other benefits. The struggle is real and wages don't keep up.
24	anonymous	It is so important. There is so much need. Some of it should be earmarked for accessibility, such as ramps or modifications to bathrooms.
25	anonymous	This project is very important, as many homeowners don't have the resources to for much needed repairs.
26	anonymous	if you own a home, you (as the owner) are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance. again, there are private entities for providing funds (loans) with funds toward repairs, etc. there are also many private Charitable organizations who can provide support. it IS NOT the role of the government to provide TAXPAYER FUNDS for these purposes.
27	anonymous	Nope
28	anonymous	Somewhat. If you're going to have a project for keeping people in their homes, a better target is senior citizens.
29	anonymous	Look around.
30	anonymous	No. My home was built in 1970. It could use plenty of upgrades. But I would never ask because it is MY responsibility, not the govts.
31	anonymous	I don't see this as vital of a program as the childcard or rental assistance. If someone can afford a home, they should factor in the cost of repairs. We own a home, are seniors on fixed incomes, and probably wouldn't qualify for such support anyway, even though we might need it. We've owned our home for 8 years now in the Meridian area (30 years before that in the Boise area), and it's becoming harder and harder to make ends meet. But we don't qualify for a circuitbreaker or these kinds of assistance programs because we're not at what the state considers at poverty level. Down the road, we will be forced to sell our home, and I don't know what we'll have to move into then, to keep up with inflation.
32	anonymous	I think so. Critical and safe repairs are necessary to keeping your home
33	anonymous	I don't know
34	anonymous	There is a reason that the home got to this state, what no one should want to see is that someone turns this free repair as an opportunity to sale and leave the area. This does not help

ID	Name	Responses
		the community and where is the tie back between the grantee and how they will continue to maintain the property going forward. Cut the funding and create partnerships with local businesses that do home repairs to have them apart of the solution(s).
35	anonymous	No, the best way to help homeowners is to cut property taxes and cut pet projects like this!
36	anonymous	positive program
37	anonymous	It frees up money for making mortgage payments.
38	anonymous	as a homeowner the responsibility for caring for your home is yours, not the city so i feel like these funds could be used for more important areas
39	anonymous	Sure, here again the individual doesn't have to decide whether pay rent, or house payment versus paying for some repair.
40	anonymous	Enhanced safety , value and efficiency of home. Saves owner \$ to use in other ways
41	anonymous	It would as materials are costly and people put off making repairs. Repairs that would make houses look nicer, thus increasing property values and pride in neighborhoods.

Figure 14: Homeowner repairs helps homeowners maintain affordable housing.

Walkability in LMA

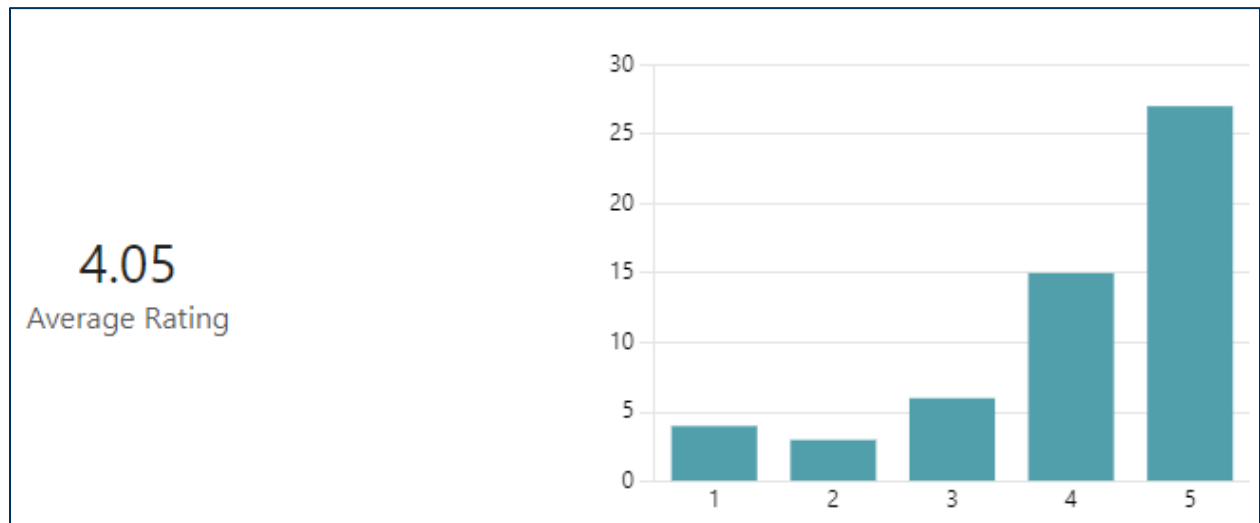


Figure 15: Walkability improvements are essential to enhancing neighborhood safety and accessibility in low to moderate income areas.

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Walkability of a city is an essential part of creating an environment that supports accessibility of the city for residents.
2	anonymous	Yes. Safety first. Walking home from a job on a dark path is scary. Light it up. Creates safety and security.
3	anonymous	Sidewalks should be addressed by ACHD, not these grants. Streetlights are important for safety purposes.
4	anonymous	No. There are other factors involved in neighborhood safety and accessibility besides sidewalks and streetlights.
5	anonymous	Not much. Money could be better spent on helping the “working” people stay off the streets. The alcoholic, druggies, and those who won’t work deserve to be on the streets.
6	anonymous	Again, this doesn't affect/benefit me because I don't live in these areas. Reducing traffic on the roads or making driving around Meridian easier seems more beneficial as there isn't really anything within walking distance of my house, besides a Maverick.
7	anonymous	I agree that mobility through our City needs improvement I would love to see more mass transit invested in as well.
8	anonymous	Yes
9	anonymous	Having safe and accessible sidewalks ensures that everyone regardless of their health status is able to travel and get to where they need. Wider sidewalks that are flattened help people who may be in wheelchairs or may have issues with tripping. One fall can completely turn someone's life into a nightmare with a very long road to recovery.
10	anonymous	Yes, I think this is a good use of CDBG funds.
11	anonymous	Yes, accessibility and safety promotes awareness.
12	anonymous	There are far greater needs facing our community for families than this.
13	anonymous	Yes. Many people do not have the option to drive everywhere all the time.
14	anonymous	yes safe neighborhoods are always important

ID	Name	Responses
15	anonymous	Because of the sprawl in Meridian's community, it is already not the most walkable area. Any improvements to that, especially safety for those without consistent vehicular transportation, would improve the livability of the city.
16	anonymous	All Meridian residents, but children and the elderly in particular as many cannot drive, need safe access to school, care, and medical services so this seems like an essential investment for public safety. Low-income families also cannot afford nice cars and monthly insurance premiums, so having safe sidewalks and proper lighting are good in these areas.
17	anonymous	I absolutely believe this is important for quality of life and the health and well-being of Meridian residents.
18	anonymous	Walkability is so important, in downtown in particular. If we want to deter crime we need nice sidewalks to encourage walkers. The more people out can deter street crimes. Safe street crossing in neighborhoods are needed. The more walkable the safer it becomes with more people out and about. Lighting on city streets can deter burglaries.
19	anonymous	I agree this improves the safety, but why aren't impact fees being used. The impact fees are being used in the location they are coming from.
20	anonymous	This is a big deal, the more people can get out and walk, bike, scooter, etc. it is a huge investment that will pay off for the city.
21	anonymous	Looking around when I drive, it has a long way to go. I use a mobility scooter and there are spots that are living hell!. Curbing is high and cutouts are blocked. Many sidewalks border directly on the street up to the curb. No room for error.
22	anonymous	These walkability improvements are needed and should address safety and access.
23	anonymous	Improvements to City of Meridian 'infrastructure' should be supported by RESIDENCE OF MERIDIAN TAX PAYER DOLLARS. not FEDERAL MONEY. City of Meridian coffers are already overflowing with taxes and levies for this. using federal tax dollars for these items is irresponsible and illegal
24	anonymous	A benefit to all.
25	anonymous	Yes, and I approve this project because it serves the whole Meridian population.

ID	Name	Responses
26	anonymous	Needs out shine Artsy.
27	anonymous	Continuous sidewalks, or bike lanes are always a good thing.
28	anonymous	I'd just like to see Meridian keep up with paving their streets. The streets in our moderate-income neighborhood haven't been paved in 20 years (the age of the subdivision), and I understand we're do for chip sealing in the next few years. We have very few streetlights, although we do have yard lights. I do not see this as being that vital of an issue.
29	anonymous	It provides safety for those who live in the area in out. Also, making it more safe and walkable provides a better quality of life to all children who walk to school in these areas too.
30	anonymous	I don't know
31	anonymous	On a few of these areas that have been selected for improvement, or where others have fallen into disrepair, will there be an agreement with the city to maintain these areas going forward? Or that now the homeowner will be needing to keep them up per city code or neighborhood agreement?
32	anonymous	Another pet project just to spend money that we don't have on a handful of people who walk for a little exercise.
33	anonymous	i understand the importance but it just pales in comparison to the others
34	anonymous	Streetlights are good, but I don't know how sidewalk improvement provides safety if people don't use them.
35	anonymous	absolutely not, this is a ridiculous waste of funds in my opinion. i feel like these funds can definitely be better put to use. i have lived in this area since 2005 and there is not enough "foot" traffic to justify this amount of spending
36	anonymous	Absolutely!!! Our kids don't get to play outside enough because we worry about their safety. Please put sidewalks on 7th.
37	anonymous	No.
38	anonymous	Yes, it's much safer to use a sidewalk than using the street and risk being hit.

ID	Name	Responses
39	anonymous	I do feel safety is important and being able walk in the community is critical. If enhanced lighting and continuous sidewalks provide that, I'm happy
40	anonymous	Yes. Because lit up sidewalks would deter criminals from skulking around.
41	anonymous	No, east/west improvements connecting to downtown are my priority. From where I live on nw 7th, lack of sidewalks does not deter people from walking. Streetlights may make some feel better walking at night. As long as light pollution is limited.

Figure 16: Walkability improvements addresses some of the safety and access needs in the community.

Lasting Impact

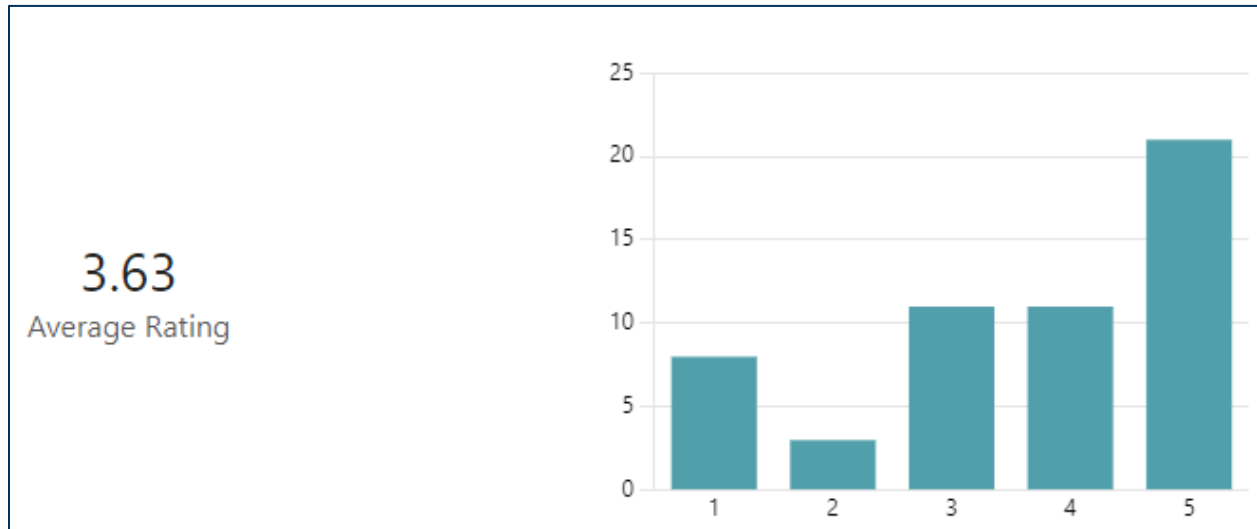


Figure 17: Confidence that the projects will have a lasting impact on improving housing stability.

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	I think they are a step in the right direction but should be used in conjunction with other health, human services, and training programs that address other issues that contribute to homelessness.
2	anonymous	So much of this depends on the economy and how people feel in their neighborhood. One junky house ruins the vibe. Property taxes are high enough. I do believe that the builders have some responsibility. They are making a lot of money building all the new fun divisions and apartments. They need to invest in the community where they are building their wealth. A

ID	Name	Responses
		moratorium on new growth would help. Can't even keep up with the increase in traffic. Small rural farm roads were never built for this steady use. Time to get realistic and look at logistics.
3	anonymous	Create access to training and other tools for homeowners who take advantage of these services.
4	anonymous	If the other factors involved in improving housing stability in our community are addressed along with the proposed projects then these projects will be sustainable in the long term.
5	anonymous	Not sure. Most of these are ones you give money to and it doesn't really help the community as a whole, just the individual. Then should have to live here for 5 years before receiving assistance. To many people moving here and sucking our money dry
6	anonymous	I don't know.
7	anonymous	These projects are all great, and temporary solutions. We need processes in place to address these needs after the funding runs out and to help folks become self-sufficient so they don't need outside support in the future.
8	anonymous	Provide results with in the State of the City address. Where were we last year and what improved vs what still needs work. We can be a great place to live and be a work in progress at the same time.
9	anonymous	Measure would be less evictions, more childcare programs, and higher walkability scores throughout the city.
10	anonymous	NA
11	anonymous	Working with trusted partners, looking at the data to see what are proven methods.
12	anonymous	Measures for emergency rental assistance: how many folks go into homelessness after being supported? how many folks return for more assistance within a year of receiving assistance? Measures for childcare scholarships: how many folks access the program? how many folks continue with the program? how many folks remain stable after starting the program versus before? Measures for homeowner repairs: how many rental units are included in these repairs? cost savings comparing previous costs to costs following the repairs? Measures for walkability: improved safety? greater use?

ID	Name	Responses
13	anonymous	Continue the course and ensure low and moderate-income families and individuals are supported for a strong community and sustained lower crime rates and homelessness.
14	anonymous	I don't have a specific answer to this question, but I think it is very important to dealing with housing issues now if we want to avoid having a dramatic increase in those without housing.
15	anonymous	The projects will only show improvements for as long as they are active. One or 2 years will only show a small improvement, long term is needed.
16	anonymous	Do them right the first time so they don't have to be kept being redone.
17	anonymous	Improving sidewalks, investing in the community that is fantastic. I wish we wouldn't just throw up subdivisions and not think about schools and roads and smart growth. Building is out of control and schools and kids are paying the price.
18	anonymous	Have 5, 10, and 20 year plans. Create panels of everyday people that can meet and have input. Find a variety of needs, such as elderly, young teens, college students, people with disability mobility issues, blind, deaf, parents with strollers, electric trikes, and so on.
19	anonymous	I suggest that these projects be canceled and the FEDERAL HUD MONEY be returned, thus CANCELING THE CONTRACT with the federal Government (and those STRINGS that come with the money).
20	anonymous	Use the \$100 million budget that the city has.
21	anonymous	Invest in the entire community rather than one demographic.
22	anonymous	Go back and use common sense and logic. Knock off the elitest know it all crap.
23	anonymous	Don't spread the money too thin, to where it doesn't do much good for anyone. Stick with a few programs and do those up well. Don't try to build so many apartments. From a top realtor in this area, I understand that about 80% of the new apartments aren't even being leased out. And you're building them so close to traffic-congested streets that who will want to live there and be able to sleep at night? They're also multi-storied, so we're losing our nice views of the mountains. All in all, I would say Meridian is becoming a much less attractive city to live in than it was 9 years ago when we moved here. Slow down the growth. You don't have the infrastructure to support it.

ID	Name	Responses
24	anonymous	I'm not sure
25	anonymous	Streets, bike lanes, sidewalk improvements, tree enhancements, those all of community curb appeal and support increased use. The others are nice, but there are not any binders to encourage those individuals receiving those funds to give back to the community.
26	anonymous	Not spend the money!
27	anonymous	I believe we need to find more resources, grants, partnerships with community partners
28	anonymous	These programs come and go. They don't tend to be long term.
29	anonymous	these projects may have a lasting impact but that is because without "affordable" housing the city will no longer be stable. people are running in so fast and the expansion is causing some to flee for less populated and more affordable options
30	anonymous	Instead of taking all the grant money and spend it.How about the city invest some of the money and use the interest to keep the program funded. It does no good to take the money spend it all for the projects, yet have no future money to fund for the long term.
31	anonymous	Share the stories of positive impact and that this funding provided that opportunity
32	anonymous	Have checks and balances that the money is going to the right families and not to people that make enough to pay for these things that take advantage of the funding.
33	anonymous	People have been walking in these neighborhoods for 50 yrs. I really think good east/west connections to downtown are key. Improvements to existing bike lanes - divided from traffic and connecting existing green belt paths is more important and would have a bigger impact to the overall community than one street. I applaud the assistance planned to keep people in their homes and with repairs/childcare.

Figure 18: Suggestions to ensure sustainability in the projects long-term.

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	More affordable housing, health initiatives, and job training opportunities.

ID	Name	Responses
2	anonymous	People are moving here for a different quality of life. We'll lose it if leaders can't get along and think of the people instead of getting caught up on so many "issues" that create anger.
3	anonymous	Provide financial planning services to those who need the assistance offered through these programs.
4	anonymous	keeping the streets free of crimes, ie, porch thieves, drug transactions, theft of lawn ornaments, etc will go a long ways to providing the feeling of safety.
5	anonymous	Safe cross walks, bikeways, pedestrian safety. Higher fines to aggressive drivers that disregard the safety of the aforementioned pedestrians/cyclists.
6	anonymous	Bus stops on major roads only not on 2 lane roads the records road. Cars cannot get around them and it's already too busy of a road
7	anonymous	Answered in first question - more community indoor pools throughout Meridian.
8	anonymous	We need ways to help people keep jobs and get higher paying jobs.
9	anonymous	We should be ashamed of the lack of mass transit in our city. Also the lack of investment the core of our City is laughable. We focus to much on the next chain business and strip corner. There is plenty of infill lots that could be used to add character to neighborhoods and provide oppertuines for small business that create more diverse business owners.
10	anonymous	North-south bus routes, more childcare initiatives, smart grid for traffic systems that use machine learning to synchronize movement of traffic especially during peak congestion
11	anonymous	Health care related programs or elderly care related programs
12	anonymous	Vehicle repairs, elderly support for assisted living costs
13	anonymous	More affordable housing.
14	anonymous	Emergency rental assistance is the most cost-effective way to address homelessness in the Treasure Valley and more money should be invested into the program in upcoming years if the need persists or continues to grow.
15	anonymous	Unsure, but appreciate these projects and their impact on our community.

ID	Name	Responses
16	anonymous	More money for homelessness prevention and for affordable housing is a must. Increasing the housing supply in general through zoning and land use reform would also be a great idea.
17	anonymous	Community education for teens and low income adults to get certifications for jobs and learning personal finance is key to long term community health.
18	anonymous	How about saving our tax dollars, becoming financially responsible and stopping to raise property taxes like crazy. It's laughable if you want to support housing issues while increasing the costs year after year. Our city is overspending a lot.
19	anonymous	The childcare budget is fairly small, more services to help lower income households have reliable safe childcare. Covered Bus benches would be nice, provided a safe place for people to wait.
20	anonymous	Lack of retail establishments in certain areas.
21	anonymous	We need public transit, less subdivisions, and sprawl, better investment in schools and open space. We need to fight politicians coming in here with outside agendas.
22	anonymous	Wheelchair accessibility is terrible here. Who designs the curb height in retail centers and plazas. There are some brand new nightmare designs that make businesses totally unwelcoming and inaccessible. One example is the strip building at the NE corner of Linder and Ustick. I could never visit these businesses due to the pathetic design of the curbing and walkways that scream, 'You are not welcome here'. Meeting code is not enough. Truly find out what the barriers are with today's codes and fix them. Enforce them as well. There are so many unmaintained hard surface paths that are in terrible condition.
23	anonymous	The CITY OF MERIDIAN, SHOULD NEVER ACCEPT FEDERAL DOLLARS FOR ANY PROJECT. PERIOD. TO DO SO, PUTS THE CITY MANAGEMENT IN THE HANDS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CANNOT DETERMINE WHAT IS BEST FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CITY MERIDIAN. ONLY WE CAN. STOP ACCEPTING THESE FUNDS.
24	anonymous	Trash, litter pickup. Improving the blight along roadways
25	anonymous	Walkability for all of Meridian and not just the high-rent areas, planned community hubs in walking/biking distance for items such groceries, pharmaceuticals, entertainment, dining, and so on.
26	anonymous	Common Sense.

ID	Name	Responses
27	anonymous	Ban Arbnb and other VRBO types. Every short term rental could house a family. If I wanted to live next to a hotel, I would have purchased a home next to a hotel.
28	anonymous	Bring back traffic-sensitive lights. I sit at intersections for so long with no traffic waiting for the light to change. I do like the accessibility of pedestrian and bike crossing signals on Ten Mile and Linder.
29	anonymous	Homelessness!
30	anonymous	Bike lanes within 1 mile of schools and parks, but the streets need to be in better condition first.
31	anonymous	The problem is government thinking it has to solve every problem.
32	anonymous	continue rental assistance that is geared to build independence and work with the Housing Authority or Neighborworks to fund robust 1st time homebuyer down payment assistance. So many folks could buy a home for what they are paying in rent, if they had a meaningful down payment. It doesn't even have to be forgivable given what hope prices are calculated to do.
33	anonymous	Law enforcement!
34	anonymous	More lighting down 7th and in the community as well.
35	anonymous	More sidewalks in areas that have none.
36	anonymous	These are broad which allows some flexibility

Figure 19: Future projects.

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Partner with other services to strengthen the programs.
2	anonymous	Idaho has a huge surplus. Time to pay it forward and invest in infrastructure, education, and natural resources.

ID	Name	Responses
3	anonymous	Screen service providers (contractors, roofers, etc.) who are paid by this program to ensure they are providing quality care and services to the community and not overcharging.
4	anonymous	Don't do them
5	anonymous	Can any of these funds be used for small business loans.
6	anonymous	Allocation of more funds from HUD to help expand these projects or create future projects to address other areas.
7	anonymous	Partners and communities need to come together to address the current housing crisis, stagnant wages, prevention and education is crucial.
8	anonymous	Start engaging with the Congolese, Ukrainian, Afghan, South American, etc populations that already exist in Idaho. These communities are robust and Idaho still seems to have trouble acknowledging their existence.
9	anonymous	Ensuring the homeowner repairs isn't exclusive to homes that the owners actively occupy but to the homes that people might own and rent out. Ensuring that those homes are also not Airbnb's but are actually accessible to residents living in the community and ideally lower income housing repairs to be done first.
10	anonymous	Commit to continue and increase funding for them.
11	anonymous	Communication to the people. Often those who need it the most aren't active in the community and never hear about services available.
12	anonymous	If done, they just need to be done right the first time and with any growth in mind.
13	anonymous	We need to just stop building and take care and fix what is already here.
14	anonymous	See above, I would love to sit on a panel on this subject. Create focus groups and listen.
15	anonymous	THEY CANNOT. NO FEDERAL DOLLARS WANTED OR NEEDED HERE.
16	anonymous	Taxpayer dollars

ID	Name	Responses
17	anonymous	The four projects listed? Begin again.
18	anonymous	Less Government.
19	anonymous	Consider all segments of the population, not just focusing on low income peoples and young families.
20	anonymous	No comment
21	anonymous	Access will always be an improvement need. Do a better job of assessing each neighborhood for what they do and dont have; distance from schools/parks/entertainment (food), condition of roads/sidewalks/bike lane, and what is the demographic within that area (age groups, rental/owner). If you have a developed community within these neighborhoods, they actually get out within their area and meet, it increases the opportunity that they help with community beautification, and thats where the city can help provide resources (trees, canopy covers in parks, improved usability). There are solid factors that go into developing a community/neighborhood, but if you dont have people within it that are willing to be 'overwatchers', because of lacking attention to needs, there will lack cohesion and apathy.
22	anonymous	Any community project that has to be done, should be done buy able bodied people who are unemployed and hungry and needs to feed their family.
23	anonymous	i really appreciate the city's efforts but i think we just need to find ways to increase assistance or look for partnerships/grants that can be force multipliers
24	anonymous	Need long term programs not year-to-year.
25	anonymous	Make sure there is some fiscal oversight, and true accountability how the funds are spent. Not just give some developer, or chosen city partner the money.
26	anonymous	Assure good use of funds. Quality assurance

Figure 20: Potential improvements to these projects.

Additional Comments

Commenter	Method of Submission	Summary of Comments
Kevin Bailey, Idaho Nonprofit Center	Email	CDBG funds are absolutely crucial resources for local communities to address challenging issues like affordable, safe housing and economic opportunity for local residents. These funds are especially important for fast growing communities like the City of Meridian as the challenges to keep pace with rising housing costs put strains on local supply and availability of affordable housing. CDBG funds and the strategies and programs implemented with these funds by public and private partners like local nonprofit organizations have proven to make a real difference for local communities.

Table 11: Comments received during the public comment period for the PY24 Action Plan.



Figure 21: Outreach event at the Library.

Affidavit of Publication

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
STATE OF IDAHO**

County of Canyon and Ada

21410 525900
1 MERIDIAN, CITY OF

33 E. BROADWAY AVENUE
MERIDIAN, ID 83642

SHARON JESSEN
of the State of Idaho, being of first duly sworn, deposes
and says:

1. That I am a citizen of the United States, and at all times hereinafter mentioned was over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the above entitled action.
2. That I am the Principle Clerk of the Idaho Press-Tribune, a daily newspaper published in the Counties of Canyon and Ada, State of Idaho; that the said newspaper is in general circulation in the said counties of Canyon and Ada, and in the vicinity of Nampa, Caldwell, and Boise, and has been uninterruptedly published in said Counties during a period of seventy -eight consecutive weeks prior to the first publication of this notice, a copy of which is hereto attached.
3. That the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, was published in said newspaper and on IdahoPublicNotices.com 1 times(s) in the regular and entire issue of said paper, and was printed in the newspaper proper, and not in a supplement

That said notice was published the following: 06/16/2024



SHARON JESSEN
STATE OF IDAHO

On this 15th day of June, in the year of 2024 before me a Notary Public, personally appeared. SHARON JESSEN, known or identified to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and being by me first duly sworn, declared that the statements therein are true, and acknowledge to me that he/she executed the within instrument.



Notary Public of Idaho
My commission expires



525900

AD# 525900AD#

<p style="text-align: center;">LEGAL NOTICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CITY OF MERIDIAN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Regarding Meridian's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program</p> <p>This Notice can be provided in a format accessible to persons with limited English proficiency upon request. Contact Crystal Campbell at ccampbell@meridiacity.org for assistance.</p> <p>Se le puede proveer esta notificación en un formato accesible para las personas con conocimientos limitados del inglés a pedido. Comuníquese con Crystal Campbell en ccampbell@meridiacity.org para obtener ayuda.</p> <p>ALL CITIZENS ARE INVITED to attend a public hearing on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 4:30 P.M. regarding the City of Meridian's 2024 CDBG Action Plan. Participants can attend in person at Meridian City Hall or virtually at https://meridiacity.org/live.</p> <p>A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD is open June 11, 2024 and will continue through July 14, 2024. During this period, oral and written comments about the 2024 CDBG Action Plan will be accepted. All comments should be addressed to Crystal Campbell at: City of Meridian, Community Development Department, 33 E. Broadway Ave., Ste.102, Meridian, ID 83642; (208) 489-0575; or ccampbell@meridiacity.org.</p> <p>The City of Meridian is designated an Entitlement Community by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This designation allows the City to receive funds annually from HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The City anticipates that it will receive an allocation of \$524,378 in CDBG funds on October 1, 2024. In order to receive these funds, the City must submit an Action Plan to HUD identifying the projects the City will undertake to meet the goals identified in the 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan that will benefit low and moderate income residents in the upcoming year. The Consolidated Plan goals address public facility and infrastructure improvements, housing, public services, and administration.</p> <p>All citizens may provide testimony. Copies of the Action Plan are available on the City's CDBG website: http://www.meridiacity.org/cdbg. Special invitation is extended to persons with disabilities, residents of assisted housing, and Meridian business and property owners. Meridian City Hall is a handicapped accessible facility.</p> <p>If you require accommodations related to physical, visual or hearing impairments or if you require language interpretation, please contact the City Clerk at (208) 888-4433.</p> <p>Si requieren adaptaciones relacionadas con impedimentos físicos, visuales o auditivos o si requieren interpretación de idiomas, comuníquese con el Vendedor de Ciudad al (208) 888-4433.</p> <p>June 16, 2024 525900</p>

Attachment 2: Resolution

CITY OF MERIDIAN

RESOLUTION NO. 24-2463

BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

**CAVENER, LITTLE ROBERTS, OVERTON,
STRADER, TAYLOR, AND WHITLOCK**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING SUBMISSION AND ADOPTION OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM YEAR 2024 ACTION PLAN TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, it is necessary that an annual action plan be submitted to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in order to receive Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) funding for the Program Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the City held public hearings on the Program Year 2024 Action Plan on March 26, 2024, April 9, 2024, July 9, 2024, and July 16, 2024, held a public comment period to request public input on the planning process from March 15, 2024 to April 7, 2024, and a public comment period on the draft application materials from June 11, 2024 to July 17, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, IDAHO:

Section 1. That the Program Year 2024 Action Plan, and its certification documents, copies of which are attached hereto as ATTACHMENT A and incorporated herein by reference, be, and the same hereby are, adopted as to both form and content.

Section 2. That the Community Development Program Coordinator be, and hereby is, authorized to submit such Program Year 2024 Action Plan to HUD.


Section 3. That the Mayor and the City Clerk be, and they hereby are, authorized to respectively execute and attest the certifying documents for the Program Year 2024 Action Plan for and on behalf of the City of Meridian.

Section 4. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption and approval.

ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Meridian, Idaho this 23rd day of July, 2024.

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Meridian, Idaho, this 23rd day of July, 2024.

APPROVED:



Mayor Robert E. Simison

ATTEST:

By:  

Chris Johnson, City Clerk