



ERIC GARCETTI  
MAYOR

October 3, 2019

Honorable Members of the City Council  
c/o City Clerk  
Room 395, City Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: 46<sup>th</sup> Program Year (PY) of the Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan — Third Year Action Plan (2020-21)**

Los Angeles is experiencing the strongest economic growth in more than a generation — with record employment, historic investments, and new construction defining a new era of growth in our city. But that growth has not been felt equally by all Angelenos, and there are still too many people being left behind. While we are proud of our progress, I also recognize L.A.'s role as a global leader in working to ensure that opportunity is distributed equitably. For this reason, Los Angeles has embraced a shared vision for humanity through a commitment to the local implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) alongside all 193 member states of the United Nations.

Together with my Office of International Affairs, my Community Development team is committed to using the SDGs as a guide to create a human services support system that can respond to the needs of Angelenos facing the greatest risks and challenges. My goal is to restore and expand the social safety net in Los Angeles and do everything possible to prevent the traumatic crisis of homelessness. That is why I am proud to launch planning efforts for the 46<sup>th</sup> Program Year (2020-21) Annual Action Plan for the City's Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan (Con Plan), focused around our commitment to the following Sustainable Development Goals:

- SDG 1: No Poverty
- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
- SDG 11: Sustainable Communities
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

## **Background**

The Con Plan is an opportunity to dedicate resources to residents and neighborhoods that need them most. This is made possible by leveraging over \$100 million in annual allocations of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

### **Program Year 44**

Two years ago (PY 44), the City approved the 2018-2022 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. As part of the planning process, a needs assessment was conducted to determine the greatest concerns and challenges for Los Angeles. The results pointed strongly to certain interconnected factors: housing, income stability, and homelessness. Based on this needs assessment, the City Council and I passed a Five-Year Consolidated Plan with six specific goals:

#### **1. Develop affordable and supportive housing for low-income and homeless Angelenos:**

- a. Support the development of and equal access to affordable, sustainable, accessible, and resilient housing for homeless individuals, persons living with a disability, and other low-income residents;
- b. Create new housing opportunities for low-income households and homeless persons by financing new affordable rental housing and permanent supportive housing;
- c. Provide first time homebuyers with financial assistance; and
- d. Increase the supply of affordable and accessible housing units for persons living with disabilities, and those living with HIV/AIDS.

#### **2. Preserve existing affordable housing:**

- a. Prevent the displacement of low- and moderate-income residents by preserving existing affordable and rent-stabilized housing;
- b. Preserve the existing stock of affordable rental housing and rent-stabilized housing, and support seismic retrofits and other hazard remediation;
- c. Provide lead-based paint remediation and other housing interventions and partnerships to make existing housing healthier, more resilient, sustainable, and accessible;
- d. Ensure equal access to housing for persons with protected characteristics, lower incomes, and experience being homeless; and
- e. Increase community integration and independent living opportunities for persons living with disabilities.

#### **3. Stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods:**

- a. Stabilize and revitalize low-income neighborhoods;
- b. Increase public access to opportunities for education, employment, recreation, and social services by creating new and improving existing public facilities and infrastructure;
- c. Improve access to public facilities and infrastructure for persons with disabilities; and
- d. Identify deteriorating properties and code violations for enforcement of safety standards in low-income neighborhoods.

**4. Prevent and reduce homelessness and domestic violence:**

- a. Work in partnership with community-based, not-for-profit, and government agencies to prevent and reduce homelessness and domestic violence;
- b. Support efforts to reach out to and provide emergency shelters, transitional housing, case management, supportive services, and rental assistance to persons who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless, and survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking; and
- c. Provide housing-related supportive services and rental assistance to those with low incomes, including at-risk homeless persons living with HIV/AIDS.

**5. Improve local economy for low-income residents:**

- a. Improve local economic conditions and expand access to opportunity for low-income residents and other protected classes, by supporting efforts to create and retain jobs and provide essential goods and services to underserved neighborhoods;
- b. Produce new jobs and retain employees in existing jobs for low- to moderate income residents by helping businesses thrive and succeed through economic development, business loans, business assistance, and entrepreneurial assistance; and
- c. Support businesses' efforts to provide goods and services needed in low-income neighborhoods.

**6. Help low-income families to economically stabilize:**

- a. Help low-income households to stabilize economically and avoid displacement;
- b. Support family economic stabilization by providing services to improve employment, income, financial literacy, asset development, and academic achievement; and
- c. Support seniors in maintaining their physical and mental health and independence, and preventing loss of housing and premature institutionalization

**Program Year 45**

At a time when we are working to more effectively confront the humanitarian crisis of homelessness, we must acknowledge that the development of shelters and homes is offset by the increasing number of Angelenos falling into the grip of homelessness. That is why, during the Program Year 45 planning process, I reviewed these programs to ensure that they reflected a *New CDBG* that reflects the current reality for Angelenos

and meets not only regulatory requirements, but the legislative spirit of these grants to address poverty, equity, and the needs of vulnerable populations.

As a result, last year, we successfully funded the launch of a number of signature programs, including: the City's Children's Savings Account (CSA) program, which will provide savings accounts to help children from low-income backgrounds build savings for the future and increase college access; the Eviction Defense Program, which will address displacement and curb inflow into homelessness by helping people remain in their homes; expanded hours for LA's Best to ensure access to after-school resources in every elementary school in the Promise Zones and extended hours to help meet the needs of working parents; and Skid Row community development initiatives to improve safety infrastructure and increase daytime community space.

### **Program Year 46**

This year we will continue our momentum. We have taken several steps to implement SDGs at a local level. First, we mapped how our current activity aligned to the SDGs. Second, we identified gaps in our current activity. Third, we added context and priorities unique to LA. Now, we are driving new initiatives, partnerships, and investments to accelerate meeting our goals, to institutionalize these universal Global Goals as part of our everyday efforts to improve the lives of Angelenos. I ask you look to our work on SDGs at [sdg.lamayor.org](http://sdg.lamayor.org) and our local data-reporting platform at [sdgdata.lamayor.org](http://sdgdata.lamayor.org), check out our Voluntary Local Review of our progress to-date, and share your innovative ideas to support the work moving forward. Los Angeles can, should, and will lead in building the healthier and more prosperous future we want for our children and grandchildren, and ensure that we leave no one behind in the process.

### **Guidance for PY 46 Con Plan Funding Applications**

The window for PY 46 Con Plan funding applications will be open from **October 8 through November 15, 2019**. As with previous years, all Con Plan funding applications must be submitted through a City Department. Please see the attachments for details regarding the application process and schedule.

This year, we will support applications that respond to the aforementioned SDGs. I encourage our City partners to submit innovative projects that clearly advance economic mobility and opportunity for the City's low-to-moderate-income residents.

For economic development projects, we encourage you to consider applications that leverage the City's investments in a way that multiplies jobs and keeps LA in the vanguard of our nation's economy.

For neighborhood improvement projects, consider applications that leverage existing place-based initiatives in low-income neighborhoods, especially for projects where we already have made an investment of CDBG funds, or those that enhance mobility for lower-income residents into higher-opportunity neighborhoods. For example, consider

how your applications can support a Promise Zone, a neighborhood with substantial Cap-and-Trade investments, Skid Row, or a neighborhood that has welcomed (or plans to welcome) a new *A Bridge Home* or supportive housing development for Angelenos experiencing homelessness.

### **Conclusion**

In Program Year 46, we will continue to match our creativity and drive with our heart and conscience to make sure no one is left behind. Los Angeles is taking the long view and understanding that the work we do today will yield results tomorrow. I hope we'll look back and see this moment as the time when our approach was smarter and deeper; a time when we were more conscious and ambitious about our collective work. Los Angeles will ultimately succeed not because of the mega-events that spotlight our city for a day or a few weeks, but because of the legacy we build that ensures opportunity, access, and equality for all every day. Our City of Angels will soar because of what we do to push that spotlight onto our communities, our shared values, and our investments in our people and our planet.

I know we'll get there. Let's build an equitable, sustainable future for generations to come.

Thank you for your partnership in reaching our global goals locally.

Sincerely,



ERIC GARCETTI  
Mayor