

RESOLUTION NO. R-147-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN AND SUBSTANTIAL ADMENDMENT TO THE YEAR 2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN.

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2021, due to the nationwide impact of COVID-19, Congress through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) appropriated \$5 billion to communities across the U.S. to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness as well as other vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS, these "HOME-ARP" program funds were then allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for funding through the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD);

WHEREAS, CPD Notice 21-10: Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-ARP Program (September 13, 2021) requires the submission of an Allocation Plan for the implementation of the "HOME-ARP" program;

WHEREAS, the plan was submitted for review and comment via a survey placed on the city website and through a workshop session for agencies on July 21, 2022 and;

WHEREAS, the Allocation Plan was published for review and comment in the local newspaper, city website, and through an email to city stakeholders.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS THAT:

SECTION 1: The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan (attached as Exhibit "A") is hereby approved an accepted.

SECTION 2: The Director of Community Development is authorized to prepare and submit the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Program Year (PY) 2021 Annual Action Plan (AAP) Amendment to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for review and approval.

SECTION 3: The City Administrator is authorized to execute all grant documents and certifications required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The City Administrator or his authorized agent will be designated as the Environmental Certifying Officer.

SECTION 4: The City Administrator or his designated agent is authorized to prepare and transmit any documents required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) related to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and amendment of the PY 2021 Annual Action Plan (AAP).

THIS RESOLUTION APPROVED THIS 20th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022.

APPROVED:

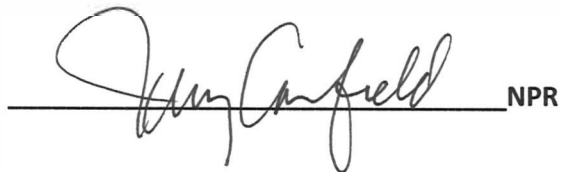

MAYOR

ATTEST:

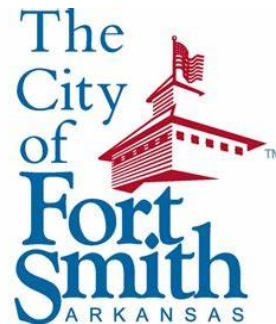

CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK

Approved as to form:


NPR

**CITY OF FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS
HOME - ARP ALLOCATION PLAN
JULY 21, 2022**



City of Fort Smith

Candyce Gabucci

Director of Community Development

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Introduction

The City of Fort Smith is a federal entitlement community that receives an annual allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As an entitlement community, the City is required to prepare an Annual Action Plan detailing the uses of CDBG funds to meet its affordable housing and community development goals as outlined in its Consolidated Plan.

For Program Year 2021-2022, the city is proposing to make substantial amendments to its submitted Annual Plan. The purpose for the substantial amendment is to include \$1,501,450 in HOME-ARP grant funding received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The purpose of the allocation is to serve households who are at greatest risk of housing instability, including individuals and families experiencing homelessness and/or who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Meeting this requirement, HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is the substantial amendment to the adopted Action Plan FY 2021-22.

HOME-ARP funds can only be expended on eligible activities:

- Provision of Supportive Services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, childcare, job training, legal services, case management, moving costs, rental applications, and rent assistance)
- Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters: Purchase and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter (these structures can remain in use as a non-congregate shelter or can be converted to 1) emergency shelter under the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program; 2) permanent housing under the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program; or 3) affordable housing under the HOME Program)
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- Production or Preservation of Affordable Housing (such as acquisition and rehabilitation)
- Non-Profit Operating (5% maximum allocation) (may not exceed the greater of 50 percent of the general operating expenses of the organization for that fiscal year)
- Non-Profit Capacity Building (5% maximum allocation) (may not exceed the greater of 50 percent of the general operating expenses of the organization for that fiscal year)
- Administration and Planning for the HOME ARP Program (15% maximum allocation)

HOME-ARP funds must be used primarily to benefit individuals or families from the following qualifying populations:

- Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations
- Those currently housed populations at the risk of homelessness
- Those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Other families requiring services, housing assistance, or to prevent homelessness

- Those at greatest risk of housing instability or in unstable housing situations

Below are definitions for terms that are used frequently in relation to HOME-ARP funds.

NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER: As opposed to congregate settings, such as traditional homeless shelters, non-congregate shelter provides more private accommodations (individual rooms). During the COVID-19 pandemic, people living in congregate facilities have been at higher risk of contracting or having complications from the virus because physical distancing is difficult.

QUALIFYING POPULATIONS: For HOME-ARP funds, this means people experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, fleeing domestic violence, or otherwise at high risk of housing instability.

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES: Services that help households maintain housing stability and quality of life. These may include support with finding and applying for housing, financial assistance for moving costs, childcare, legal services, mental health and substance use services, and more.

TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE: A rent subsidy to help households afford housing costs, such as rent and security deposits. "Tenant-based" means the subsidy is attached to the household, and they can use it to rent any rental unit that meets program guidelines and whose landlord is willing to accept the subsidy payment.

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Consultation

In accordance with Section V.A of the Notice (page 13), before developing the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, Fort Smith consulted with:

- CoC(s) serving the jurisdiction's geographic area,
- homeless service providers,
- domestic violence service providers,
- veterans' groups,
- public housing agencies (PHAs),
- public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and
- public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.

Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation:

Before developing the plan, Fort Smith consulted with the CoC(s) serving the city's geographic area, homeless and domestic violence service providers, veterans' groups, public housing agencies (PHAs), public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities, at a minimum. Fort Smith, as a local jurisdiction, is not required to consult with PHA, Agencies and Organizations, or CoC's that do not operate within Fort Smith's boundaries; however, the city did consult regional, state, and agencies (including statewide or regional organizations) and CoCs serving populations and providing services within Fort Smith and other jurisdiction.

List the organizations consulted:

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Fort Smith Housing Authority	PHA	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided RAD units available to low to moderate income households; number of people currently on waiting list for rental assistance and currently utilizing HCV and VASH voucher; Identified families, veterans and persons with disabilities.
Next Step Day Room	Services- Homeless	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided the current resources and programs available to address the needs of homeless populations
Crisis Intervention Center	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided domestic violence victims served data.
Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc.	Housing	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided housing programs. Available to first time homebuyers and programs available to person seeking assistance the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Fort Smith Boys and Girls Club, Inc	Services-Children	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided details of meal program available to low-income families seeking pantry and meal assistance.
Harbor House	Service Children	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided the number of men and women serve daily through the agency's inpatient and outpatient programs.
Western AR Counseling and Guidance Center, Inc.	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Education	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided the number of beds available to serve individuals who are experiencing a psychiatric and/or substance abuse related crisis
The Good Samaritan Clinic, Inc	Services – Health	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided domestic violence case data
Arkansas Valley Habitat for Humanity, Inc.	Housing	Invited to participate in the	Identified the following barriers: Affordable Housing: Landlord

		Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	unwilling to rent to certain populations. The COVID
Fort Smith Emergency Children's Center	Services - Children	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting.	Provided the number of homeless youth serviced in 2021
Veteran Services	Services- Veterans	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Solicited input via telephone and email to request feedback and data
Community Rescue Mission	Services- Homeless	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Stated communities built closer to employers, walkability communities, better transportation system, increased support and mental health as alternatives for addressing the problem, given the anticipated barriers
Women and Children First	Services – Health	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Solicited input via telephone and email to request feedback and data
Riverview Hope Campus	CoC	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Provided 2021 Point-In-Time data and details of programs available for individuals experiencing homelessness
Fort Smith School District	Services – Education	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Provided the number of youths experiencing homelessness and assistance programs currently available.
United Way/211	Services - Family	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Provided the number of calls made daily by victims of domestic violence seeking services.
BOST	Services - Disability	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Provided the number of disabled persons served and overview of programs available to disabled persons in Fort Smith.
The ARC for the River Valley	Services - Disability	Invited to participate in the Home ARP Plan agency meeting	Identified employment opportunities for disabled persons as a priority need

Summarize feedback received and results of upfront consultation with these entities:

During the July 21, 2022, agency workshop with Fort Smith stakeholders, the participants conducted presentations to share data on clients served and gaps in persons currently not being served, experiences working with their clients and details on the specific programs their

organization offers. The group also had a discussion on what they believe to be the priority needs as well as any barriers to address those needs. Additionally, the group completed an online survey to provide specific details on the populations they are currently serving. The results are included in the appendix. Below is a summary of the priority needs and barriers identified by the group.

Priority Needs

1. Supportive Services. Our group felt supportive services aids in stability.
2. Available housing. We do not have enough affordable housing in our area. There are not a lot of options for felons
3. Operating Dollars (funding for nonprofits (to be shared) is too small to be effective. They end up focusing on emergency only needs, rather long term chronic needs
4. Non congregate and Transitional Housing is needed in our area. Many homeless families and individuals do better when they go from crisis to transitional housing. especially chronically homeless. Our city needs to be open to housing diversification. Our Comprehensive plan promotes these efforts
5. Daycare and Transportation. Like affordable housing, we are experiencing a shortage in available daycare openings. Even military people. People cannot work without anyone to care for their children. Children are also adversely impacted if they are not in quality learning environments. We are fortunate to have taxis services, Rideshare, bikes and the public transit. However, the cost of taxi, Uber, Lyft is not the answer to people with low or no incomes, no credit cards, etc. The Transit Hours do not meet the needs of people working weekends and late shifts.

Barriers

1. Supportive Services: Sustainability services to the client and provider is lacking. Being realistic about supporting efforts that will be realistic
2. Affordable Housing: Landlord unwilling to rent to certain populations. The COVID effect of the Eviction Moratorium. Not accepting HUD vouchers.
3. Operating Dollars. Group did not believe the government or private money would be enough. They felt it would take Community Investments.
4. Daycare: Funding, staff shortages, time constraints (few daycares open after 6. no overnight).
5. Congregate and transitional: Not enough funds to build. They also pointed out that distributing small funds that result in buildings with two units was ineffective.

Public Participation

Describe the public participation process, including information about and the dates of the public comment period and public hearing(s) held during the development of the plan:

- *Date(s) of public notice:*
- *Public comment period: start date - 8/12/2022 end date - 8/26/2022*
- *Date(s) of public hearing: 9/20/2022*

Describe the public participation process:

The city held a workshop session for agencies on July 21, 2022, at The Blue Lion to discuss the following issues: What are the needs and problems? How can the barriers be addressed? What are alternatives for addressing the problem, given the anticipated barriers? Why should funding be prioritized for programs in this subject area (s)? Additionally, a Priority Needs Survey was made available on the City's website for completion and submission online.

The Public Comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment will begin on August 12, 2022, and conclude on August 26, 2022. A Public Notice will be published in the local newspaper and include information regarding the proposed plan as well as the scheduled Public Hearing. Comments were allowed to be submitted by mail, phone, fax, email or during the public hearing.

Describe efforts to broaden public participation:

In addition to the Public Notice being published in the local newspaper and the city's website, consultation letters were sent via email to community stakeholders requesting comment on the allocation plan. Invitations to attend the public meetings were sent via email to over 80 organizations in Fort Smith. This included social service organizations, homeless service providers, advisory boards, neighborhood associations, and other nonprofit organizations. A list of these organizations and the letter are attached to this plan.

Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:

Fort Smith will consider all comments or views of residents received in writing, or orally at a public hearing, when preparing the HOME-ARP allocation plan and Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment.

Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:

No comments or recommendations were rejected

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

The following table includes data from the HUD 2021 Point-In-Time and Housing Inventory Count Report for Fort Smith. In 2021, HUD gave communities the option to cancel or modify the unsheltered survey portion of their counts based on the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission associated with conducting an in-person survey.

Table - 2 Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

	Homeless												
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Beds					# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	
Emergency Shelter	40	20	198	0	15								
Transitional Housing	0	0	39	0	0								
Permanent Supportive Housing	0	0	0	0	0								
Other Permanent Housing	0	0	0	0	0								
Sheltered Homeless						15	142	1	18				
Unsheltered Homeless						0	0	0	0				
Current Gap										-1	15	-85	-283

Data Sources: 1. Point in Time Count (PIT); 2. Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC); 3. Consultation.

- Gap Analysis (Family Beds) = Family Beds (40), less Homeless Persons in Households with at least 1 child
- Gap Analysis (Family Units) = Family Units (20), less Homeless Family Households (15) = 5 units
- Gap Analysis (Adult Beds) = Adult Beds (198), less Homeless Adult Persons (283 – see Table 3) = (85) beds
- Gap Analysis (Adult Units) = Adults Units (0), less Homeless Adult Households (283) = (283) units

Table – 2 Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

	Non-Homeless		
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# Of Households
Total Rental Units	18,829		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	920		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	4,175		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		2,485	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		1,200	
Current Gaps			1,410

Data Sources: 1. American Community Survey (ACS); 2. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the boundaries of Fort Smith:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

According to the 2021 Fort Smith Point-In-Time (PIT) count, there are 324 people who are experiencing homelessness in Fort Smith. The count includes people that are staying in shelters and those that are unsheltered. The 2021 Fort Smith PIT count reports that out of the 342 people who are experiencing homelessness in the city 19 are under 18 years old and none are age 18 to 24 and 183 are over the age of 24. Please note, age for is sheltered population only as age for unsheltered homeless population was not collected during the count. The data shows that 66 are females, 117 are males. Regarding race, most of the people from the PIT count indicated that they are White (136), Black or African American (30) and American Indian (12), while the remaining 6 persons reported multiple races. The Fort Smith 2021 PIT count finds that of the 342 people experiencing homelessness, 92 are Severely Mentally Ill, 54 are Chronic Substance Abuser and 18 are Victims of Domestic Violence. The PIT count also shows there is 1 Veteran experiencing homelessness.

The 2022 Point-In-Time count reports 374 people experiencing homelessness, increasing 15 percent from 2021’s 324 people experiencing homelessness. The PIT count reports 43 percent (164) of the population was unsheltered. Please note for 2022, subpopulation data such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, and social characteristics were not available. Because of this the report reflects data from the 2021 Point In Time count instead.

Although the PIT count includes some homeless data for youth under the age of 18 and between the ages of 18-24 more data was provided by the Fort Smith School District showing a count of 898 youth experiencing homelessness as of last day of the 2021-2022 school year.

Table 3 – Persons and Households Experiencing Homelessness

Overall Persons	Sheltered Persons	Unsheltered Persons	Total	Percent
Individuals	142	141	283	87.3%
Families	41	0	41	12.6%
Total	183	141	324	100.0%
Percent	56.4%	43.5%	100.0%	-

Overall Households	Sheltered Households	Unsheltered Households	Total	Percent
Individuals	142	141	283	94.9%
Families	15	0	15	5.03%
Total	157	141	298	100.0%
Percent	52.6%	47.3%	100.0%	-

Data Sources: 2021 Point in Time Count (PIT) (AR-508)

Table 4 – Demographics of Persons Experiencing Homelessness

Gender	Sheltered Persons	Unsheltered Persons	Total	Percent
Male	117	0	117	63.9%
Female	66	0	66	36.1%
Transgender	0	0	0	-
Neither Male/Female	0	0	0	-
Total	183	141	324	100%

Data Sources: 2021 Point in Time Count (PIT) (AR-508)

Race	Sheltered Persons	Unsheltered Persons	Total	Percent
Black	30	0	30	16.3%
White	136	0	136	74.3%
Asian	2	0	2	1.09%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	12	0	12	6.5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	-
Multiple Races	3	0	3	1.6%
Total	183	141	324	100.0%

Data Sources: 2021 Point in Time Count (PIT) (AR-508)

Ethnicity	Sheltered Persons	Unsheltered Persons	Total	Percent
Non-Hispanic	179	0	179	97.8%
Hispanic	4	0	4	2.2%
Total	183	141	324	100.0%

Table 5 – Subpopulations of Persons Experiencing Homelessness

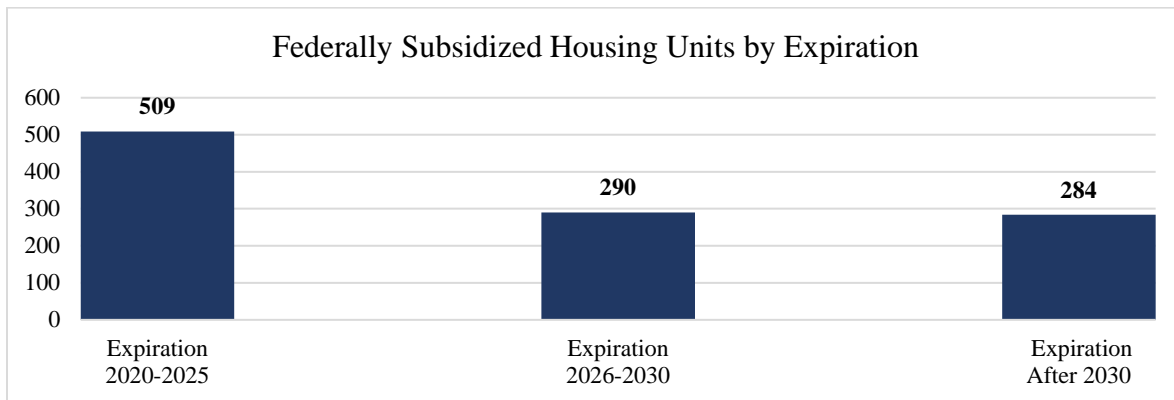
Other Sub-Populations	Sheltered Persons	Unsheltered Persons	Total	Percent of Total Persons
Veterans	1	0	1	0.03%
Survivors of Domestic Violence	18	0	18	5.5%
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	0	-
Parenting Youth	0	0	0	-

Chronically Homeless	0	0	0	-
Adults with Severe Mental Illness	94	0	94	51.3%
Adults with Substance Abuse Disorder	54	0	54	16.6%

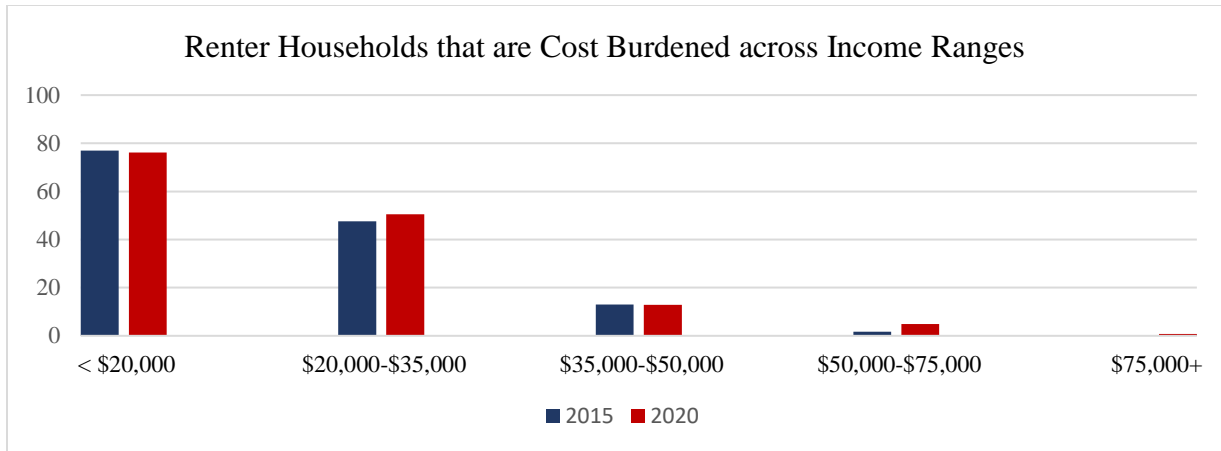
At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Extremely low- and low-income individuals and families with children who are currently housed are often living from one check to the next with no savings or safety net to fall back on should an unexpected event or emergency occur. These households include all types, single person, small family, large family, and elderly. Characteristics include lack of education, lack of transportation, lack of adequate daycare, inadequate health insurance, drug or alcohol abuse or serious illness. These persons are at risk of losing their homes through foreclosure or eviction, and unless they have extended family or other support, they are at risk of needing to reside in a shelter or becoming unsheltered.

By 2025, the affordability restrictions on 509 units of federally subsidized housing in Fort Smith are set to expire. Restrictions on an added 290 units are set to expire by 2030. Some of these units will remain within the subsidized inventory as owners elect to renew their rent subsidy contracts or recapitalize the properties using new federal subsidies.



In Fort Smith, the share of renter households that are moderately or severely cost burdened decreased from 46.6% in 2015 to 37.2% in 2020. The incidence of housing cost burdens is highest for unassisted renter households with the lowest incomes. In Fort Smith, renter households with incomes of less than \$20,000 had the highest incidence of cost burden in 2020 (76.1%).



The table below reports the economic and social characteristics of people at-risk of homelessness as a percent of the total population. Among the 89,142 people living in Fort Smith, 37.8 percent are not in the labor force and 3.5 percent are unemployed. Without sufficient employment the people in this group may lack enough income to afford stable housing and would be vulnerable to becoming homeless. Poverty data in Fort Smith reports 18.9 percent of the population with incomes below the poverty line and 12.8 percent of all families living in poverty. A lack of affordable housing units or rental assistance may impact those experiencing poverty and increase the likelihood of homelessness. Fort Smith reports 30.2 percent of households are receiving Social Security Income (10,970) and 19.8 of households are receiving Retirement Income (7,250) which when combined means 18,220 households are living on a fixed income and account for approximately half of the city’s 36,347 total households. The risk of becoming homeless may be greater for households living on a fixed income if their housing cost increase significantly.

Table 6 – Characteristics of At-Risk and Other Unstably Housed Populations

Characteristics of At-Risk and Other Unstably Housed Populations	Number	Percent of Total
Unemployment		
Unemployed	2,430	3.5%
Not in Labor Force	26,242	37.8%
People Living in Poverty		
Total Persons Living in Poverty	16,321	18.9%
People in Families in Poverty	11,528	13.3%
Families Living in Poverty		
Families Living in Poverty	2,873	12.8%
Female Head of Household Families Living in Poverty	1,721	7.7%
Living on Fixed Income		
Households Receiving Social Security	10,970	30.2%
Households Receiving Supplemental Security Income	2,157	5.9%
Households Receiving Cash Public Assistance	538	1.5%

Households Receiving Retirement Income	7,205	19.8%
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits	3,423	9.4%
Housing Cost Burden		
Households Paying More Than 30% of Income to Housing	9,307	25.6%
Living with Others		
Persons Living with Relatives or Other Nonrelatives	7,899	9.1%

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

Data from Arkansas Department of Public Safety, Division of Arkansas Crime Information reported 1,540 victims of Domestic Violence in Fort Smith in 2021. When analyzing the victim relationship to the offender, 527 victims were boyfriend/girlfriend relationships which account for 34.2 of all victims reported and 223 were spousal relationships accounting for 14.4 percent of all victims reported.

In 2021 Crisis Intervention Center answered 700 hotline calls pertaining to domestic violence, 148 calls for sexual assault response services, and several dozen more for information and referrals. Additionally, the center provided 4,281 bed nights to 339 people in Fort Smith, 203 adults and 136 children and served 461 persons through services that did not require shelter

Data from United Way/211 shows over 432 persons called seeking resource for shelter, housing, rental assistance, utilities assistance, domestic violence services, human trafficking resources.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice

Harbor House Inc, rehab treatment center provides inpatient and outpatient programs to treat up to 30 men and 30 women at 2 residential facilities per day. Harbor House treats up to 12 women and children through a specialized women services program.

Individuals incarcerated in Fort Smith jails as well as those receiving behavioral health services, including substance abuse disorder services, may also be at risk of homelessness upon discharge.

Disabled Persons

Among the 87,056 residents living in Fort Smith, 17,048 or 19.6 percent are living with a disability of which 18.4 percent are male and 20.7 are female. Disability within each race category report 22.7 percent of Whites are disabled followed by Black or African Americans with 19.0 percent. The age group with the highest percentage of persons disabled are those over the age of 75 with 60.1 and the age group with the largest population of disabled persons is 35 – 64 with 7,665 persons living with a disability.

RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN	Fort Smith	Disabled	Percent Disabled
White alone	54,525	12,381	22.7%
Black or African American alone	7,629	1,450	19.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	1,012	243	24.0%
Asian alone	5,353	476	8.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	24	10	41.7%
Some other race alone	12,188	1,381	11.3%
Two or more races	6,325	1,107	17.5%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	51,276	12,091	23.6%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	17,142	1,867	10.9%

Source: 2020 American Community Survey

Analyzing disability by type, 9.9 percent of Fort Smith’s disabled population are experiencing ambulatory difficulty followed by 8.3 percent experiencing cognitive difficulty and 6.9 percent experiencing independent living difficulty.

DISABILITY TYPE	Disabled Population	Percent Disabled
Hearing difficulty	5,247	6.0%
Vision difficulty	3,983	4.6%
Cognitive difficulty	7,200	8.3%
Ambulatory difficulty	8,585	9.9%
Self-care difficulty	3,473	4.0%
Independent living difficulty	5,987	6.9%

Source: 2020 American Community Survey

Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing (Optional):

The Riverview Hope Campus works to help those that may come from correctional programs and mental health facilities to find employment as well as other resources to enter back into society. The Children's Emergency Shelter also has an independent living facility for children that have aged out of the foster care system. Their agency receives funds through the CDBG program to help enhance their facilities to better serve these individuals.

Crisis Intervention Center has a 32-bed safe shelter that serves adults and families, persons who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic or family violence, stalking, harassment, sexual assault, or human trafficking have access to shelter when there are open beds. The center offers a comprehensive case management plan that includes safety planning, action planning, housing

option assistance, court, legal, or medical advocacy, resume building and life skill training. A Mental Health Professional is on site for therapy and counseling.

The Homeless Program through Fort Smith Public Schools is partially funded through a federally funded, state appropriated McKinney-Vento Grant. The program provides educational support services to the children of families identified as homeless. Students receive backpacks, educational supplies, toiletry items, clothing, transportation, tutoring, and referrals to appropriate community agencies

Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc (C-SCDC) provides down payment assistance to over 75 homebuyers each year. The clients must attend a C-SCDC Homebuyer Education class and participate in one-on-one budget counseling. Additionally, C-SCDC offers the following programs using Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding:

- Rapid Re-Housing Assistance
- Homelessness Prevention: provide temporary financial assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services to individuals and families who are facing eviction

Good Samaritan Clinic, an affordable healthcare provider for uninsured low to moderate households is partnered with the Arkansas Guidance Center to provide onsite mental health counseling to those in need.

Bost, Inc., past recipient of CDBG funding provides services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, behavioral health needs, and other related conditions. Within Fort Smith Bost operates two Intermediate Care Facilities for the Intellectually Disabled (ICF/IDD) facilities for disabled men and women. The Willow Creek ICF/IDD location is a women's home serving 10 women and the Brazil ICF/IDD location serves 10 men.

The Arc for the River Valley provides advocacy, education and recreation for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In the past year, 460 people with disabilities along with their caregivers/families were served. Services include:

- Computer activities and classes
- Art therapy Classes
- Social Living and Communication Skills
- Appropriate peer interaction

Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Sheltered and unsheltered homeless population in the Fort Smith Continuum of Care have an immediate and urgent need for housing and a path through which they can gain access to available housing units in the community and exit homelessness. Using the 2021 Point in Time data from the Fort Smith CoC, the city has a gap of 283 housing units available for sheltered and unsheltered adults. Consultations with local agencies and organizations

including survey responses indicate the production of affordable housing as a primary need in the city.

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

The Fort Smith Housing Authority manages 1,654 Housing Choice Vouchers, including 62 vouchers for disabled veterans referred through the HUD-VASH program and 375 Project Based Vouchers. Over 269 units have been developed in Fort Smith through the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program (RAD). A waiting list of over 1300 families indicate a strong need to produce rental housing units and rental assistance programs to reduce the Housing Authority's waiting list.

By 2025, the affordability restrictions on 417 units of federally subsidized housing in Fort Smith are set to expire. Restrictions on an additional 663 units are set to expire by 2030. Some of these units will remain within the subsidized inventory as owners elect to renew their rent subsidy contracts or recapitalize the properties using new federal subsidies. Lifting of the affordability restrictions will allow for rents to rise substantially, reducing the stock of units renting at an affordable level.

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

Crisis Intervention Center provides 32 beds for victims in this population; however, the center noted a lack of off-site housing to survivors in need of transitional housing. The 2021 Point-In-Time count reported 18 Domestic Violence Victims.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice

Households with household income less than or equal to 30% AMI with a cost burden greater than 50% are also at risk of homelessness. Based on the CHAS data, there are 2,080 renter households and 460 owner households in this category of potential risk.

Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:

The service providers in Fort Smith work closely together to provide a continuum of services in response to needs identified through surveys of homeless persons and general observations of the providers. Providers in Fort Smith are particularly strong in the areas of mental health services, employment training, and life skills training. Gaps exist in emergency shelter capacity. There are not enough beds on a typical night. The 2021 Point-In-Time count reported 144 unsheltered homeless persons.

Although the city has affordable housing options for the population at large, there no housing unit's utilizing funding from Federal Programs such as Section 202/811 which provides supportive housing for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

Under Section IV.4.2.ii.G of the HOME-ARP Notice, the city may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of “other populations” that are “At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability,” as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:

The number one indicator of households falling into homelessness from a place of housing instability is a previous history of homelessness. Homeless assistance is the last resort for households in extreme poverty with few resources of their own and limited connections to others who could offer temporary, emergency support. Additionally, when other systems of care, like hospitals, behavioral health settings, child welfare, and criminal justice systems, are unable to address the reasons why people cannot stay housed, people have no alternative than turning to the homeless response system.

To prevent people from falling into homelessness, public systems for justice, anti-poverty, prevention, health (including behavioral health), child welfare and affordable housing must use data to identify how people are falling into homelessness and target prevention strategies and policies to address these areas.

Additionally, families with children, or unaccompanied youth who are unstably housed and likely to continue in that state, including those people who are doubled up in other people's homes because they lack a home of their own, are not considered to be experiencing homelessness by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are not eligible for its homeless assistance. These same families are, however, considered to be experiencing homelessness by the U.S. Department of Education and are eligible for additional educational services and supports. People are “at risk of homelessness” if they are losing their primary nighttime residence, which may include a motel or hotel or a doubled-up situation, within the next 14 days and lack resources or support networks to remain in housing.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

Consultations with local agencies, survey responses and data collected indicate the needs are most great for the following populations

Homeless

- Affordable housing
 - Social services- services associated with establishing a permanent home
 - security deposit assistance

- rental assistance
- assistance enrolling in government benefits
- financial counseling
- transportation
- mental health services
- drug and substance abuse counseling

At Risk of Becoming Homeless

- Affordable housing
- Social services – services associate with stabilizing a household
 - rental assistance
 - financial counseling
 - benefit navigation
 - childcare
 - mental health services
 - transportation assistance
 - employment assistance

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking

- Social services – services associated with fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, and establishing a safe home.
 - security deposit
 - rental assistance
 - legal services
 - advocacy services
 - counseling and case management

Explain how the level of need and gaps in its shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan were determined:

The gaps in services and programs need to provide shelter, housing, and services were determined using data from multiple sources, including stakeholder and public engagement. The level of need for unsheltered and shelter households experiencing homelessness was determined by evaluating the number of unsheltered households and the level of resources available to adequately house the families or individuals with permanent supportive housing and critical long-term supportive services to achieve housing stability. For households that are currently housed but have challenges maintaining their home, the level of need was measured by the amount of inventory that had affordable, safe, and adequate living conditions and the number of renter households that are experiencing severe housing cost burdens. These households need housing outcomes that help them stay housed without incumbering them with the cost of their home.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:

Pending HUD approval of its HOME-ARP allocation plan, the City of Fort Smith will issue a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for interested and experienced operators and developers of permanent supportive housing and/or affordable housing; tenant based rental assistance; and qualifying supportive services. Preceding the issuing of the RFP, the City will host an advertised pre-solicitation workshop to advise prospective applicants of the process, HOME and HOME ARP Guidelines and Regulations, and documentations and supportive bid materials that will be required as part of the solicitation. Next, the city will solicit proposals through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The agencies selected through the request for proposal (RFP) will then be contracted to move forward with development, rehabilitation, supportive services, referral, and administration of services for qualified populations and the city will provide oversight, monitoring, and reporting.

Describe whether Fort Smith will administer eligible activities directly:

The city will administer the administration and planning activities under the grant. However, administering the remaining eligible activities will be subject to the results of the request for proposal process to identify and contract with agencies, developers, and organizations to submit proposals and those selected for funding will administer activities and projects. Considerations will be given to City Agencies including the Fort Smith Housing Authority and City Departments to assist in the administration of specialized activities such as Tenant Based Rental Assistance in conjunction with their current programs for HOME ARP Applicants.

HOME-ARP activities

If any portion of the Fort Smith’s HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD’s acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the Fort Smith’s entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the Fort Smith’s HOME-ARP program:

The City of Fort Smith expects to receive \$1,501,450 from HUD for HOME ARP. The city through a competitive RFP process will determine the individual activity and amount for each category of funding listed in the HOME ARP Allocation Table below. The City will allocate funds ranging from no dollars for a category and up to the maximum grant amount of \$1,501,450 allocated. The city will indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits. The following table represents estimates of amount proposed for eligible activities based on our HOME ARP allocation. These funding amounts are subject to changes based on our request for proposal process and results.

In accordance with Section V.C.2. of the Notice (page 4), Fort Smith must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 255,246		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ #		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ #		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 1,020,987		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ #	# %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ #	# %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 225,217	15 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 1,501,450		

Describe how Fort Smith will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:

Designated funding amounts in the allocation table are estimates based on needs demonstrated in the plan. The City at its’ discretion and subject to the selected projects in the Request for

Proposal process, will determine final allocation of funds based on City Council approval. Non-Congregate Housing and Tenant Based Rental Assistance will be eligible for consideration as Affordable Rental Housing and eligible for the dollar amount estimated in the HOME ARP Use of Funds table.

Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:

Fort Smith has been able to identify, with the development of the gap analysis and stakeholder meetings, activities that will assist the qualified populations in Fort Smith. The results of the gap analysis shows that there is a need for an expansion of Affordable Rental Housing as cost burdened renters was 45.8% in 2021. Emergency Shelters and the capacity of the Nonprofit network who respond to families and individuals of the most vulnerable qualified populations

HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that Fort Smith will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:

To estimate the number of rental housing units Fort Smith will produce, the city is using the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA) established Multifamily Housing Minimum Design Standards and Maximum Per Unit Subsidy amount of \$105,000. Using these criteria, the city can produce a minimum of 10 units. The City will work with developers to understand what type of funding resources can be used along with HOME ARP funding, coordinating compliance with both the HOME ARP regulations and what is required of those other funding resources. The City's goal is to allocate \$1,020,987 of its funding towards affordable housing to leverage and determine a combination up to at least 10 newly constructed non-congregate housing units, at least 20 rehabilitated housing rental units, and 15 housing units supported using Tenant Based Rental Assistance.

The City's final housing production goals will be determined based on the competitive RFP process allocating funding to specific projects after HUD approval of the HOME ARP Allocation Plan. Additionally, the city has the option to adopt the maximum per unit subsidy limit of other federal programs.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the Fort Smith hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address Fort Smith's priority needs:

Because the city lacks sufficient housing for its homeless population and those at risk of homelessness, the creation of at least 30 non-congregate or affordable rental housing units will

address the unmet housing needs and support the CoC ultimate goal of ending chronic homelessness and prevention of additional at-risk persons and families from becoming homeless. The city will determine based on the competitive RFP process allocating funding to specific projects after HUD approval of the HOME ARP Allocation Plan.

Preferences

Identify whether Fort Smith intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project:

None

If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with Fort Smith's needs assessment and gap analysis:

None

Referral Methods

Identify the referral methods that Fort Smith intends to use for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. Fort Smith may use multiple referral methods in its HOME-ARP program. (Optional):

The city does not intend to use any referral method. Funded project for HOME ARP will be selected as part of an advertised request for proposal process.

If Fort Smith intends to use the coordinated entry (CE) process established by the CoC, describe whether all qualifying populations eligible for a project or activity will be included in the CE process, or the method by which all qualifying populations eligible for the project or activity will be covered. (Optional):

The city does not intend to use the coordinated entry process for referrals.

If Fort Smith intends to use the CE process established by the CoC, describe the method of prioritization to be used by the CE. (Optional):

N/A

If Fort Smith intends to use both a CE process established by the CoC and another referral method for a project or activity, describe any method of prioritization between the two referral methods, if any. (Optional):

N/A

Limitations in a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project

Limiting eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project is only permitted under certain circumstances.

- The City of Fort Smith understands that as a participation jurisdiction it must follow all applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a). This includes, but is not limited to, the Fair Housing Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, section 504 of Rehabilitation Act, HUD's Equal Access Rule, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, as applicable.
- Fort Smith may not exclude otherwise eligible qualifying populations from its overall HOME-ARP program.
- Within the qualifying populations, participation in a project or activity may be limited to persons with a specific disability only, if necessary, to provide effective housing, aid, benefit, or services that would be as effective as those provided to others in accordance with 24 CFR 8.4(b)(1)(iv). Fort Smith must describe why such a limitation for a project or activity is necessary in its HOME-ARP allocation plan (based on the needs and gap identified by Fort Smith in its plan) to meet some greater need and to provide a specific benefit that cannot be provided through the provision of a preference.
- For HOME-ARP rental housing, section VI.B.20.a.iii of the Notice (page 36) states that owners may only limit eligibility to a particular qualifying population or segment of the qualifying population if the limitation is described in Fort Smith's HOME-ARP allocation plan.
- Fort Smith may limit admission to HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS to households who need the specialized supportive services that are provided in such housing or NCS. However, no otherwise eligible individuals with disabilities or families including an individual with a disability who may benefit from the services provided may be excluded on the grounds that they do not have a particular disability.

Describe whether Fort Smith intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:

The city does not intend to set any preference

If Fort Smith intends to implement a limitation, explain why the use of a limitation is necessary to address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with Fort Smith's needs assessment and gap analysis:

The city does not intend to any limitation

If a limitation was identified, describe how Fort Smith will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the limitation through the use of HOME-ARP funds (i.e., through another of Fort Smith's HOME-ARP projects or activities):

N/A

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

If Fort Smith intends to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds, Fort Smith must state its HOME-ARP refinancing guidelines in accordance with [24 CFR 92.206\(b\)](#). The guidelines must describe the conditions under which Fort Smith will refinance existing debt for a HOME-ARP rental project, including:

- ***Establish a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing to demonstrate that rehabilitation of HOME-ARP rental housing is the primary eligible activity***

Fort Smith does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt

- ***Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestment in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving qualified populations for the minimum compliance period can be demonstrated.***

N/A

- ***State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.***

The city intends to invest HOME ARP funds to maintain current affordable units and create additional units.

- ***Specify the required compliance period, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.***

N/A

- ***State that HOME-ARP funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.***

The city will not use HOME ARP funds to refinance any multifamily loans

- ***Other requirements in Fort Smith's guidelines, if applicable:***

N/A

NOTICE: RESIDENTIAL MORATORIUM AREA

Please be advised that the area described in this notice will be excluded from consideration for HOME ARP Funding due to the following City Ordinance and Map in the Appendix G.

The Fort Smith Regional Airport has been selected for consideration as a pilot training center to be housed at the Ebbing Air National Guard Base at the Fort Smith Regional Airport. In anticipation of the expanded military use, the City of Fort Smith and the Fort Smith Airport commission have contracted for, and construction is currently underway, an extension to runway 8-26 to a length of 9,317 feet at a local cost of \$5 million and a total cost of \$22 million. The anticipated expanded military use of Fort Smith Regional Airport will necessitate an evaluation of noise especially as it affects expanded residential use of real property in the vicinity of the Fort Smith Regional Airport. The City desires to study and evaluate the impact of further residential development, appropriate zoning and noise regulations, and issues that will affect future growth and development of the area within its jurisdiction.

The health and welfare benefits to be derived from the development of noise regulations in relation to the Fort Smith Regional Airport with the benefit of draft Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and the 2023 noise study mandate that new residential development potentially affected by increased military use noise levels be delayed until the adoption of new noise regulations by December 31, 2023. A temporary moratorium on issuance of building permits for new residential housing structures in a designated area related to the Fort Smith Regional Airport during the period of study and development of potential zoning and noise regulations, which period shall continue no longer than the date of December 31, 2023, is determined to be essential to the health and welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Fort Smith.

Appendices

APPENDIX A: HOME-ARP NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

APPENDIX B: HOME-ARP NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER MEETING PRESENTATION

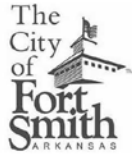
APPENDIX D: FOCUS GROUP MEETING SUMMARY

APPENDIX E: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

APPENDIX F: SF-424S AND CERTIFICATIONS

APPENDIX G: RESIDENTIAL MORATORIUM AREA- CITY OF FORT SMITH

APPENDIX A: HOME-ARP NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY



Fort Smith Agency Priority Needs Survey

HOME ARP Allocation Plan

The City of Fort Smith has been appropriated \$1,501,450 for distribution to address eligible activities under the HOME ARP Program.

We value our community and citizens' comments, suggestions, and feedback. Your input is critical to our success, and public engagement with our citizens and service agencies is a top priority

1. Name of Your Organization?

2. What best describes the organization you are affiliated with? (Select all that apply)

- Homeless Service Provider
- Domestic Violence Service Provider
- Services Supporting People Fleeing Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking
- Housing Advocate/Developer/Provider
- Veterans Group
- Civil Rights
- Fair Housing
- People with Disabilities
- Serving People with High Risk of Housing Instability
- Public Housing Authority
- Addressing the Needs of People Experiencing or at At-Risk Homelessness
- Other (please specify):

3. What types of housing assistance or supportive services does your organization provide for the "qualifying populations?"

- Day shelters
- Temporary shelters
- Emergency shelters
- Transitional housing
- Permanent supportive housing
- Other permanent housing
- Affordable rental housing, Housing Tax Credit Developments
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (such as rental assistance, security deposits, utility deposits, and utility payments).
- Supportive services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, childcare, job training, legal services, case management, etc.)
- Diversion/Homeless Prevention
- Rapid Rehousing
- Services for persons with disabilities
- Fair housing or civil rights
- Other (please specify)

4. Which of the following "qualifying populations" does your organization serve? (Select all that apply).

- Temporary or emergency sheltered individuals/families experiencing homelessness
- Unsheltered individuals/families experiencing homelessness
- Individuals/families at risk of homelessness at or below 30% AMI
- Individuals/families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Individuals/families who serve those at greatest risk of housing instability
- Individuals/families requiring supportive services or housing assistance that would prevent homelessness
- Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meets one of the preceding criteria

5. Please identify the population with the highest need for services based on your organization's experience (check all that apply).

- Families
- Single adults
- Veterans
- Unaccompanied Youth
- Victims of Domestic Violence
- Persons with Disabilities
- Other (please specify):

6. From your organization's perspective, what are the most pressing needs to address homelessness in Fort Smith? *Please rank the following ARP Funding Categories based on community homeless need, with 1 being your highest homeless priority need and 5 being the lowest homeless priority need. Make sure that each rank (1 to 5) is associated with only one funding category.*

- Production of Affordable Housing
- Preservation of Affordable Housing
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- Supportive Services, Homeless Prevention Services and Housing Counseling
- Purchase and/or Development of Non-Congregate Shelter

7. Of the "qualifying populations" what percent race/ethnicity do you serve? (Please feel free to estimate)

	0 - 19%	20-39%	40-59%	60-79%	80% or more
White (non-Hispanic)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Black (non-Hispanic)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asian (non-Hispanic)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hispanic (any race)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Race (s) (non-Hispanic)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. What are the "qualified populations" needs and problems?

9. How can the barriers to these needs and problems be addressed?

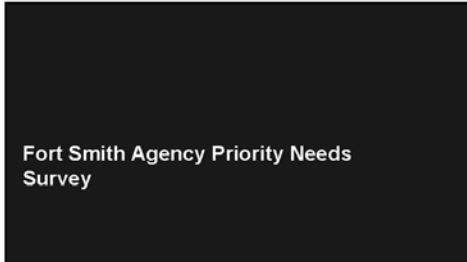
10. What are alternatives for addressing the problem, given the anticipated barriers?

11. Why should funding be prioritized for programs in this subject area(s)?

12. Provide a brief comment on any other areas related to the eligible use of HOME-APR that should be considered for funding priority.

APPENDIX B: HOME-ARP NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

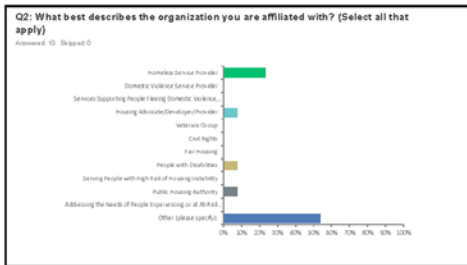
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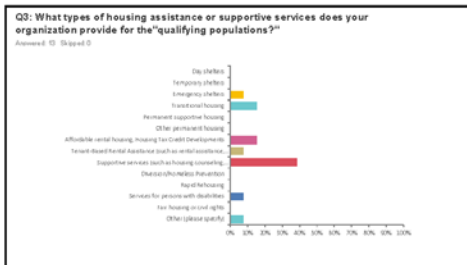


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Q2: What best describes the organization you are affiliated with? (Select all that apply)
Answered: 13 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Homeless Service Provider	23.08%
Domestic Violence Service Provider	0%
Services Supporting People Experiencing Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking	0%
Housing Advocacy/Development Provider	7.69%
Veterans Group	0%
Civil Rights	0%
Fair Housing	0%
People with Disabilities	7.69%

4



5

Q3: What types of housing assistance or supportive services does your organization provide for the "qualifying populations?"
Answered: 13 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Day shelters	0%
Emergency shelters	0%
Transitional housing	15.38%
Permanent supportive housing	0%
Other permanent housing	0%
Affordable rental housing, Housing Tax Credit Developments	15.38%
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (such as rental assistance, security deposits, utility deposits, and other supports)	7.69%

6

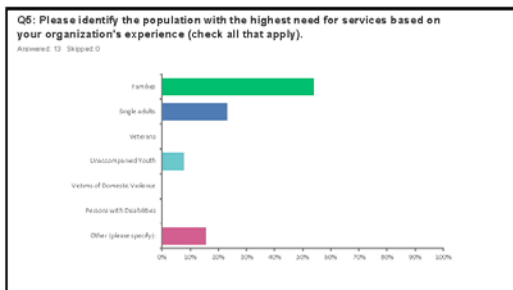


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Q4: Which of the following "qualifying populations" does your organization serve? (Select all that apply).
 Answered: 12 Skipped: 1

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Temporary or emergency sheltered individuals/families experiencing homelessness	16.67% 2
Unsheltered individuals/families experiencing homelessness	16.67% 2
Individuals/families at risk of homelessness at or below 30% AMI	25.00% 3
Individuals/families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, drug violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking	0% 0
Individuals/families who survive those at greatest risk of housing instability	25.00% 3

8

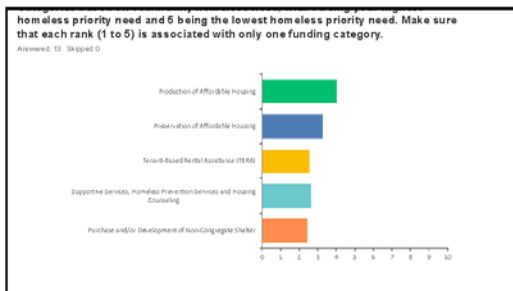


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Q5: Please identify the population with the highest need for services based on your organization's experience (check all that apply).
 Answered: 12 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Families	58.33% 7
Single adults	25.00% 3
Veterans	0% 0
Unaccompanied Youth	8.33% 1
Victims of Domestic Violence	0% 0
Persons with Disabilities	0% 0
Other (please specify)	8.33% 1
TOTAL	12

10

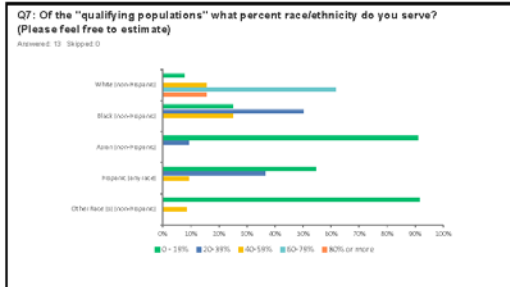


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homeless priority need and 6 being the lowest homeless priority need. Make sure that each rank (1 to 5) is associated with only one funding category.
 Answered: 12 Skipped: 0

	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Production of Affordable Housing	50.0%	16.67%	25.00%	0%	8.33%	12	4
Preservation of Affordable Housing	25.00%	25.00%	16.67%	16.67%	16.67%	12	3.25
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	0%	23.08%	30.77%	23.08%	23.08%	13	2.54
Supportive	7.69%	35.38%	15.38%	53.80%	7.69%	13	2.62

12



13

**Q7: Of the "qualifying populations" what percent race/ethnicity do you serve?
(Please feel free to estimate)**

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0

	0 - 19%	20-39%	40-59%	60-79%	80% OR MORE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
White (non-Hispanic)	7.69%	0%	15.38%	61.54%	15.38%	13	1
Black (non-Hispanic)	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0%	0%	12	1
Asian (non-Hispanic)	80.95%	9.09%	0%	0%	0%	11	1
Hispanic (any race)	54.55%	36.36%	9.09%	0%	0%	11	1
Other Race (all non-Hispanic)	91.67%	0%	8.33%	0%	0%	12	1

14

APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER MEETING PRESENTATION

APPENDIX D: FOCUS GROUP MEETING SUMMARY

Campus - adult only

- 86 bed E.S.
- 40 bed transitional shelter
- food 3x a day
- case mgmt.
- showers
- laundry
- kennel
- coding/warm station 8-8 daily

RRH funding

- transportation
- affordable housing (treatment)

Gaps - housing for applying for disability

- long term mental health options
- elderly homeless + no income.
- sex offender housing

Impacts of homelessness

- healthcare: physical + mental
- encampments + clean up costs to land owners.
- most die 10-15 years earlier than others.
- trauma

~~RRH funding~~

~~RRH funding~~ ~~RRH funding~~ ~~RRH funding~~

~~RRH funding~~ ~~RRH funding~~ ~~RRH funding~~

Needs / Problems:

- * affordability
- * availability
- * special population; elderly, sex offenders, ~~for men~~
- * transportation
- * mental health
- * sustainability
- * aged out foster care
- * child care
- * operational costs

Barriers:

- * funding
- * ^{stabil} capacity
- * operational funding
- * ~~low~~ wages / ^{stabil} + client
- * zoning
- * timing of bus routes / schedule

Alternatives:

- * an array of transitional models
- * bikes, scooters
- * tiny homes
- * City needs to be open minded to different models.

**Group Feedback from: Building Up Neighborhoods and Improving Lives
July 21, 2022 at the Blue Lion**

Priority Needs

1. Supportive Services. Our group felt supportive services aids in stability.
2. Available housing. We do not have enough affordable housing in our area. There are not a lot of options for felons
3. Operating Dollars (funding for nonprofits (to be shared) is too small to be effective. They end up focusing on emergency only needs, rather long term chronic needs
4. Non congregate and Transitional Housing is needed in our area. Many homeless families and individuals do better when they go from crisis to transitional housing. Especially chronically homeless. Our city needs to be open to housing diversification. Our Comprehensive plan promotes these efforts
5. Daycare and Transportation. Like affordable housing, we are experiencing a shortage in available daycare openings. Even military people. People cannot work without anyone to care for their children. Children are also adversely impacted if they are not in quality learning environments. We are fortunate to have taxis services, Rideshare, bikes and the public transit. However, the cost of taxi, Uber, Lyft is not the answer to people with low or no incomes, no credit cards, etc. The Transit Hours do not meet the needs of people working weekends and late shifts.

Barriers

1. Supportive Services: Sustainability services to the client and provider is lacking. Being realistic about supporting efforts that will be realistic
2. Affordable Housing: Landlord unwilling to rent to certain populations. The COVID effect of the Eviction Moratorium. Not accepting HUD vouchers.
3. Operating Dollars. Group did not believe the government or private money would be enough. They felt it would take Community Investments.
4. Daycare: Funding, staff shortages, time constraints (few daycares open after 6. No overnight).
5. Congregate and transitional: Not enough funds to build. They also pointed out that distributing small funds that result in buildings with two units was ineffective.

APPENDIX E: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

APPENDIX F: SF-424 AND CERTIFICATIONS

APPENDIX G: RESIDENTIAL MORATORIUM AREA- CITY OF FORT SMITH

2

ORDINANCE NO. 44-22

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF NEW RESIDENTIAL HOUSING BUILDING PERMITS IN A DESCRIBED AREA ASSOCIATED WITH THE FORT SMITH REGIONAL AIRPORT, TO PROVIDE FINDINGS OF FACT, DEFINITIONS, APPLICATION, AND DURATION PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE TEMPORARY MORATORIUM, AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the development and operation of the Fort Smith Regional Airport is essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City of Fort Smith and the surrounding metropolitan area;

WHEREAS, the April, 2020 Airport Master Plan ("Master Plan") for the Fort Smith Regional Airport asserts the baseline assumption that the airport will continue to operate, in part, as a military-use airport throughout the 20-year planning period covered by the Master Plan (page i-3);

WHEREAS, the Master Plan (page i-8) identifies the use of the airport as an Air National Guard Base as the strength of the Fort Smith Regional Airport;

WHEREAS, to address an airport weakness of runway length (summertime restrictions) noted at page i-8 of the Master Plan, the Master Plan anticipated an extension of runway 8-26 to accommodate, in part, military aircraft that have the potential to operate at the Fort Smith Regional Airport in the future (page i-10);

WHEREAS, Fort Smith Regional Airport has been selected for consideration as a pilot training center to be housed at the Ebbing Air National Guard Base at the Fort Smith Regional Airport;

WHEREAS, in anticipation of the expanded military use, the City of Fort Smith and the Fort Smith Airport Commission have contracted for, and construction is currently underway, an extension to runway 8-26 to a length of 9,317 feet at a local cost of \$5 million and a total cost of \$22 million;

WHEREAS, the anticipated, expanded military use of the Fort Smith Regional Airport will necessitate an evaluation of noise especially as it affects expanded residential use of real property in the vicinity of the Fort Smith Regional Airport;

WHEREAS, the Master Plan (page 1-58) notes:

Noise-sensitive land uses near the airport consist primarily of residential uses in all directions from the airport. A Part 150 study was prepared for the airport in 1997. At that time, there were noise-sensitive land uses within the 65, 70, and 75 DNL noise contours for the airport;

WHEREAS, the 1997 noise contours have been placed on the 2001 Noise Contours and Sensitive Land Uses Map attached hereto;

WHEREAS, the anticipated, expanded military use of the airport will require a new noise study conducted pursuant to FAA guidelines in the FAA's FY2023 grant year for the Fort Smith Regional Airport (the "2023 Noise Study");

WHEREAS, the draft Environmental Impact Study draft (EIS) associated with the pilot training center to be housed at the Ebbing Air National Guard Base is anticipated to be available to the public later in 2022 and is anticipated to contain pertinent noise information;

WHEREAS, additional City of Fort Smith regulations protecting new residential users of real property from the noise effects from the anticipated increased military use of the Fort Smith Regional Airport may be needed;

WHEREAS, the City desires to study and evaluate the impact of further residential development, appropriate zoning and noise regulations, and issues that will affect future growth and development of the area within its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, the City finds this evaluation process of potential zoning and noise regulations will require community input and will take a reasonable amount of time to complete;

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Smith will retain a qualified consultant to advise on the City's process of developing appropriate regulations;

WHEREAS, the health and welfare benefits to be derived from the development of noise regulations in relation to the Fort Smith Regional Airport with the benefit of draft EIS and the 2023 noise study mandate that new residential development potentially affected by increased military use noise levels be delayed until the adoption of new noise regulations by December 31, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, a temporary moratorium on issuance of building permits for new residential housing structures in a designated area related to the Fort Smith Regional Airport during the period of study and development of potential zoning and noise regulations, which period shall continue no longer than the date of December 31, 2023, is determined to be essential for the health and welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Fort Smith;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS, THAT:

SECTION 1: Moratorium Adoption. For the purpose of land-use planning, including the consideration, drafting, review, and adoption of potential zoning or noise regulations regarding sound impact on residential uses of real property, there is hereby established a temporary moratorium (a temporary prohibition) on the issuance of building permits for residential housing construction in the Moratorium Area described in Section 2 of this Ordinance for the Moratorium Period described in Section 3 of this Ordinance. The adoption of the described moratorium is based on all available information including the findings of fact stated in the whereas clauses of this Ordinance.

SECTION 2: Moratorium Area. The moratorium enacted by Section 1 of this Ordinance shall be in effect in that portion of Fort Smith, Arkansas, identified as the Moratorium Area on the attached Exhibit "1," more specifically described as being the area, including Airport Area, bounded by a line described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at the point of an intersection of Stateline Road with Phoenix Avenue; thence east on Phoenix Avenue to the Interstate 540 overpass; thence following Interstate 540 north to Leigh Avenue; thence east to Phoenix Avenue; thence along Phoenix Avenue to Rogers Avenue; thence east on Rogers Avenue to South 91st Street; thence north on South 91st to Gary Street; thence east on Gary Street to South 96th Street; thence south on South 96th Street to Apple Gate Drive; thence east on Apple Gate Drive to South 98th Street; thence north on South 98th Street to Dallas Street; thence east on Dallas Street to Old Harbor Road; thence south on Old Harbor Road to Hunters Point Road; thence along Hunters Point Road to the cul-de-sac at the easternmost point on Hunters Point Road; thence due east across the tributary of the Arkansas River to the city limit line; thence south along the city limit line; thence west along the city limit line; thence south along the city limit line to South Zero Street; thence east on South Zero Street to Wells Lake Road; thence south on Wells Lake Road to the Fort Chaffee West Trail; thence due north to South Zero Street; thence west on South Zero Street to Interstate 540; thence south on Interstate 540 to McKinley Avenue; thence west on McKinley Avenue to Highway 71; thence along Highway 71 south to South 28th Street; thence south along South 28th Street to the southern lot line of 7200 South 28th Street; thence along the southern lot line of 7200 South 28th Street west to railroad tracks; thence west along the railroad tracks to Geren Street; thence along Geren Street west to Texas Road; thence along Texas Road south to Hillside Drive; thence along Hillside Drive west to city limit line on Stateline Road; thence north along Stateline Road to the point of beginning.

SECTION 3: Moratorium Period. The moratorium enacted by Section 1 shall be temporary and shall be in effect from the date of adoption of this Ordinance until December 31, 2023, or, if Fort Smith Sound Impact Regulations – Fort Smith Regional Airport ("Sound

Regulations”) are adopted prior to December 31, 2023, the moratorium shall be in effect until the effective date of the Sound Regulations.

SECTION 4: Moratorium Application and Definitions.

A. The reference to “building permit” in Section 1 of this Ordinance refers to any permit which would have been issued pursuant to the Arkansas Fire Code (adopting the International Residential Code) adopted by Fort Smith Code of Ordinances Section 6-2.

B. The City Administrator, through the employees of the City, shall observe and enforce the moratorium adopted by Section 1 of this Ordinance, in the Moratorium Area identified in Section 2 of this Ordinance, during the Moratorium Period stated in Section 3 of this Ordinance.

C. The Moratorium shall not be applicable to building permits applied for and issued for non-residential housing uses, including, without limitation, commercial or industrial structures or residential accessory uses including decking or other non-residential housing uses.

D. The Moratorium shall not be applicable to Fort Smith Planning Department and Planning Commission review and action, including but not limited to, approval of development plans, land use amendments, zoning and re-zoning, nor subdivision of land applications; provided, any such land use action in the Moratorium Area involving new residential housing development shall be so conditioned as to be subject to any Sound Regulations adopted in the Moratorium Period, and no building permit for new residential housing use shall be issued in violation of the Moratorium adopted by Section 1 above.

E. The Moratorium applies to new residential housing building permits. Building permits may be applied for and issued for demolition, repair, and remodeling (but not demolition and reconstruction nor to enlarge existing square footage greater than twenty-five (25) percent of the current gross square footage of the principal single family structure) of residential housing existing on the date of adoption of this Ordinance.

F. Terms appearing in this Ordinance but not defined herein shall have the meanings provided in the City’s Code of Ordinances, or if not defined by the City then the common meanings in accordance with ordinary usage or as defined in applicable state statutes.

SECTION 5: The provisions and applications of this Ordinance shall be considered severable. The invalidity or inapplicability of this Ordinance to one tract of real property shall not adversely affect the validity or applicability of this Ordinance to other tracts of real property. The invalidity of any provision or application of this Ordinance shall not adversely affect the validity or application of another provision hereof.

SECTION 6: Emergency Clause. It is determined that an emergency situation exists in the described area associated with the Fort Smith Regional Airport related to possible noise

impacts of increased military uses on residential uses and the necessity of a period of time to study, consider, and adopt appropriate sound regulations. Based on that emergency situation, this Ordinance shall be of full force and effectiveness from and after the date of its adoption in order to properly and adequately provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 21st DAY OF June, 2022.

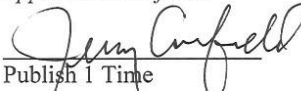
APPROVED:

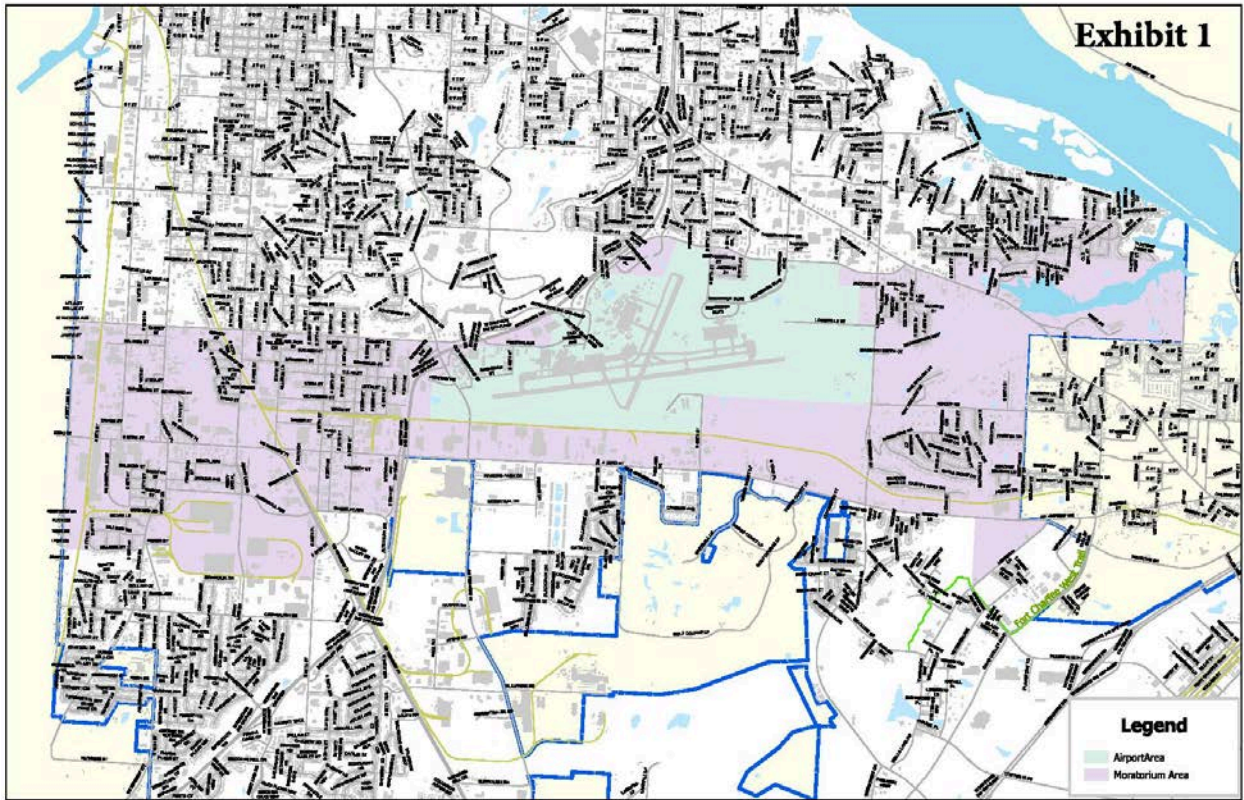

MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

Approved as to form:

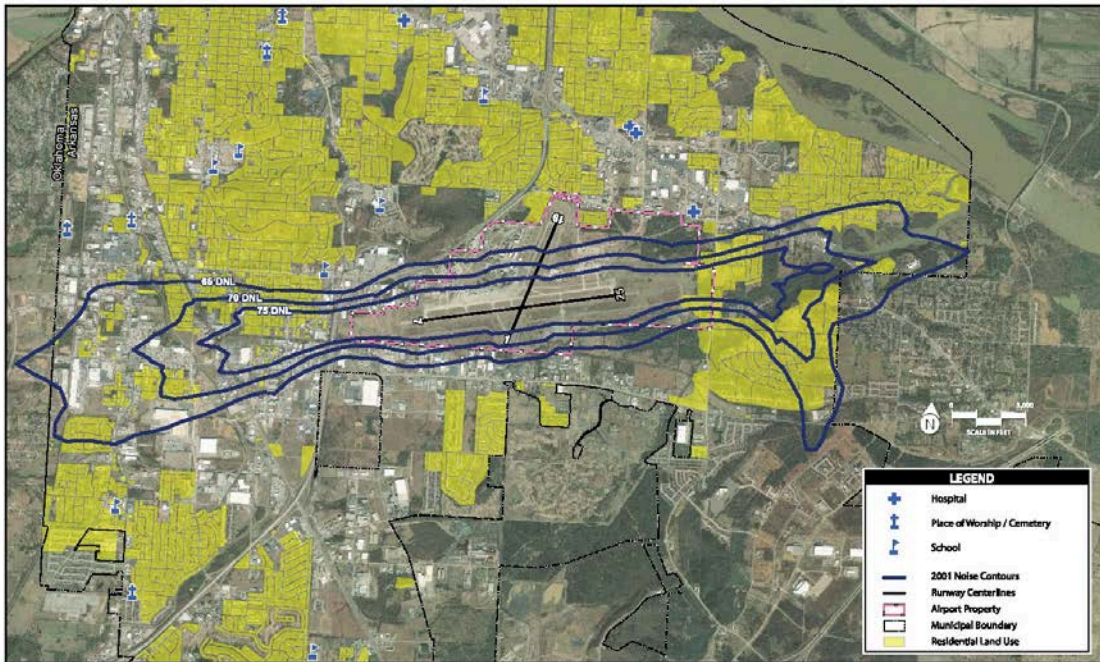

Publish 1 Time



2001 Noise Contours and Sensitive Land Uses Map



AIRPORT MASTER PLAN



Source: ESRI Basemap Imagery (2017), City of Fort Smith, Arkansas GIS Office, Morrison Shipley Engineers, Inc. (2001)

DRAFT FINAL | Recommended
Master Plan Concept

5-37

2001 NOISE CONTOURS AND SENSITIVE LAND USES Exhibit 5H