



Town of Christiansburg

2017

Community Development Block Group

Consolidated Annual

Performance and

Evaluation Report

(CAPER)

Presented to
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD
November 28, 2018 – December 28, 2018

DRAFT

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

- The Town of Christiansburg utilized all of the CDBG allocations for the Program Year for construction of the Park Street sidewalk project. Construction began in spring of 2017 and was completed in late fall of 2017. The improvements included a 5-foot sidewalk on Park Street from east of Hagan Street NE to Depot Street. Other major items accomplished as part of the project included:
- Formal approval from Norfolk Southern was gained to permit sidewalk and drainage improvements through its track right-of-way at the Park Street intersection with Depot Street NE;
 - Relocation of several utility poles by the power company, AEP, in order to allow for the construction of the sidewalk on the western side of project near Hagan Street NE; and
 - Curb and gutter installation (and other related drainage improvements) necessary to install the sidewalk.

The construction of this sidewalk completes a continuous sidewalk along the entirety of Park Street from the East Main Street intersection to Depot Street NE

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected - Strategic Plan	Actual - Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected - Program Year	Actual - Program Year	Percent Complete
2015 Goal - Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	\$117,568	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	841	841	100.00%	841	841	100.00%

2016 Goal - Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	\$107,101	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	841	841	841	100.00%	841	841	100.00%
2018 Goal - Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	N/A	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	841	841	841	100.00%			
2019 Goal - Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	N/A	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	841	841	841	100.00%			
Administration	Non-Housing Community Development Sidewalk and infrastructure improvements	CDBG: \$22336.6	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	3925	3925	3925	100.00%	3925	3925	100.00%

Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development Public Improvements and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$89346.4	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	3925	3925	100.00%	3925	3925	100.00%
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Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

The Town started construction of the curb and gutter and sidewalk project last fiscal year and completed the project this year. The improvements have been anticipated for many years and the Town was pleased to have the design completed, the project bid and awarded, and the construction finally completed this program year. The project has now been closed out. Since the Town is part of the New River Valley HOME Consortium, we have been notified that the Town’s 5-year consolidated plan (2015-2020) will need to be updated prior to the previously expected year of 2020. In 2019, the Town will be updating the consolidated plan which provides an opportunity to reevaluate future goals. This will be advantageous for the Town since matching funds for a continuation of the sidewalk improvements on the south side of East Main Street will most likely not be available within the timeframe required to use the CDBG funds. There are a number of identified needs in this area so staff looks forward to hearing from the community for suggestions on the direction of future funding permitted under CDBG regulations.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

	CDBG
White	1732
Black or African American	112
Asian	12
American Indian or American Native	3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
Two or more races or reported other race	70
Total	1929
Hispanic*	Not Available
Not Hispanic*	Not Available

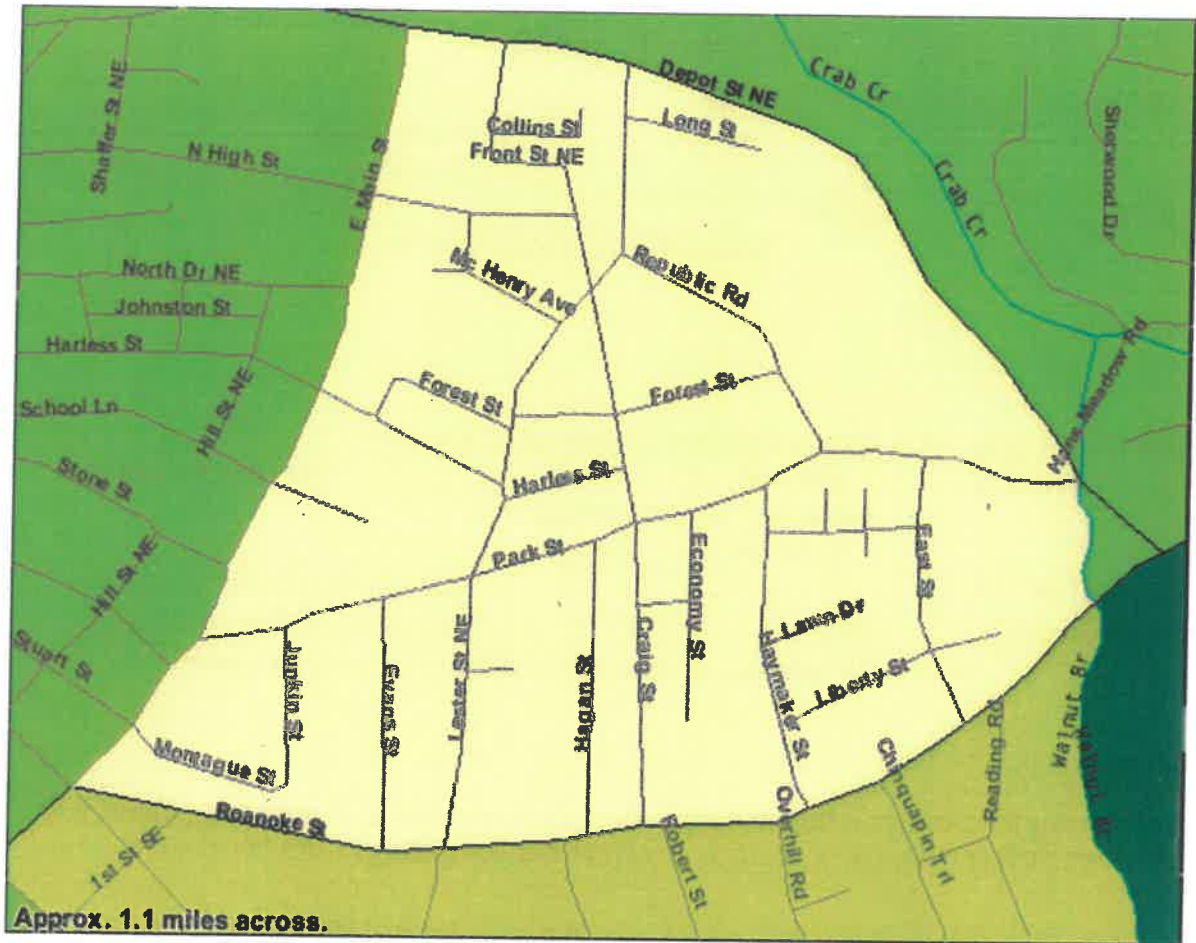
Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

*Based on previous data collected for past consolidated plans, Staff's understanding is Hispanic/Non-Hispanic populations were not available at the block group level for 2010.

Narrative

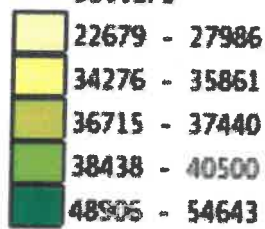
According to the 2010 Census, Christiansburg's population consisted of 89.5% white, 6.2% African American, 1.4% Asian and 2.2% Hispanic. An area of minority concentration in Town would be any racial group in a single census tract that comprises a percentage that is greater than the groups' percentage as a whole.

The Town of Christiansburg continues to utilize CDBG funds in the Census Tract 208-Block Group 02. This census block group is bordered by Roanoke Street, East Main Street and Depot Street. The total population of this block group is 1,929 persons. For the numbers available, 1,013 persons live in renter-occupied housing compared—or a little over half—compared to 837 persons living in owner-occupied housing. Of this population, 10% would be considered a minority – some other race than white. In the census block group 208-02, 112 persons reported being African American; 12 reported being Asian; 3 reported being American Indian-Alaska Native; 17 reported as “some other race”; and 53 reported as two or more races. The largest concentration of race in the block group is white – 1,732 persons. These numbers trend consistently with Christiansburg's overall population of 21,041 persons, where 18, 831 persons were reported as white alone. According to the 2010 Census, Christiansburg population consisted of 89.5% White, 6.2% Black, 1.4% Asian and 2.2% Hispanic.



Data Classes

Dollars



Features

- Major Road
- Street
- Stream/Waterbody
- Stream/Waterbody

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	CDBG	250,559	250,559

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Census Tract 208 – Block Group 02	100%	100%	CDBG funds used for construction completed to close out this project

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

The funding this year provided for construction costs incurred to complete the remaining drainage work and the sidewalk work. The work was completed in late fall of 2017.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The Town has leveraged funding from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) revenue sharing program. The funding has worked out to be one-third VDOT revenue sharing, one-third through a Town match from the general fund, and one-third CDBG funds. This is estimated to be \$900,000 to \$1,000,000 sidewalk project overall.

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to beprovided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Special-Needs households to beprovided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	0	0

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	0	0

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

There is not a difference to point out given that this was not an affordable housing goal set forth. The emphasis for the Town’s CDBG program has been sidewalk and drainage improvements primarily on Park Street.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

While no outcomes are anticipated to have an impact on future annual action plans , Town Staff will have to revisit this question after the Town’s consolidated plan is updated as is required now that the Town’s consolidated plan will be under the umbrella of the New River Valley Home Consortium.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	0	0
Low-income	0	0
Moderate-income	0	0
Total	0	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

As indicated above, there are not any households served since the CDBG program focusses on infrastructure improvements within a LMI community instead of focusing on affordable housing. At this time, Staff believes that the CDBG funding available to the Town is more feasible to leverage public infrastructure projects in a LMI area given the Town’s available funding sources and its past experiences than to pursue affordable housing at this time. These goals will be revisited as the Town reevaluates its consolidated plan in the next year.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

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

A comprehensive continuum of care system is necessary to effectively address homeless needs. This system must provide three basic components. First, there must be an immediate alternative to being unsheltered including not only emergency shelter, but an assessment of an individual's or family's needs. Second, there is a need for transitional housing and rehabilitative services. This aspect of the system should include services such as substance abuse treatment, interim mental health services, training in independent living skills, and many others dependent upon the individual needs. The final step is permanent housing that includes permanent supportive housing arrangements.

Homeless individuals and families will not necessarily need access to all of the above components, but this coordinated system is critical as an overall effort to overcome homelessness. In addition, there must be a strong homeless prevention strategy to ensure increasing numbers of homeless does not overwhelm the above system. In fact, prevention of homelessness, by stabilizing precarious housing arrangements, is significantly less costly than providing emergency shelter and food.

Though limited by local funding and dependent upon State and Federal Grant Assistance for many of our local endeavors, homelessness is a problem we would like to eliminate in our region. The Town of Christiansburg recognizes the need to assist low and moderate income

households in danger of becoming homeless, and is committed to assisting those families by continued support of local agencies, the regional Housing Partnership, Continuum of Care and HOME Consortium.

Since the Town of Christiansburg does not have social service programs to directly assist the homeless, we are fortunate to have the New River Community Action, a local agency that administers the Homeless Intervention Program (HIP) for the region. The HIP program prevents the displacement of low and moderate-income households who are in danger of becoming homeless, assists those who are homeless to secure permanent housing, and assists individuals to regain self-sufficiency. The program provides no interest loans for mortgages and deposit assistance, as well as rent-payment grants to eligible people in the New River Valley. Not only does New River Community Action administer the HIP program, but the agency has also taken the lead to develop a Homeless Prevention Plan for the New River Valley. Many religious institutions and the regional community services organization have combined to create a "thermal shelter" during the coldest months to house homeless men in the New River Valley. This year the program will open its doors to women for the first time.

The Town of Christiansburg will generally support applications for related programs and resources to assist in the prevention of homelessness from eligible non-profit organizations and other groups. When the Town is also an eligible applicant, it will seek to coordinate any application with other relevant organizations so program benefits will be delivered to citizens as effectively and seamlessly as possible.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Town of Christiansburg does not have a public housing authority. There are a number of publicly-assisted housing projects within the corporate limits. Community Housing Partners, a private, non-profit organization located at 446 Depot Street, NE in Christiansburg provides housing assistance through the Section 8 Existing Program and other similar programs. Housing Connections(formerly Pembroke Management, Inc.) is a private, non-profit organization located in Christiansburg which contracts with VHDA to provide services for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program in Montgomery, Floyd, Giles, and Pulaski Counties.

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

There are homeownership purchasing programs available to Town residents in general. Community Housing Partners (CHP) runs classes in town which are conveniently located for many residents of subsidized housing. The Town is supportive of these efforts, and others efforts such those of Habitat for Humanity to support home-ownership opportunities.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

Since the Town does not have a public housing authority, there are no actions to provide assistance to troubled PHAs.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

Removal of barriers to affordable housing must be done with a full analysis of potential ramifications. In this regard, the Town's Zoning Ordinance will be continued to be amended to protect and strengthen residential districts. The Town's Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2013 and is beginning a 5 year review in early 2019. This is always an opportunity to ensure that the Comprehensive Plan--a principal guiding document for development and land use for the Town--supports policies that promote affordable housing options. The Town's current zoning ordinance provides flexibility of housing types within the CDBG focus area as well as throughout the Town. Furthermore, the current zoning is conducive to permitting different size lots and homes. Staff believes that this has assisted in providing a variety of housing options at different

pricing levels to its residents. In addition, Christiansburg has opportunities in the areas of Continuum of Care and the HOME Consortium. The Town also encourages and supports the actions of the area community housing development organizations such as Community Housing Partners and Habitat for Humanity to provide further affordable housing opportunities throughout Town but especially within older neighborhoods or low to moderate income communities.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

No actions were taken this program year.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

No actions were taken this program year.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

No actions were taken this program year.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

No actions were taken this program year.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The sidewalk project on Park Street was completed in the fall of 2017. This project has been listed as the highest priority of the Goals and Objectives for many years. Additional improvements to water and sewer infrastructure have been listed as a medium priority. This project was able to address some utility improvements as part of the sidewalk and drainage project. The Town of Christiansburg has not utilized CDBG funds to set goals to address affordable housing. The low to moderate residents—as well as all other residents—have direct access to the new sidewalks and the renovated existing sidewalks along Roanoke Street, East Main Street, and Park Street. Developing sidewalks will encourage a walkable community providing access to grocery stores, medical offices (including a free clinic), and government offices such social services and Town Hall.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

No actions have been identified at this time.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

Christiansburg's Planning Department is the lead agency overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan and is responsible for coordinating with area organizations, citizens and other interested parties. The staff of this department consists of a Planning Director/Zoning Administrator and two planners.

In addition to overseeing the development of the plan, the Town of Christiansburg coordinates the sidewalk construction through the Engineering, Public Works, and Finance Departments. Hurt and Profitt (formerly Anderson and Associates, Inc.) has worked as the contracted private civil engineering firm. Along with the Town's Engineering Department, Hurt and Profitt will ensure compliance of the construction with all local, state, and federal regulations. The Town has also hired a firm to be out in the field on a day-to-day monitoring the work of the general contractor and its sub-contractors.

The CDBG program monitors high risk projects as a first priority. The areas reviewed to determine the risk level includes meeting goals, management procedures, record keeping, financial status, construction and labor standards (if applicable), and beneficiary data.

The Town of Christiansburg will monitor its own performance in meeting the goals by conducting frequent reviews with members of Town Council, Town Council appointed Street Committee, and citizens. By gathering beneficiary information, we are able to measure our success. Changes in policies and economic trends may affect a project's ability to meet proposed goals.

The Town of Christiansburg will continue to work with citizens and committees to address various community needs and goals. Through the Town's participation in the Consolidated Plan process, goals have been developed based on current needs.

U.S. Department of HUD's Richmond Community and Planning Development(CPD) office conducted a two-day monitoring period at the end of June, 2017. There were no findings of items needing addressing of the Town's program and the Town appreciated this opportunity to review its processes and procedures with the CPD staff.

To ensure the Town of Christiansburg complies with the HUD's "timeliness" test, the Town of Christiansburg proceeds with projects which are engineered and shovel ready to the greatest extent possible. The Town has been able to meet the timeliness measure this year for the first time in many years. U.S. Department of HUD's Richmond Community and Planning Development office has been integral in providing support to ensuring that the timeliness test was brought into compliance. With the current sidewalk project and an additional sidewalk project planned, the Town will not be in this position in the next program year. Again with changing policies and the uncertainty of matching funding

sources, the Town may need to look at alternative projects in program years 4 and 5 of the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan. As mentioned several times earlier in the CAPER, Staff will need to revise the current consolidated plan as we are part of the New River Valley HOME Consortium. Staff understands that we will need to coordinate any revisions and seek permission from HUD with any changes to the consolidated plan.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is to be available for the 30-day review. To ensure the public is fully informed of the process and given every opportunity to provide comment and input, print copies were available at the Christiansburg Public Library, located at 125 Sheltman Street, during the review process. Additional copies can be obtained from the Christiansburg Planning Department, located at the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street or on the Town's website at www.christiansburg.org. The Town of Christiansburg advertises the 30-day public review process in a local newspaper and on the Town's website. The Town also uses its social media outlets to promote citizen participation. Public input will be requested at a Town Council public hearing to solicit additional comments on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 7PM at the Town Hall at 100 East Main Street. Citizens unable to attend the public input meeting are invited to offer comments and suggestions to the Planning staff either by telephone, mail, or email.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

The Town of Christiansburg does not have any changes to the program objectives for this or future program years at this time.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

The Town of Christiansburg does not have any changes to the program objectives for this or future program years at this time.