

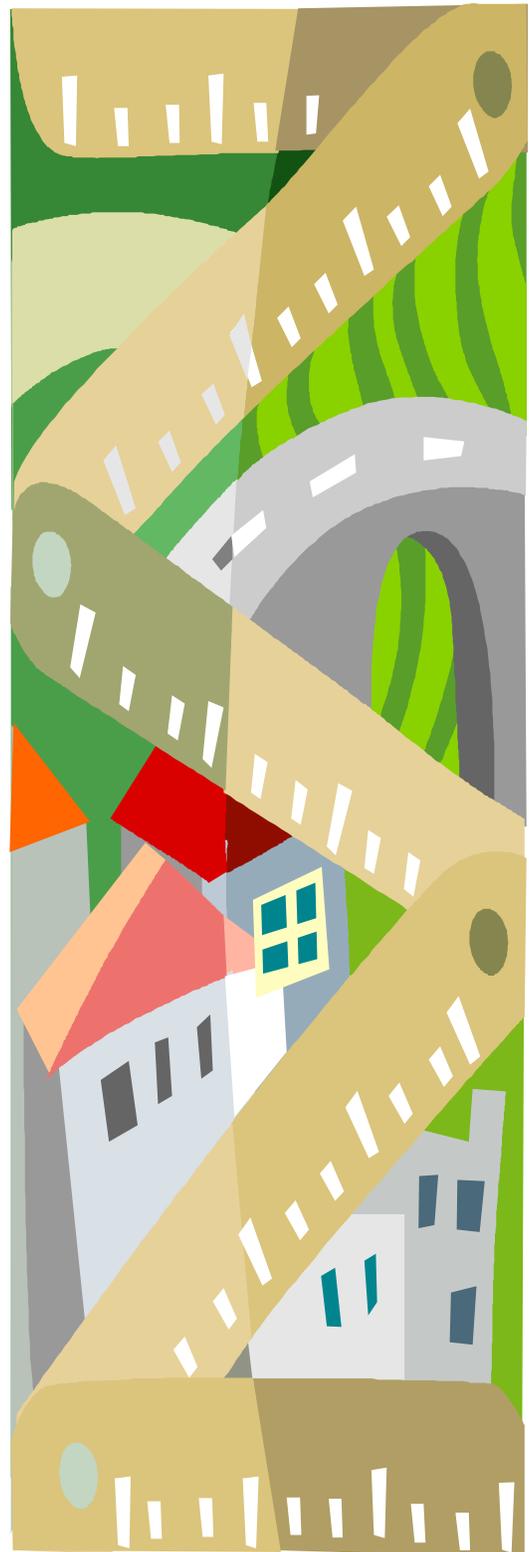


Travis County

Community Development Block Grant Initiative:

Improving the affordability, accessibility
and sustainability of neighborhoods and
community services.

Consolidated Plan 2006-2010 &
PY 2006 Annual Action Plan,
Amended August 2007



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

Drafted 6/07

Approved by TCCC 8/07

Approved by HUD _____



Travis County Commissioners Court

Samuel T. Biscoe

Travis County Judge

Ron Davis

County Commissioner, Precinct One

Sarah Eckhardt

County Commissioner, Precinct Two

Gerald Daugherty

County Commissioner, Precinct Three

Margaret Gómez

County Commissioner, Precinct Four



SF 424

The SF 424 is part of the CPMP Annual Action Plan. SF 424 form fields are included in this document. Grantee information is linked from the 1CPMP.xls document of the CPMP tool.

SF 424

Complete the fillable fields (blue cells) in the table below. The other items are pre-filled with values from the Grantee Information Worksheet.

Date Submitted	08/09/07	Applicant Identifier	Type of Submission	
Date Received by state	n/a	State Identifier	Application	Pre-application
Date Received by HUD	08/09/07	Federal Identifier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction
			<input type="checkbox"/> Non Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Non Construction
Section II: Applicant Information				
Jurisdiction	Travis County		UOG Code	TX489453
Street Address Line 1	P.O. Box 1748		Organizational DUNS	030908842
			Organizational Unit	Travis County Commissioners Court
City	Austin	Texas	Department	Health and Human Services
ZIP	78767	Country U.S.A.	Division	Executive Manager's Office
Employer Identification Number (EIN):			County	Travis
74-6000192			Program Year Start Date (MM/DD)	10/01/06
Applicant Type:			Specify Other Type if necessary:	
Local Government: County			Specify Other Type	
Section III: Program Funding			U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	
Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers; Descriptive Title of Applicant Project(s); Areas Affected by Project(s) (cities, Counties, localities etc.); Estimated Funding				
Community Development Block Grant			14.218 Entitlement Grant	
CDBG Project Titles Substandard Road Street Improvements, Owner and Rental Housing: Production of New Units, North Ridge Acres Water/Sewer Project, and Family Support Services Social Work Expansion			Description of Areas Affected by CDBG Project(s) Unincorporated areas of Travis County	
\$CDBG Grant Amount	838,659	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	400,000	Describe Williamson County - \$150,000 (CDBG), and Office of Rural Community Affairs - \$250,000 (CDBG/Non-Border Colonia Grant) for North Ridge Acres
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged			\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
Texas Water Development Board - \$1.3 million for North Ridge Acres			0	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds			\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
0			\$172,000 (In- Kind and General Fund for North Ridge Acres)	
\$Anticipated Program Income			Other (Describe)	
0				
Total Funds Leveraged for CDBG-based Project(s) \$ 1,872,000				
Home Investment Partnerships Program			14.239 HOME	
HOME Project Titles N/A			Description of Areas Affected by HOME Project(s)	

\$HOME Grant Amount		\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for HOME-based Project(s)			
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS		14.241 HOPWA	
HOPWA Project Titles N/A		Description of Areas Affected by HOPWA Project(s)	
\$HOPWA Grant Amount		\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for HOPWA-based Project(s)			
Emergency Shelter Grants Program		14.231 ESG	
ESG Project Titles N/A		Description of Areas Affected by ESG Project(s)	
\$ESG Grant Amount		\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for ESG-based Project(s)			
Congressional Districts of:		Is application subject to review by state Executive Order 12372 Process?	
Applicant Districts	Project Districts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	This application was made available to the state EO 12372 process for review on DATE
Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt? If "Yes" please include an additional document explaining the situation.		<input type="checkbox"/> No	Program is not covered by EO 12372
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Program has not been selected by the state for review

Person to be contacted regarding this application		
First Name Samuel	Middle Initial T	Last Name Biscoe
Title County Judge	Phone 512/854-9555	Fax 512/854-9535
eMail Sam.Biscoe@co.travis.tx.us	Grantee Website www.co.travis.tx.us	Other Contact: Sherri E. Fleming and Christy Moffett P: 512/854-4100 F: 512/854-4115
Signature of Authorized Representative		Date Signed

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Travis County

Section I:

Introduction

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



Executive Summary

As an Urban Entitlement County, Travis County must comply with the Consolidated Plan requirements in order to receive funding for these formula-based programs of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Designated as the lead agency by the Travis County Commissioners Court, the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) prepares and submits this Consolidated Plan to HUD. HHS/VS oversees the public notification process, approval of projects, and the administration of these grants.

In keeping with its vision and mission, Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service works within the community to optimize self-sufficiency for families and individuals and to promote the full development of individuals, families, and neighborhoods. The Department plays a strategic role within a holistic continuum of care by providing planning, funding and services and by connecting its efforts with others in the community.

Travis County's Consolidated Plan spanning fiscal years 2006 through 2010 is the County's blueprint for addressing the community's most critical housing and community development needs in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. Consistent with research and public comments, Travis County's priorities are to assist low- and moderate-income persons in obtaining affordable housing, improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods and increasing access to quality public and private facilities and services.

The Plan allocates a total of more than \$4 million in federal resources, which will assist an estimated 900 Travis County households with affordable housing, decent living conditions and public services.

The citizens of Travis County were instrumental in developing this plan, which is a result of nine months of activity by Travis County staff. County staff drew on authoritative sources to provide a quantitative analysis of community needs; conducted five public hearings at which more than 40 people testified; held multiple consultation meetings with service providers from housing, elderly services, youth services, and fair housing agencies, as well as Housing Authorities and other government agencies. Upon presentation of the draft Consolidated Plan, additional comment was received at two public hearings and considered in the final preparation of the plan.

After final submission, HUD discovered an error in the amount initially allocated to Travis County. Subsequently, Travis County's allocation was reduced from \$2,449,337 to \$838,659. Due to the scope of the reduction, the substantial amendment process was initiated. To expedite the amendment, HUD allowed Travis County to be temporarily out of compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP). HUD allowed for a 15- day public comment period to occur rather than the 30-day comment period specified in the CPP. A public hearing was held on November 28th, 2006, to receive public input on a substantial amendment to the Plan.

At the time of the November 2006 amendment, Travis County chose only to address the Action Plan for program year 2006, and to re-evaluate the strategic direction later. In August of 2007, Travis County

addressed the strategic direction as it relates to the reduced allocation. The amendment to the strategic direction results from the information gathered through the citizen engagement process in 2006 and 2007, and the original needs assessment data gathered in 2006. The substantial changes related to the changes to the strategic direction to the Consolidated Plan are located in Section IV and Appendices A & B. While the amendment to the strategic direction is not required to go through a public comment period, the scope of the change is substantial enough to warrant Travis County's interest in eliciting public comment.

Concurrent with the changes to the strategic direction, staff assessed the progress of each project and made recommendations to the Travis County Commissioners Court to substantially amend the Year One (PY06) Action Plan. The substantial amendment process was instituted due to the deletion of the Youth and Family Assessment Center Flex Fund Expansion, a public service project. The services to 30 youth will still be provided, but through the Travis County General Fund. In addition, timelines for projects were updated and more detailed information was provided for the Substandard Road Street Improvement project located in Apache Shores and the Land Acquisition Project with Habitat for Humanity. The changes related to the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan are located in Section V and Appendix B.

During the week of June 4, 2007, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed amendment to the strategic direction, the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan and the draft of the PY07 Action Plan. The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 30-day public comment period commenced June 20, 2007 and ended July 19, 2007.

Purpose and Overview

Federal law requires that housing and community development grant funds primarily benefit low- and moderate- income persons in accordance with the following HUD goals:

Provide a suitable living environment

This includes improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods; increasing access to quality facilities and services; reducing the isolation of income groups within areas by de-concentrating housing opportunities and revitalizing deteriorating neighborhoods; restoring and preserving natural and physical features of special value for historic, architectural, or aesthetic reasons; and conserving energy resources.

Provide decent housing

Included within this broad goal are the following: assist homeless persons in obtaining affordable housing; retain the affordable housing stock; increase the availability of permanent housing that is affordable to low and moderate-income Americans without discrimination; and increase supportive housing that includes structural features and services to enable persons with special needs to live in dignity.

Expand economic opportunities

Within this goal are creating jobs accessible to low- and very low-income persons; providing access to credit for community development that promotes long-term economic and social viability; and empowering low-income persons in federally assisted and public housing to achieve self-sufficiency.

The Consolidated Plan, 2006-2010, presents a coordinated approach for addressing Travis County's housing and community development needs for the next five years. The plan describes community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities to be undertaken with federal grant funds, specifically Community Development Block Grant funds. A new Consolidated Plan is prepared every three to five years. It combines in one report important information about Austin/Travis County demographics and economic activity as well as detailed information on the housing and job needs of its residents. For each succeeding year, the County is required to prepare a one-year Action Plan to notify citizens and HUD of the County's intended actions during that particular fiscal year. This plan includes citizen and stakeholder input and is due to the HUD Field Office in San Antonio, Texas no later than August 15, annually.

The Action Plan for fiscal year 2006-07 is the County's strategy for addressing the community's critical housing and community development needs in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. This plan was developed under the guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and it serves as the application for one formula grant program: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) is designated by the County as the single point of contact with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and lead agency for the grant administration of the CDBG program. As the single point of contact for HUD, HHS/VS is responsible for developing the 5-Year Consolidated and Annual Action Plans.

Travis County's priority goals for the five-year time period covered in the Consolidated Plan prioritize the following projects as high priorities:

High Priority Projects
<i>Non-Housing Community Development Activities</i>
Water/Sewer Improvements
Street/Road Improvements
Sidewalks
Solid Waste Disposal Improvements (Sanitary Sewer)
Flood Drain Improvements
Other: Erosion Abatement

Other: Litter Abatement/Clearance
Other Public Facility Needs
Housing Activities
RENTAL HOUSING GOALS
Production of new units
OWNER HOUSING GOALS
Production of new units
Homebuyer Assistance
Rehabilitation of existing units
Other: Other ways to promote affordable housing development (Infrastructure)
Public Services
Senior Services
Youth Services
Employment Training
Other Public Service Needs

At the end of each fiscal year, the County must also prepare a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to provide information to HUD and the public to evaluate the County's performance and to determine whether the activities undertaken during the fiscal year helped to meet the County's five-year goals and to address priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. This annual performance report, prepared with public review and comment, must be submitted to HUD annually no later than December 31.

The County wishes to thank the Travis County residents who participated in this process. It is our hope that this Plan will help our families and neighborhoods to work together more effectively and thrive in the years ahead.

Summary of FY07 Projects

The 2006-2007 program year marks the first year of Travis County's five-year Consolidated Plan. The following information summarizes the amended Action Plan for FY 2006, the first in the five-year Consolidated Plan for 2006-2010. Each of the programs supports the overall goals and priorities of Travis County's efforts in housing and community development as prioritized in the five-year Consolidated Plan.

Through the citizen participation process, Travis County staff informed the community of the purpose and intent of its CDBG allocation to ensure that citizens have had time to comment on a proposed project located in their neighborhood. Any projects proposed for which specific activities or locations

have not yet been identified will have additional public hearings during Program Year 2006 (PY 06) in order to inform Travis County citizen's of the intended use of funds.

Proposed Projects for Year One include:

Project	Activities	Amount
Community Development		
1. Owner Housing: Production of new units	Land Acquisition – location to be determined at a later date. (Development of affordable housing by Habitat for Humanity.)	\$250,000
2. Street Improvements	Road Improvements to substandard roads in Apache Shores including sections of Pima Trail, Crazyhorse Pass, and Whitebead Trail.	\$300,000 <u>\$305,000</u>
3. Water/Sewer Improvements	North Ridge Acres	\$200,000
Subtotal:		\$750,000 <u>\$755,000</u>
Public Services		
4. Youth Services	Youth and Family Assessment Center Flex Fund – Internal Travis County HHS/VS Program	\$5,000
5. Public Services, Other	Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion –Travis County HHS/VS Program	\$83,659
Subtotal:		\$88,659 <u>\$83,659</u>
Administration and Planning		
Administration and Planning	Travis County will absorb all costs for administration and planning	\$0
Subtotal:		<u>\$0</u>
Total award:		\$838,659

Summary of Community Need

DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

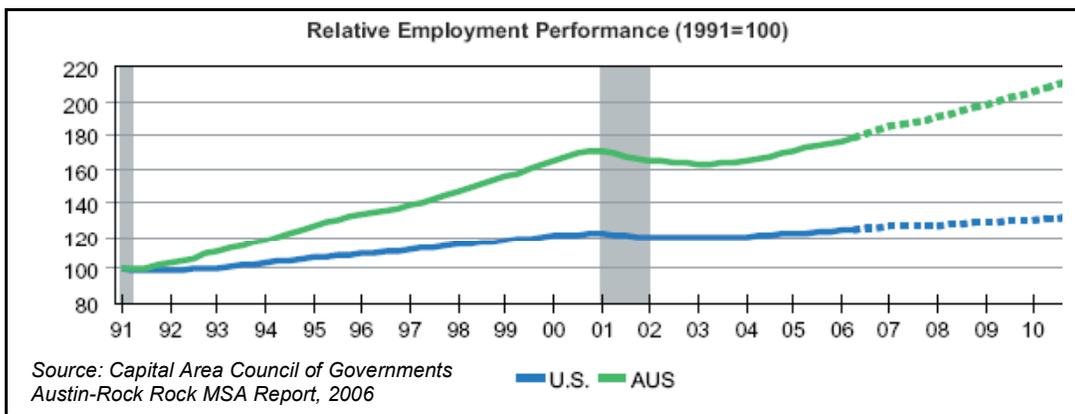
The population of Travis County continues to grow at a fast rate. In 1990, the population had increased 37% over the decade prior, and by 2000, 29.6% over the decade prior. Altogether, there are projected to be more than 730,000 adults age 60 or older in 2040, compared to about 149,000 in 2000.

Travis County's increasing racial and ethnic diversity is characterized by growth in the Hispanic, and to a lesser extent the Asian populations (American Community Survey 2004). In 2004 almost one-third (31.7%) of the total Travis County population identified as Hispanic or Latino, compared to 28.5% in 2000.

Language trends show an overall increase in residents who speak a language other than English at home, those who report speaking English “less than very well,” and students enrolled in bilingual education.

Income and education disparities are also increasing. While high levels of educational attainment remain a great asset for Travis County (as of 2004 more than 50% of residents had an associates degree or higher), the number and percent of residents with less than a 9th grade education has also grown (5.5% in 2000, 7.6% in 2004).

Compared to the overall U.S. employment performance, the Austin Metropolitan Service Area is experiencing positive employment trends, and these trends are projected to continue (see the figure below).



The incidence of poverty among the Hispanic/Latino population in Travis County was higher than other racial/ethnic groups in 2004, with almost one-quarter (21.4%) or 57,151 Hispanic/Latino persons living in poverty.

The Travis County Health and Human Services Department’s annual survey of human services non-profits revealed that **more than half (53%) of respondents had to turn away some of the clients who applied for services in 2005**. In addition, 83% of social service providers reported that they have experienced an increase in the cost of doing business since this time last year.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS

The housing market in Central Texas is characterized by high occupancy rates for both owner and rental housing units and a lack of affordable rental and owner housing units for lower income residents. The average home price is above affordable levels for low-income families. The table below shows the percent and number of families in Travis County who experience housing problems, including cost burden, overcrowding, and insufficient facilities:

Travis County Households with a Housing Problem by Household Income			
	Total Number of Households	Percent of Households with Any Housing Problems	Number of Households with a Housing Problem
Household Income <=30% MFI	41,486	80.0%	33,189
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	35,331	80.2%	28,335
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	58,991	48.6%	28,670
Household Income >80% MFI	184,745	12.6%	23,278
Total Households	320,553	35.4%	113,476

Source: CHAS Data Book, 2000

Very low-income (30 percent of median family income (MFI)) and low-income (50 percent MFI) households face housing problems at the highest rate: eighty-percent (80%) or 61,524 low and very-low income households face one or more housing problems compared with 48.6% of moderate income (80 percent MFI) Travis County households and 35.4% of all households.

Cost burden is the housing problem most frequently faced by Travis County households. Of the 113,476 households facing a housing problem, 83% (94,563 households) face a cost burden (pay more than 30% of household income on housing expenses) and 37% face a severe cost burden (pay more than 50% of household income on housing expenses.)

Overall, the total distribution of housing units in Travis County did not change much between 1990 and 2004, with single family homes comprising over half (56%) of the total housing units, multi-family homes accounting for about forty percent (40%) of the total housing units and less than four percent (4%) mobile homes.

In 2004, just over forty percent (40%) of Hispanic or Latino residents in Travis County owned a home, while a greater percentage (63.6%) of White or Caucasian residents owned a home.

The percentage of substandard housing (lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities) is significantly higher in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. Overcrowding is also a significant problem in Travis County, as Black or African American, Asian and Hispanic or Latino populations face overcrowding challenges more than the White or Caucasian population in Travis County. Overcrowding is present in 1 of 4 Hispanic/Latino households in Travis County.

Community Profile

Travis County is located in Central Texas, along the IH-35 growth corridor. The Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA includes Travis County and four other counties (Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays and Williamson). Travis County includes most of the City of Austin, as well as some or all of smaller cities including Manor, Pflugerville, Round Rock, Elgin, Lago Vista and others. As a result, Travis County is predominantly urban, with 93% of residents residing in urbanized areas or urban clusters.

Major Demographic Trends

Population Growth

Travis County has experienced nearly continuous population growth since 1990, as illustrated in Figure I-1 at right. A significant amount of the observed population growth in the Austin MSA has been due to in-migration, with the exception of the early 2000s, during which time a large domestic out-migration occurred and stagnated the county's overall growth for a short period. Nonetheless, between the years 1990 and 2005, Travis County's net population growth was approximately 54.1%.

Figure I-1: Travis County Population, 1990-2005

Date	Population	Percent Change	Components of Change				
			Total Population Change	Births	Deaths	International Immigration	Net Domestic Migration
1990	576,407	1.9	11,002	7,580	2,253	-	-
1991	602,113	4.5	25,706	12,945	3,714	2,113	8,040
1992	624,947	3.8	22,834	10,652	3,041	1,863	7,466
1993	649,226	3.9	24,279	10,597	3,338	2,286	8,495
1994	671,759	3.5	22,533	10,865	3,547	2,057	6,995
1995	696,278	3.6	24,519	10,924	3,508	2,558	7,988
1996	717,194	3.0	20,916	11,341	3,662	2,858	3,799
1997	736,587	2.7	19,393	11,875	3,508	3,121	967
1998	761,335	3.4	24,748	12,164	3,683	3,002	5,700
1999	788,500	3.6	27,165	12,181	3,551	3,106	6,120
2000	812,280	3.0	23,780	-	-	-	-
2001	842,547	3.7	30,267	17,851	5,022	10,587	7,153
2002	845,598	0.4	3,051	14,433	3,978	8,443	-15,631
2003	854,029	1.0	8,431	14,282	3,896	8,038	-9,730
2004	868,873	1.7	14,844	14,506	4,000	7,335	-2,709
2005	888,185	2.2	19,312	14,794	4,189	6,660	1,844

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Decade years represent April 1, Census data, not the mid-year estimates.

Projections made by the Texas State Data Center and Office of the State Demographer indicate that similar patterns of population increases will continue in Travis County for the next thirty-five years. These changes mirror trends for the entire state of Texas, as illustrated in Figures I-2 and I-3:

Figure I-2:

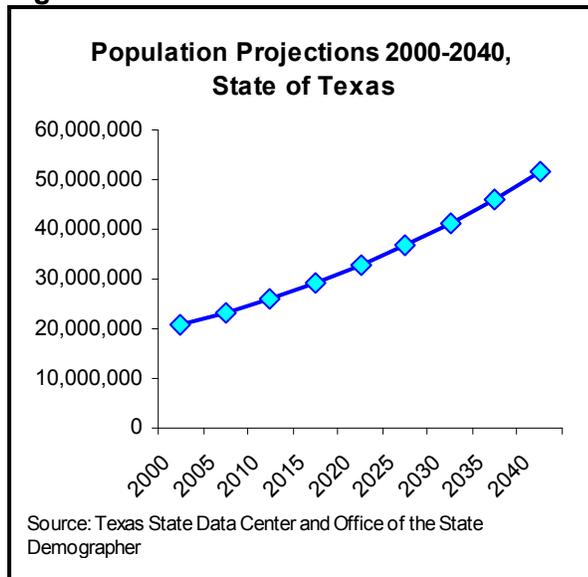
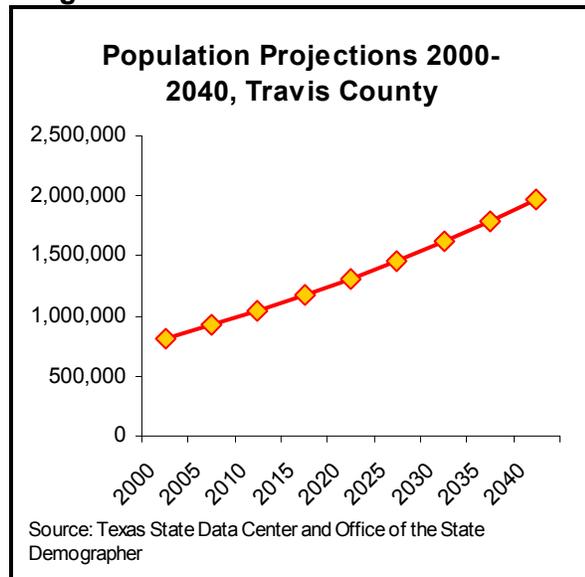


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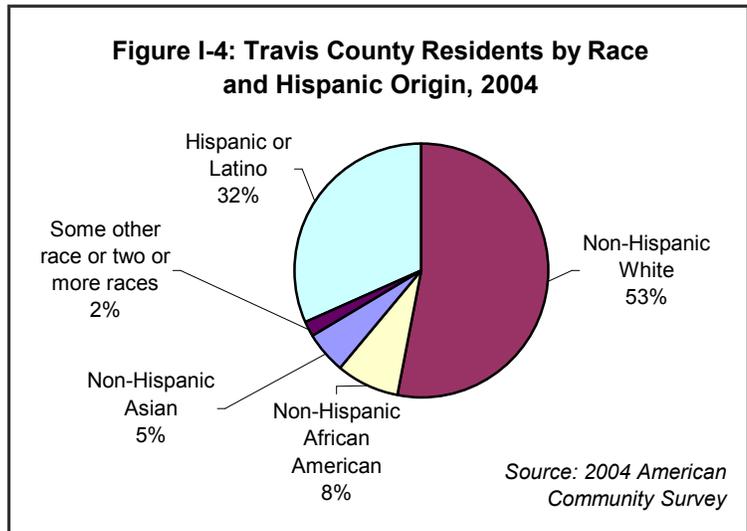


Demographic Changes by Age, Race, and Ethnicity

The age distribution in Travis County is changing. The fastest growing age groups are ages 45 to 64, ages 65 and older, and children under 18 (American Community Survey, 2004). According to the US Census Bureau, in July 2005, there were 78.2 million people of the “baby boomer” generation, i.e. born between the years 1946 and 1964 (Community Action Network Community Conditions Report, 2006). By 2040, adults age 60 and older will account for 27% of the population of the ten-county region that includes Travis County, up from 11% in 2000. **Altogether, there are projected to be more than 730,000 adults age 60 or older in 2040, compared to about 149,000 in 2000** (Community Action Network Community Conditions Report, 2006).

Travis County’s increasing racial and ethnic diversity is characterized by growth in the Hispanic, and to a lesser extent the Asian, populations (American Community Survey 2004).

In 2004 almost one-third (31.7%) of the total Travis County population identified as Hispanic or Latino, compared to 28.5% in 2000. Relative to the total population in Travis County, the Black or African American population has decreased from 8.3% in 2000 to 8.2% in 2004. The Asian population in Travis



County slightly increased in percentage between 2000 and 2004, growing from 4.6% to 5.2% of the total population. It is likely that soon, no single ethnic group will make up more than one-half of the total population. Projections from the Texas State Data Center and the Office of the State Demographer indicate that over the next thirty-five years, Travis County’s demographic shifts will mirror those of Texas in general, as illustrated below:

Figure I-5:

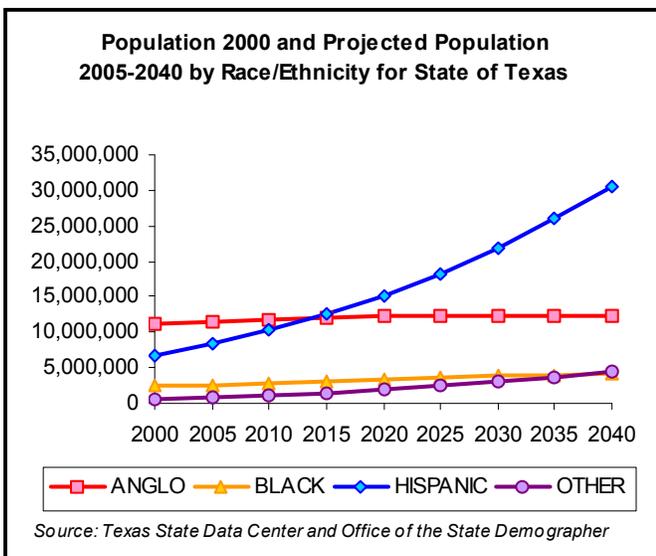
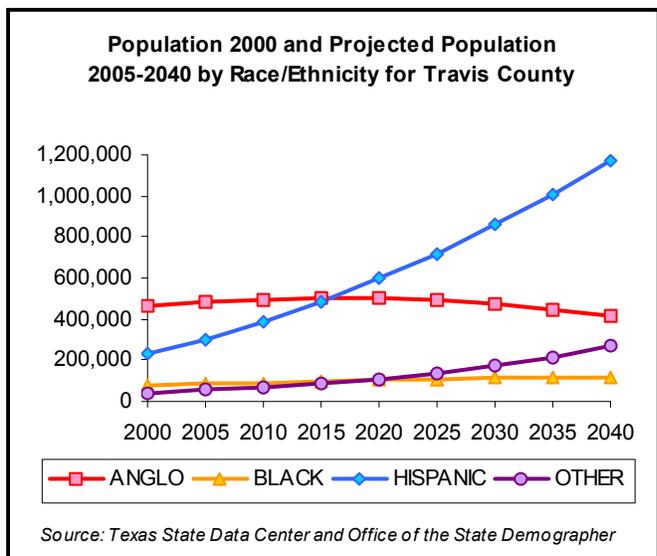


Figure I-6:



These racial/ethnic demographic trends are particularly pronounced among children in Travis County, as evidenced by public school enrollment. In some Travis County school districts, over half of enrolled children are Hispanic, as illustrated in Figure I-7:

Figure I-7: Austin MSA School District Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, 2005					
2005 District Enrollment	African American	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	Native American
Austin	13.3%	2.8%	28.9%	54.7%	0.2%
Eanes	0.7%	7.6%	85.6%	5.8%	0.3%
Del Valle	14.7%	1.1%	12.9%	71%	0.3%
Lago Vista	1.2%	1.3%	80.7%	15.8%	0.9%
Lake Travis	1.1%	2.2%	82.6%	13.6%	0.5%
Leander	5.4%	3.3%	73%	17.7%	0.6%
Manor	23.2%	1.8%	22%	52.8%	0.2%
Pflugerville	22.1%	8.1%	37.6%	31.8%	0.4%
Round Rock	9.7%	9.1%	58.3%	22.5%	0.4%
Elgin	14.5%	0.5%	38.9%	45.8%	0.3%
Hays	4.1%	0.6%	41.1%	53.9%	0.2%

(Just for the Kids, www.just4kids.org)

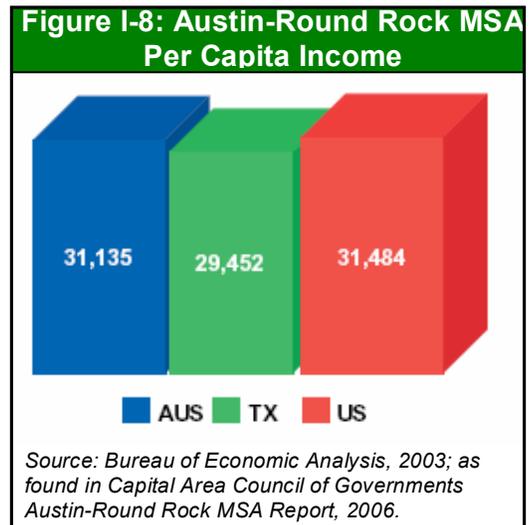
Language trends show an overall increase in residents who speak a language other than English at home, those who report speaking English “less than very well,” and students enrolled in bilingual education.

Employment, Income and Education

The Austin-Round Rock MSA has a relatively high per capita income compared to the state of Texas (see Figure I-8 at right). However, **income disparities are increasing.** In Travis County, households with high incomes (greater than \$100,000 per year) and low incomes (less than \$25,000 per year) make up a growing proportion of the community, while the proportion of families with middle incomes (\$25,000 to \$99,999) is shrinking. Households with an annual income of less than \$10,000 now make up more than 10% of all households, and are increasing in number.

Educational disparities are also widening. While high levels of educational attainment remain a great asset for Travis County (as of 2004 more than 50% of residents have an Associates degree or higher), **both the number and the percent of residents with less than an 9th grade education have increased,** to 5.5% of residents in 2000, and 7.6% in 2004.

In 2004, married-couple families in Travis County had higher family incomes than female- and male-headed households (with no spouse present). Many of these female- and male-headed households, especially those with children, are at the lowest end of the income scale: 19.8% male-headed



households with children and 15.9% of female-headed households with children had a total family income of less than \$10,000—significantly higher proportions than that of married-couple families with children at the same income level (2.1%).

Figure I-9 below shows in more detail the income distribution for Travis County households.

Figure I-9: Travis County Family Income Distribution by Household Type, 2004¹

Family Income	Married-Couple Family		Male Householder		Female Householder	
	Children	No Children	Children	No Children	Children	No Children
Less than \$10,000	2.1%	2.2%	19.8%	9.8%	15.9%	14.0%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	5.8%	2.5%	18.7%	9.0%	12.5%	11.7%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	5.5%	5.4%	16.4%	13.5%	18.0%	15.7%
\$30,000 to \$49,999	13.4%	19.5%	23.8%	29.1%	28.9%	32.9%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	18.3%	19.2%	18.7%	21.7%	10.4%	16.0%
\$75,000 and above	55.0%	51.2%	2.6%	17.1%	14.2%	9.8%

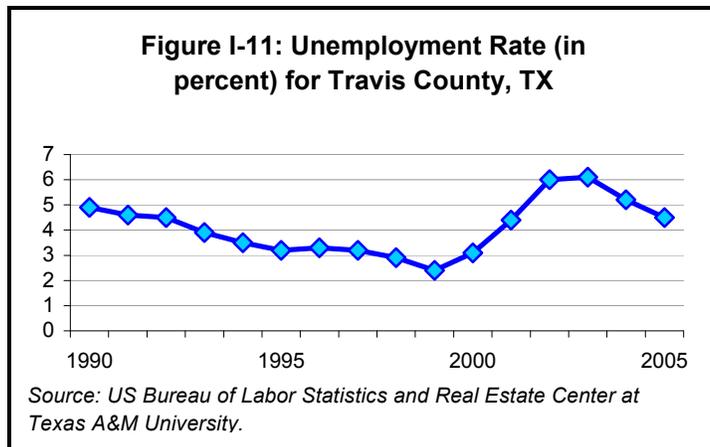
Source: 2004 American Community Survey

Employment in Travis County has showed an overall rising trend since 1990. However, a noticeable trend reversal occurred between the years 2000 and 2004, when employment rates fell and unemployment rose as high as 6.1% (see Figure I-10). From 2004 to 2006, unemployment began to drop again (see Figure I-11). The December 2005 unemployment rate in Travis County was 4.0%, down from 5.2% percent two years prior. (Community Action Network Community Conditions Report, 2006).

Figure I-10: Travis County, TX Employment

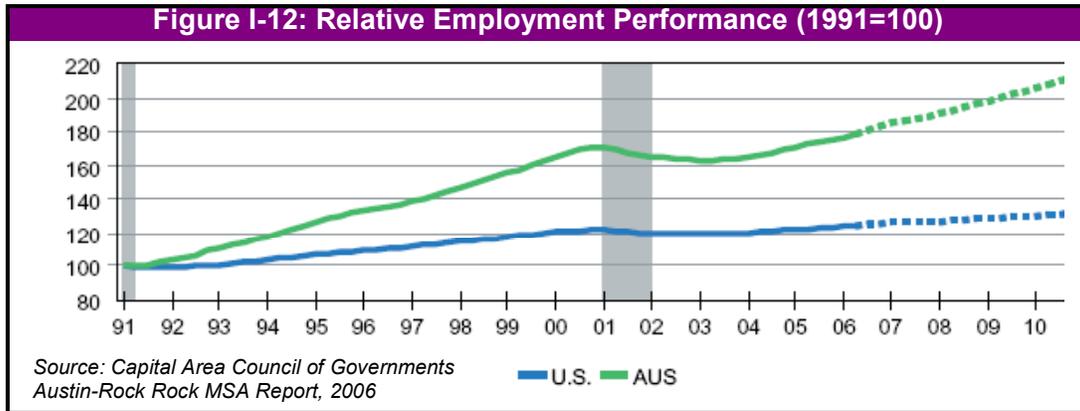
Year	Employment		Unemployment	
	Total	Percent Change From Prior Year	Rate	Unit Change From Prior Year
1990	318,515	-	4.9	-
1991	327,916	3.0	4.6	-0.4
1992	346,158	5.6	4.5	-0.1
1993	365,587	5.6	3.9	-0.6
1994	387,344	6.0	3.5	-0.4
1995	404,213	4.4	3.2	-0.3
1996	414,478	2.5	3.3	0.1
1997	423,030	2.1	3.2	-0.1
1998	436,729	3.2	2.9	-0.4
1999	453,056	3.7	2.4	-0.5
2000	476,543	5.2	3.1	0.7
2001	471,839	-1.0	4.4	1.3
2002	461,909	-2.1	6.0	1.6
2003	460,637	-0.3	6.1	0.1
2004	472,946	2.7	5.2	-0.8
2005	489,264	3.5	4.5	-0.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University



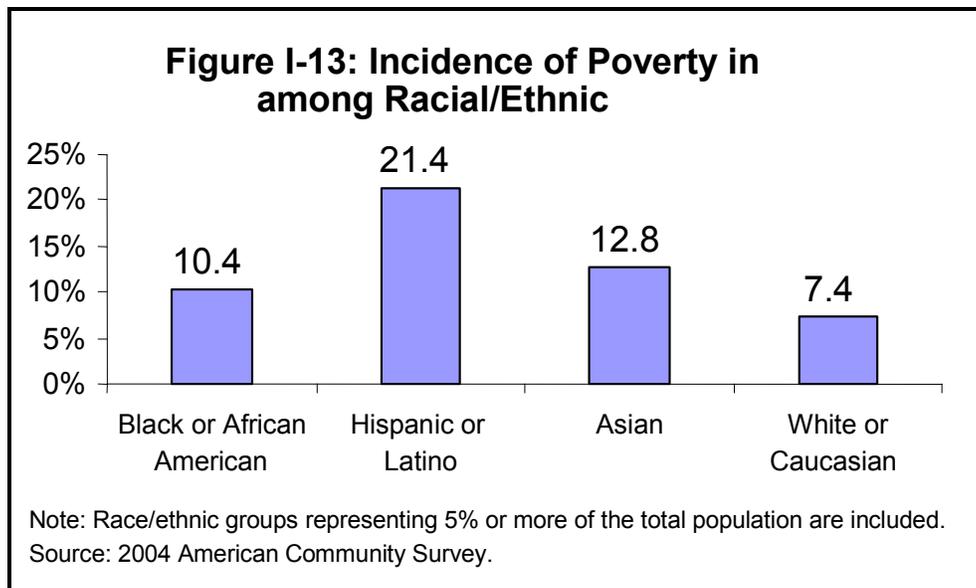
¹ Households Children field reflects Travis County households with children under 18 years currently living in the housing unit. Households No Children field reflects Travis County households without children under 18 years currently living in the housing unit.

Compared to the overall U.S. employment performance, the Austin MSA is experiencing positive employment trends, and these trends are projected to continue (see Figure I-12).



Poverty and Living Wage In Travis County

In 2004, an estimated 106,765 Travis County residents’ annual income fell below the federal poverty level (\$9,310 for an individual and \$18,850 for a family of four). Travis County’s poverty rate (12.6%) is slightly lower than the national poverty rate (13.1%). However, when poverty in Travis County is examined among different racial and ethnic groups, **the incidence of poverty is higher for minority racial/ethnic groups, particularly the Hispanic/Latino population.** In 2004, the poverty rate for Hispanic/Latino population in Travis County was higher than all other racial/ethnic groups, with approximately 1 in 5 Hispanic/Latino persons living in poverty (21.4% of the Hispanic/Latino population, or 57,151 persons). Over 10% of African Americans and 12.8% of Asians in Travis County lived in poverty in 2004. These numbers are visually represented in Figure I-13 below:



The 2006 Federal Poverty Guideline is \$20,000 a year for a family of four (US Department of Health and Human Services). The Center for Public Policy Priorities has estimated that in order to afford to live in the Austin/San Marcos MSA, a family of two parents and two children needs a household income of \$44,044 to cover basic expenses, a figure more than double the federal guideline. (Center for Public Policy Priorities, 2001, as found in Community Action Network Poverty Fact Sheet, 2006.)

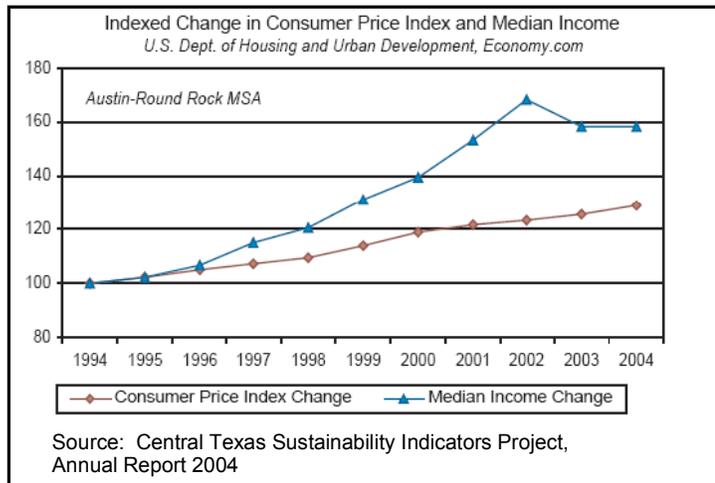
Of the 193,287 families in Travis County, about 6% of them (11,526 families) made less than \$10,000 in 2004 (Community Action Network Poverty Fact Sheet, 2006).

In the past two years, with falling incomes and increasing prices, our region has become less affordable.

Trends show that the gap between income and the Consumer Price Index for our region is narrowing after years of widening. This suggests an increasing share of a household’s income is being consumed by necessary household costs such as rent, groceries, and transportation. Over the past year, income decline leveled off, but the price index increased slightly, thereby decreasing affordability in our region. (Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Annual Report 2004.)

Figure I-14: Estimated Cost of Living in Austin/San Marcos MSA For Two Parents With Two Children	
Housing	\$858
Food	\$418
Child Care	\$569
Medical	\$727
Transportation	\$391
Other Necessities	\$321
Tax Payments & Credits	\$386
Annual	\$44,044
Hourly	\$22
Percent of 2001 Federal Poverty Level	252%
Percent of 2006 Federal Poverty Level	220%

Source: Community Action Network Poverty Fact Sheet, 2006





Travis County

Section II:

Citizen Participation

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



A. Citizen Participation Plan

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to outline the method by which Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service (TCHHSVS) will encourage public participation in the planning and implementation of its HUD-funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Travis County is required to prepare and submit a Consolidated Plan every five years and Action Plans on an annual basis (24 CFR Part 91). The consolidated planning process requires that each jurisdiction adopt a citizen participation plan (24 CFR Part 91.105).

Travis County's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) outlines the notification procedures by which residents, public agencies and other interested parties will be notified of public hearings and the opportunities available for public to comment on needs, planned use of funds and performance of all CDBG funded projects. In addition, the plan outlines how Travis County will ensure accessibility of all meeting notices, public hearings, and posted documents for public review to all segments of the population, including people with unique needs, language barriers, or limited ability.

Background/References

24 Congressional Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 91.105

Policies and Procedures

A. Jurisdiction

Travis County intends to administer CDBG funded projects in the unincorporated areas of the County. Travis County is in a unique position due to the fact that the population in the unincorporated areas of the county is large enough for Travis County to be considered an Eligible Metropolitan Area. As such, community development and housing opportunities in geographic areas outside of the incorporated cities and villages in Travis County will be considered.

B. Citizen Participation and Access to Meetings

Travis County's Citizen Participation Plan provides residents, public agencies and other interested parties with reasonable and timely access to local meetings and records. Travis County encourages citizen participation in the development of its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), particularly in low- to moderate- income target areas.

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities and non-English speaking populations will be made. Meetings will be made accessible by choosing locations that are ADA compliant, when available. In addition, Census data will be analyzed to identify areas where non-English speakers

reside. If more than 25% of the population within the precinct speaks a language other than English, interpreters speaking those languages may be present at public hearings.

C. Notice of Public Hearings

Travis County HHSVS will post notices of the public hearings, including the times, dates, and locations, at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the hearing. Notices may be posted in any of the following ways: Newspapers of general circulation, Travis County Community Centers, social service agencies that target low- to moderate- income residents, Travis County website, public access TV station, radio, mail outs, list serves, etc.

D. Public Hearings

Consolidated Plan:

Travis County's Consolidated Plan is developed through a collaborative process. Citizen Participation is critical to the development of the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan that identifies needs and sets priorities, outcomes and objectives in the unincorporated areas of Travis County for a five-year period.

To elicit public input on the needs of those living in the unincorporated areas of Travis County for the development of the Consolidated Plan, Travis County HHSVS will hold public hearings at several locations throughout the County in two different formats to acquire information. Public Hearings are held at two different times throughout the development of the Consolidated Plan. All hearings will include an overview of the amount of funds expected from CDBG, the purpose and intent of CDBG dollars, and eligible activities.

1. Public hearings will be held to inform the Needs Assessment, and will ask participants for input regarding their housing, community development and public service needs.
 - a) Two (2) meetings will be held at Travis County Commissioners Court during the normally scheduled voting session. These public hearings will be held in the traditional public hearing format with oral testimony.
 - b) At least one (1) public hearing will be held in each of the four (4) precincts. These hearings will be structured as an information session regarding the uses of CDBG, with facilitated discussion and decision-making for meaningful, comprehensive input from participants regarding their housing, community development and public service needs.
2. After the development of the Consolidated Plan for public comment, public hearings will be held to inform and enable the community to comment on the proposed uses of CDBG funds.
 - a) During the thirty (30) day review period, two (2) public hearings will be held at the Travis County Commissioners Court during the normally scheduled voting session. These public hearings will be held in the traditional public hearing format with oral testimony.

Annual Action Plan:

Each year the County must submit an annual Action Plan to HUD reporting how the year's funding allocation for CDBG will be used to achieve the goals outlined in the five-year Consolidated Plan. In the year that the Consolidated Plan is developed, the public hearings for input on the Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan will be held at the same time. The public hearings will be outlined in the following manner:

1. Public hearings will be held to ask participants for input for the year's proposed Action Plan, including funding allocations.
 - a) One (1) hearing will be held at Travis County Commissioners Court during the normally scheduled voting session. These public hearings will be held in the traditional public hearing format with oral testimony.
 - b) At least one (1) public hearing will be held in each of the four (4) precincts. These hearings will be structured as an information session regarding the uses of CDBG, with facilitated discussion and decision-making for meaningful, comprehensive input from participants.
2. After the development of the Action Plan for public comment, public hearings will be held to inform and enable the community to comment on the proposed uses of CDBG funds.
 - a) During the thirty (30) day review period, two (2) public hearings will be held at the Travis County Commissioners Court during the normally scheduled voting session. These public hearings will be held in the traditional public hearing format with oral testimony.

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports:

The County is required to submit annually by December 30th a CAPER to HUD that describes the County's progress in meeting the goals within the Consolidated Plan.

1. After the development of the CAPER for public comment, a public hearing will be held to receive oral comment on Travis County's performance.
 - a) During the fifteen (15) day review period, one (1) public hearing will be held at the Travis County Commissioners Court during the normally scheduled voting session. The public hearing will be held in the traditional public hearing format with oral testimony.

E. Surveys

For the development of the five-year Consolidated Plan, surveys will be used in various ways in order to assess citizens' perceptions of their needs. Surveys will be sent via list serve to public agencies that serve residents in the incorporated areas. Surveys will also be used to collect data at the public hearings. In addition, survey boards will be placed in five (5) of the Travis County Community Centers as well as other strategic locations to increase resident participation in the information gathering process. Surveys will be available in both English and Spanish. For other accommodations, contact the CDBG office at 854-3460.

F. Access to Information, Records and Response to Public Comments

Information will be provided to residents, public agencies and other interested parties, including those most affected by proposed projects. Opportunities to receive information, review documents and submit comments will be provided with reasonable notice and time allowed. The information will be retained and available for public review for no less than five years after approval by Travis County Commissioners Court.

Throughout the CPP, Travis County Commissioners Court is mentioned as a source of information. Travis County Commissioners Court is televised and close captioned on the public access channel, and repeats several times throughout the week. The Travis County Commissioners Court agenda is posted via the Travis County website prior to each voting session in accordance with applicable laws. The County website is located at www.co.travis.tx.us.

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities and for non-English speaking populations will be made upon request and as appropriate. To request information, documents, records or accommodations, contact via telephone at 512.854.3460 or via mail to:

Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service
CDBG Program
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, TX 78767

Citizen Participation Plan:

Travis County HHS/VS will draft the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) and present it to the Travis County Commissioners Court during a regularly scheduled voting session. After presentation to Travis County Commissioners Court, the CPP will be posted for written comment for one (1) week prior to approval by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

Comments on the CPP may be received via phone and email to the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service CDBG staff. The CPP will be posted on the Travis County website and copies will be located at the seven (7) Travis County Community Centers for public review.

Consolidated Plan:

Travis County HHSVS will draft the Consolidated Plan and present it to the Travis County Commissioners Court during a regularly scheduled voting session. After presentation to Travis County Commissioners Court, the Plan will be posted for written comment for thirty (30) days prior to approval by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

Comments on the Plan may be received in writing via email or regular mail to the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service CDBG staff. The Plan will be posted on the Travis County website and copies will be located at the seven (7) Travis County Community Centers for public review. Summaries of the Plan may be available at other locations throughout the unincorporated areas of Travis County. Notification of availability of the draft will appear in newspaper(s) of general circulation.

Annual Action Plan:

Travis County HHSVS staff will draft the Annual Action Plan and present it to the Travis County Commissioners Court during a regularly scheduled voting session. After presentation to Travis County Commissioners Court, the Action Plan will be posted for written comment for thirty (30) days prior to approval by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

Comments on the Action Plan may be received in writing via email or regular mail to the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service CDBG staff. The Plan will be posted on the Travis County website and copies will be located at the seven (7) Travis County Community Centers for public review.

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER):

Travis County is required to submit annually by December 30th a CAPER to HUD that describes the County's progress in meeting the goals in the Consolidated Plan.

Travis County will draft the CAPER and present it to the Travis County Commissioners Court during a regularly scheduled voting session. After presentation to Travis County Commissioners Court, the CAPER will be posted for written comment for fifteen (15) days prior to approval by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

Comments on the CAPER may be received in writing via email or regular mail to the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service CDBG staff. The CAPER will be posted on the Travis County website and will be located at the seven (7) Travis County Community Centers for public review.

Travis County will document and report all public comments from citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties in preparing its final submissions. Public comments will be considered when feasible and beneficial, preceding final approval of Travis County Commissioners Court.

For public comment on the Citizen Participation Plan, Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan or CAPER contact:

Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service
CDBG Program
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, TX 78767

G. Amendments to the Citizen Participation Plan

Once approved by the Travis County Commissioners Court, any changes to the Citizen Participation Plan must go through a fifteen (15) day public comment period after the draft presentation to the Travis County Commissioners Court. Any written comments may be sent to the above referenced address.

Travis County will document and report all public comments from citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties in preparing its final submission. Public comments will be considered when feasible and beneficial, preceding final approval of Travis County Commissioners Court.

H. Substantial Amendments to Consolidated Plan/Action Plan

When the location or beneficiaries of a project proposed under the Consolidated Plan or Action Plan are changed, the scope of the project is increased or reduced by more than 25%, or a new project is funded that was not originally subject to public review, Travis County HHSVS shall amend its plan. The amendment process includes public notice, a thirty (30) day public comment period, and a public hearing at Travis County Commissioners Court.

As necessary, such notice may also include a public hearing in the precinct in which the project has been changed or added. Amendments to the Consolidated Plan may take place at any time during the program year.

Travis County will document and report all public comments from citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties in preparing its final submissions. Public comments will be considered when feasible and beneficial, preceding final approval of Travis County Commissioners Court.

I. Technical Assistance

Technical assistance will be made available by appropriate Travis County staff to assist low- and moderate-income representative groups or agencies that request such assistance in developing proposals for funding assistance under this consolidated plan. Appropriate staff will be assigned based on expertise required for the specific proposal. The TCHHS/VS Executive Manager determines the level and types of assistance to be provided at any time based on a number of considerations including, but not limited to, space, expense, and staff workloads.

J. Response to Complaints

During the CDBG planning and implementation process, complaints and feedback are encouraged and expected. All complaints must be in writing. If a person is unable to provide the complaint in writing for any reason, assistance may be provided.

Complaints need to include the resident's name, address and daytime telephone number, if applicable, in case TCHHSVS staff need to clarify the nature of the complaint.

Complaints or Grievances need to be sent to:

Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service
CDBG Program
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, TX 78767

All written complaints will receive a timely written response mailed within fifteen (15) days of receipt of it. This written response will provide appropriate, substantive feedback to the resident. If CDBG Staff is unable to be compliant with the fifteen (15) day period, the complainant will be notified of an approximate date a response will be provided.

It is up to the discretion of the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Department to determine if a public hearing regarding an issue is needed. If a public hearing is needed, appropriate notice and location(s) of the hearing will be made, depending upon the implications of the issue.

Effective Date

Upon approval of Travis County Commissioners Court, The Citizen Participation plan is effective as of 4/11/06.

B. Citizen Engagement

Executive Summary

Effective citizen engagement was critical in determining areas of need, barriers to services, underserved populations, and gaps in existing services in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. Both Travis County residents and service providers were contacted to provide information on the aforementioned topics. Methods used to acquire input included public hearings, a provider forum, and online and written surveys. The following pages detail Travis County's efforts to engage the public in determining community needs.

Common themes emerged from both residents and providers. Barriers, gaps and needs in the unincorporated areas converged around similar crucial elements including: infrastructure (water/wastewater, roads, and utilities), workforce development, home repair, increased amounts of and access to affordable housing, improved access to and increased amounts of social services, and expanded transportation and child care services. Specific underserved populations identified by both residents and providers include: the elderly, youth, persons with disabilities, and persons who speak English as a second language.

Primary needs discussed in public hearings include water and wastewater infrastructure, code enforcement and cleanup of dumping, home repair, and small business loans. In the area of public services, the primary needs identified were senior and youth services, legal advocacy and education for housing issues, and increased access to transportation services.

Primary needs discussed in provider consultations include identification of client needs in unincorporated areas, resources for housing (especially infrastructure for affordable housing development), housing education, improved roads, services accessible to people speaking languages other than English, and increased access to transportation and child care.

Primary needs identified in the on-line provider survey include job creation, improved accessibility for disabled persons, neighborhood infrastructure improvements, affordable housing (both rental and owner), housing information and referral, home repairs, transitional housing, job training and childcare.

Primary needs identified in the resident written surveys include neighborhood infrastructure, job creation, improved accessibility for disabled, park improvements, home repairs, water/septic repair or installation, senior services, job training, and emergency food assistance.

In addition to the aforementioned summaries, this section summarizes the results of citizen engagement efforts for Travis County's amendment of its original Consolidated Plan. After final

submission of the original Consolidated Plan, HUD discovered an error in the amount initially allocated to Travis County. Subsequently, Travis County’s allocation was reduced from \$2,449,337 to \$838,659. Due to the scope of the reduction, the substantial amendment process was initiated. The amendment process occurred in October and November of 2006 and included one public hearing and a fifteen-day public comment period.

At the time of the November 2006 amendment, Travis County chose only to address the Action Plan for program year 2006, and to re-evaluate the strategic direction later. In August of 2007, Travis County addressed the strategic direction as it relates to the reduced allocation. The amendment to the strategic direction results from the information gathered through the citizen engagement process in 2006 and 2007, and the original needs assessment data gathered in 2006. While the amendment to the strategic direction is not required to go through a public comment period, the scope of the change is substantial enough to warrant Travis County’s interest in eliciting public comment.

Concurrent with the changes to the strategic direction, staff assessed the progress of each project and made recommendations to the Travis County Commissioners Court to substantially amend the Year One (PY06) Action Plan. The substantial amendment process was instituted due to the deletion of the Youth and Family Assessment Center Flex Fund Expansion, a public service project.

The amendment to the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan’s strategic direction and the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan occurred at the same time as the draft of the PY07 Action Plan. Two public hearings were held to receive comment during the 30-day public comment period.

Information below details the results from each of the four original engagement methods (public hearings, provider consultations, online provider surveys, written resident surveys) as well as the amendment engagement efforts. Detailed notes are found in Attachments A, B, C, and D.

Public Hearings

In Travis County’s initial consolidated planning process, a total of seven (7) public hearings gathered information from residents on their community development, housing, and public service needs. At each hearing, participants received information on the anticipated CDBG allocation, eligible activities, and the project planning process, and were given time to comment on their needs. See Attachment A for detailed public hearing results.

The hearings were held according to the schedule below:

	Locations of Hearings	Dates/Times of Hearings
Community-wide Hearing	Travis County Commissioners Court, Granger Building	Tuesday, April 11, 2006 9:00am
Precinct 1	TNR Satellite 1 (9301 Johnnie Morris Road)	Monday, April 17, 2006 7:00pm
Precinct 2	Travis County Community Center, Pflugerville	Saturday, April 22, 2006 10:00 am

Precinct 3	West Rural Community Center, Oakhill	Wednesday, April 26, 2006 7:00pm
Precinct 3	Northwest Rural Community Center, Jonestown	Thursday, April 27, 2006 7:00pm
Precinct 4	South Rural Community Center, Del Valle	Thursday, April 20, 2006 7:00pm
Community-wide Hearing	Travis County Commissioners Court, Granger Building	Tuesday, May 2, 2006 9:00am

Two community-wide hearings were held in Commissioners Court on April 11th and May 2nd, 2006. At these hearings, comments were taken in the traditional hearing format. At the first hearing on April 11th, two representatives from non-profit social service providers attended and testified on behalf of the clients they served. They expressed a need for increased services for adult victims of domestic violence, improved transportation, road repairs, and services for the elderly. At the second and final public hearing on May 2nd, one resident attended and testified on his own behalf. The resident expressed a need for a road repair on a road leading to his residence that is currently inaccessible to emergency vehicles.

Five public hearings were held at public facilities in rural areas, one each in Precincts 1, 2, and 4, and two in Precinct 3 due to its size. At these hearings, comments were received after information regarding the intent of CDBG funds was presented. All participants were given several minutes to comment on their needs, which were then listed on large pieces of paper on the wall. After each resident commented on his or her needs, facilitated decision-making was used to determine priorities. After the lists were completed, each participant was given three sets of three dot stickers to place on the paper next to the potential project ideas they felt were most important. For each participant, three dots could be placed in public services, three in community development, and three in housing. One of the public hearings in Precinct 3 had only one participant. Therefore no prioritization was done on the needs identified by that resident.

Summary of Results

Precinct 1

Twenty-nine (29) residents attended, two of whom were representatives of non-profit agencies speaking on behalf of their clients. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- Most of the testimony dealt with a lack of access to running water. Residents in economically disenfranchised areas had wells that were running dry, and no infrastructure to access the area water utility.
- Residents also discussed strong need for waste water systems, fire hydrants, clean up of dumping and code enforcement, erosion abatement and flood control.
- Regarding housing, the primary need expressed was for home repair and greater access to affordable housing.
- Regarding public services, legal advocacy, an additional community center, and youth services led in priority needs.

Precinct 2

No residents attended the public hearing in Precinct 2.

Precinct 3

Six (6) residents attended, three of whom were representatives of Travis County Departments. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- The primary concerns were the need for waste water systems, road repairs, and a small business loan.
- Regarding housing, the primary needs identified were home repair and more affordable housing, especially rental housing.
- In the area of public services, needs expressed were services for the elderly/homebound (meals and healthcare), training for emergency workers, and legal advocacy.

Precinct 4

Twelve (12) residents attended, two of whom were representatives of non-profit agencies speaking on behalf of their clients. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- Primary needs in regards to neighborhood development included a need for a multi-use facility in the area's County Park, road improvements, utility infrastructure, water/waste water systems, and small business loans.
- In the area of housing, residents expressed need for home repair and down payment assistance.
- Regarding public services, the primary needs were for youth services, transportation, homebuyer education, and senior services.

Public Hearing to Amend the Consolidated Plan, November 2006

On September 25th, Travis County received notification via telephone that its Consolidated Plan was disallowed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The plan was disallowed due to an error in the calculation of Travis County's allocation amount for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. A letter explaining the Plan's disallowed status arrived on October 9, 2006. The initial allocation of \$2,449,337, is now reduced to \$838,659.

Due to the scope of the reduction, the substantial amendment process was initiated. To expedite the amendment, HUD allowed Travis County to be temporarily out of compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP). HUD allowed for a 15-day public comment period rather than the 30-day comment period outlined in the CPP.

The public comment period for the amended Consolidated Plan commenced November 15, 2006, and ended November 29, 2006. In addition to posting the Plan for public comment, a public hearing was held in the Commissioners Courtroom on November 28, 2006. A summary of the public comments is included in Section V of the Plan. Detailed results of the public comments submitted in writing and collected during the public hearing can be found in Attachment B.

Citizen Participation to Amend the Consolidated Plan, August 2007

At the time of the November 2006 amendment, Travis County chose only to address the Action Plan for program year 2006, and to re-evaluate the strategic direction later. In August of 2007, Travis County addressed the strategic direction as it relates to the reduced allocation. The amendment to the strategic direction results from the information gathered through the citizen engagement process in 2006 and 2007, and the original needs assessment data gathered in 2006.

While the amendment to the strategic direction is not required to go through a public comment period, the scope of the change is substantial enough to warrant Travis County's interest in eliciting public comment. During the information gathering public hearings for the PY07 Action Plan, feedback from citizens was requested to assist the Court with narrowing the strategic direction. A dotting exercise detailed in Appendix A details the exercise conducted and the results. In addition, the Court requested citizen feedback during the last phase of the citizen participation process.

Concurrent with the changes to the strategic direction, staff assessed the progress of each project and made recommendations to the Travis County Commissioners Court to substantially amend the Year One (PY06) Action Plan. The substantial amendment process was instituted due to the deletion of the Youth and Family Assessment Center Flex Fund Expansion, a public service project. The services to 30 youth will still be provided, but through the Travis County General Fund. In addition, timelines for projects were updated and more detailed information was provided for the Substandard Road Street Improvement project located in Apache Shores and the Land Acquisition Project with Habitat for Humanity. The approved Citizen Participation Plan requires a 30-day comment period along with one public hearing at the Travis County Commissioners Court.

During the week of June 4, 2007, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed amendment to the strategic direction, the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan and the draft of the PY07 Action Plan. The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 30-day public comment period commenced June 20, 2007 and ended July 19, 2007. Two public hearings were held at the Travis County Commissioners Courtroom during the 30-day public comment period on June 26, 2007, and July 10, 2007, to receive testimony for all three actions.

The changes to the changes to the strategic direction are located in Section IV and Appendices A & B. The changes related to the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan are located in Section V and Appendix B.

Provider Consultation Forum

On May 10, 2006, twenty-seven representatives from twenty-two agencies attended a facilitated forum. After a presentation on Travis County's anticipated CDBG allocation, funding intent, eligible activities, and preliminary results from the provider survey, representatives were broken into two groups: Public Services and Housing/Community Planning. See Attachment B for the detailed consultation results.

Summary of Results

Agencies Attending

- Neighborhood Housing Services of Austin
- Capital Area Food Bank
- Texas Reach Out
- Austin Tenants Council
- Austin Habitat for Humanity
- SafePlace
- True Light
- Foundation Communities
- DA's Office, Re-entry Roundtable
- Community Action Network
- City of Austin Housing
- Services for the Elderly
- Arc of the Capital Area
- Children's Wellness Clinic, University of Texas
- Prevent Blindness Texas
- Capital IDEA
- The Family Link
- WorkSource (Local Work Force Development Board)
- Palmer Drug Abuse Program
- Goodwill
- MHMR (Local Mental Health, MR Authority)
- Travis County Housing Finance Corporation

Services Offered

Agencies attending the forum served a wide range of clients, from low- to moderate- income groups and all special populations, such as the elderly, people with disabilities, youth, ex-offenders, and victims. Agencies offered a full range of services, including all eligible activities under CDBG housing and public services efforts.

Barriers to Services

Public service providers discussed the limited availability of transportation, a lack of childcare options, language barriers, and lack of awareness of services as barriers to receiving services.

Housing providers discussed the difficulty in identifying clients most in need in the unincorporated areas. A key barrier to finding affordable housing in the unincorporated areas was not the cost of the lot on which to build, but rather the cost of the necessary infrastructure (i.e. water/waste water systems, utility lines, sidewalks, and drainage systems). In addition, they discussed the difficulty of finding affordable housing for people with very low incomes due to the cost of housing, as well as getting enough low income families qualified to buy a home. Other barriers include outstanding utility debt, lack of transportation, lack of childcare, language barriers, and a lack of code enforcement.

Gaps in Existing Services

Public service providers identified the following service gaps in the unincorporated areas: transportation, lack of services in the area, poor/substandard roads, language barriers, and isolation. Housing providers identified gaps in housing services for home repair, affordable housing programs, and public education regarding resources and services.

Underserved Populations

Public service providers identified underserved populations as: people who speak English as a second language, immigrants, dropouts, the homeless, people with cognitive and physical disabilities, the working poor, people with substance abuse issues, at-risk youth, victims, and offenders.

Housing providers identified underserved populations as: people who speak English as a second language, teen parents, low- to very low-income residents, people with disabilities, the elderly, and people with a criminal history.

Provider Surveys

An electronic survey was utilized to collect information from housing, community development, and public service providers in Travis County. See Attachment C for the detailed results of the provider survey. Providers were asked to limit responses to a maximum of three representatives per agency. The survey had a total of 48 respondents from the following agencies:

1. Austin Travis County MHMR Center (2)
2. Austin/Travis Co. Health & Human Services
3. Adult Probation
4. Services For The Elderly, Inc. (2)
5. Santa Barbara Catholic Church
6. Housing Authority of Texas
7. Austin Tenants' Council
8. Family Eldercare
9. Palmer Drug Abuse Program
10. Austin Interfaith
11. Austin Tenants Council (2)
12. Prevent Blindness Texas
13. Lisa's H.O.P.E. Chest
14. Advocates for Human Potential
15. BCL of Texas
16. Foundation Communities (2)
17. Texas Reach Out Inc.
18. Skillpoint Alliance
19. WorkSource
20. Texas Low Income Housing
21. Faith in Action Caregivers - Northeast Austin
22. SafePlace
23. Communities in Schools
24. The Arc of the Capital Area
25. Capital IDEA (2)
26. Austin Public Library
27. Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, Inc. (3)
28. Neighborhood Housing Services
29. East Austin Economic Development Corporation
30. Academic Research Associates
31. City of Austin
32. HTMLaddict.com
33. Breast Cancer Resource Center
34. Diocese of Austin
35. Del-Valle ISD
36. UT School of Nursing Children's Wellness Center
37. Heart House
38. Capital Area Food Bank
39. Jewish Family Service
40. Network for Life of Austin, Inc.
41. St. Louis King of France Catholic Church

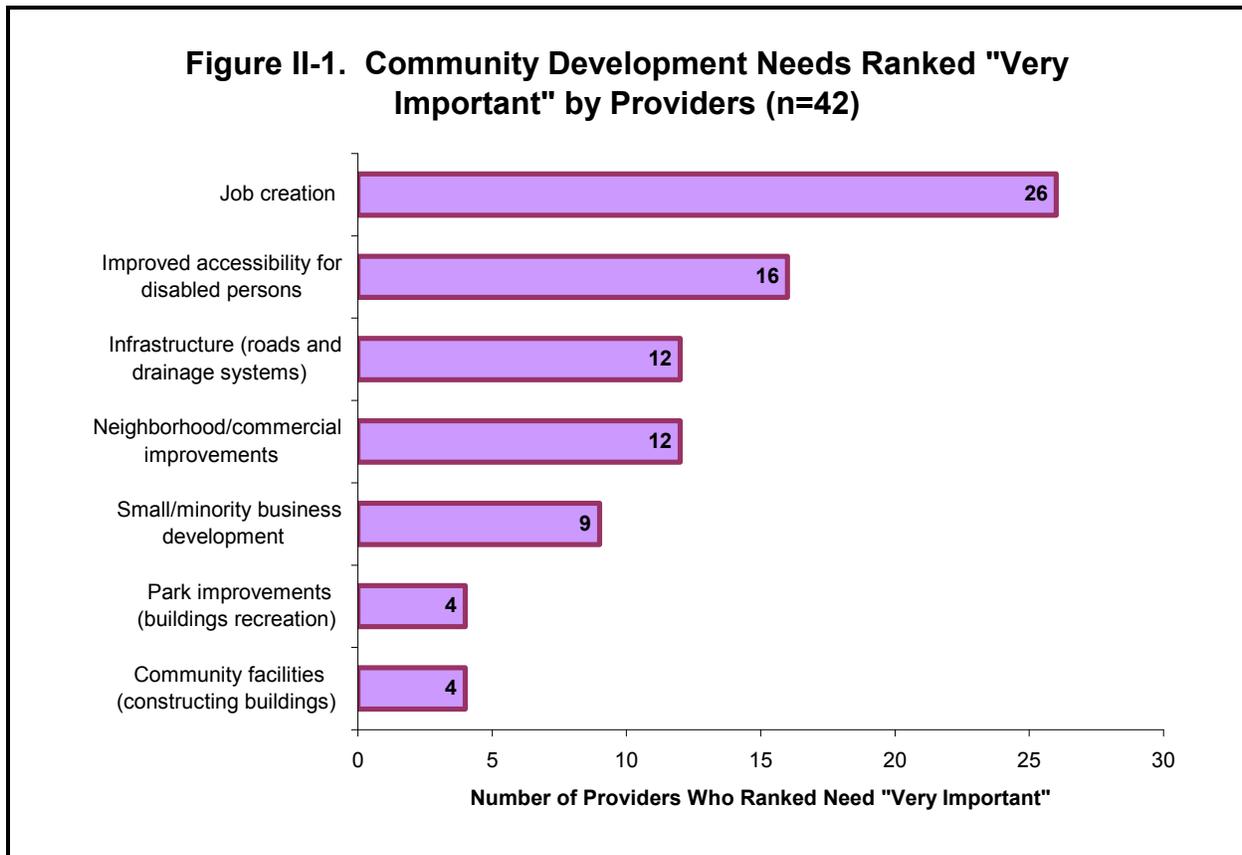
Summary of Results

Community Development Needs

The highest needs identified (marked as somewhat or very important) were:

- Job creation (35 of 42 respondents)
- Improved accessibility for disabled persons (30 of 42)
- Neighborhood improvements (23 of 42)
- Small/minority business development (22 of 42)
- Community facilities (21 of 42)

Least important identified needs were park improvements and roads and drainage systems.



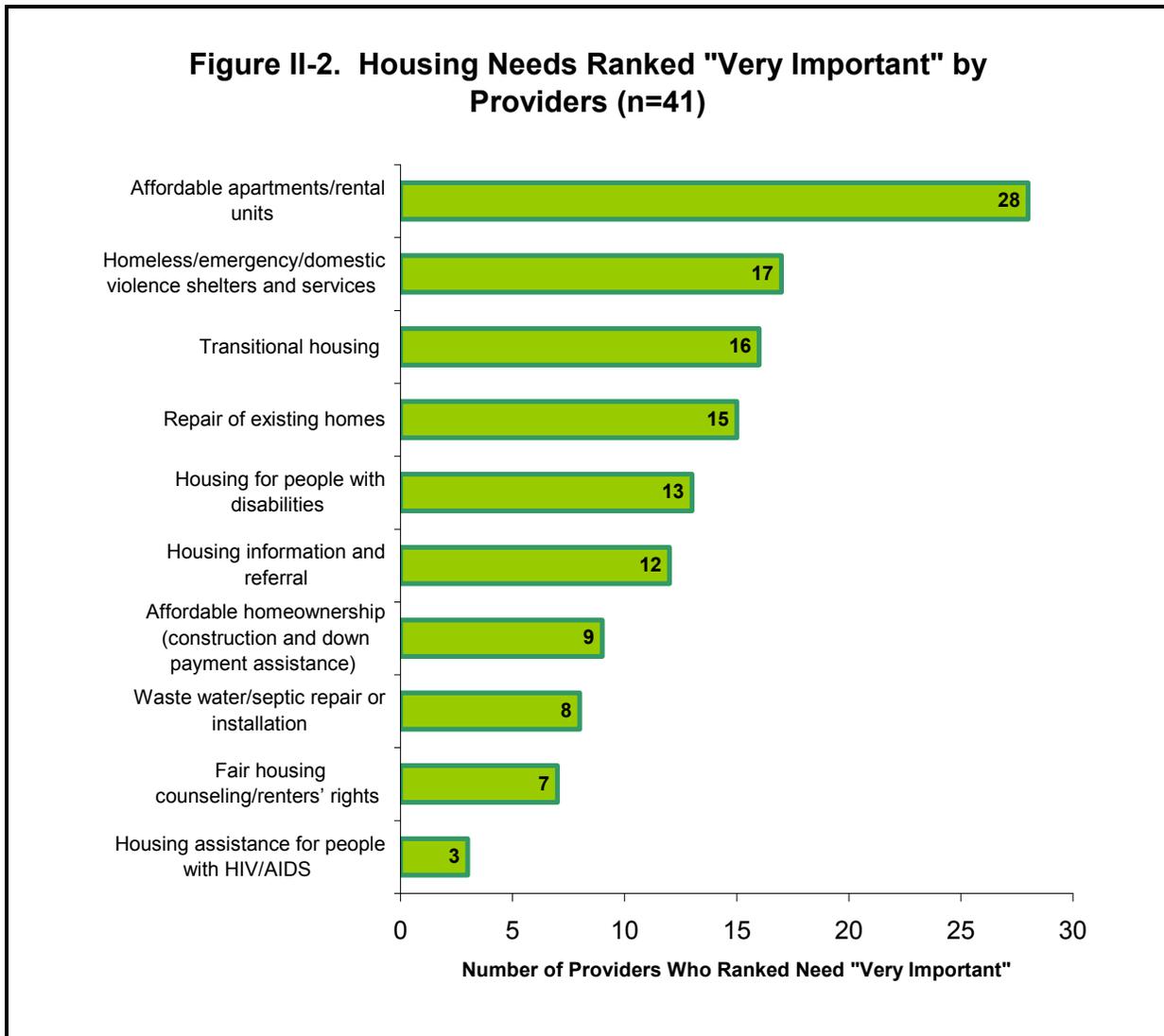
Housing Needs

The majority of clients served by providers are renters. (Marked as 1 or 2 priority by 33 of 41 respondents.)

The highest needs identified were:

- Affordable rental units (33 of 41 respondents)
- Housing information and referral (32 of 41)
- Affordable homeownership (29 of 41)
- Repair of existing homes (28 of 41)
- Transitional Housing (27 of 41) and housing for people with disabilities (27 of 41).

The least important identified needs were wastewater/septic repair and housing assistance for people with HIV/AIDS.



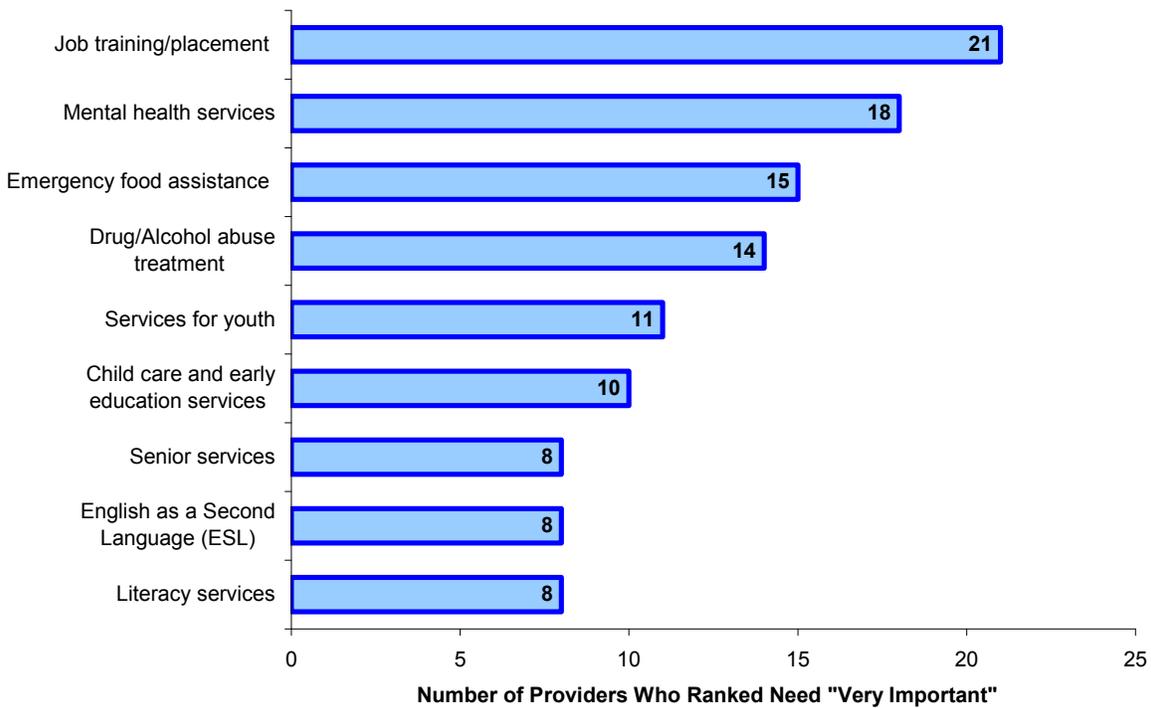
Public Service Needs

The highest needs identified were:

- Job training and placement (32 of 41 respondents)
- Childcare and early education (30 of 41)
- Mental health services (29 of 41)
- Drug/alcohol abuse treatment (27 of 41)
- Emergency food assistance (26 of 41)

The least important identified needs were senior services and English as a second language services.

Figure II-3. Public Service Needs Ranked "Very Important" by Providers (n=41)



Resident Surveys

Surveys were available at the public hearings and at each rural community center. In addition, several surveys were completed and submitted by mail. A total of thirty surveys were received.

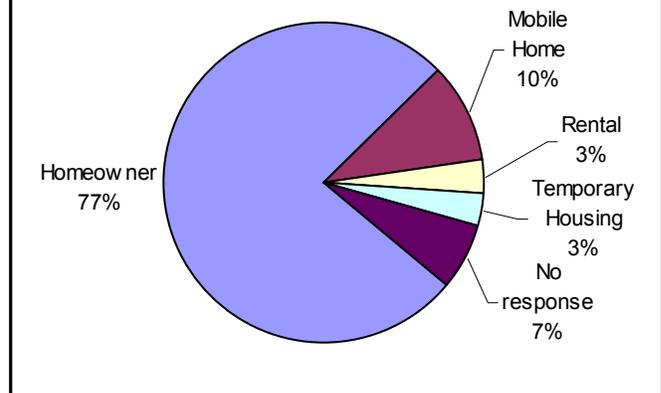
See Attachment D for detailed results of the resident surveys.

Summary of Results

Characteristics of respondents:

Survey respondents' household sizes ranged from 1 person to 8 people, with an average household size of 3.2 people. The monthly housing costs of survey respondents ranged from \$0 to \$1,900, with an average monthly cost of \$505.25. The majority of survey respondents were homeowners, as illustrated by Figure II-4 at right.

Figure II-4. Housing Type of Survey Respondents (n=30)



Community Development Needs

Seven items were included in the list of community development needs, with a blank space for “other need” if respondents wished to specify an additional concern. Respondents ranked needs on a scale of 1 to 5, and also selected their top three priorities from the list. Figure II-5 shows the average rankings of each need.

Figure II-5. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
Need	Average Ranking*
Infrastructure	1.40
Job creation	1.47
Improved accessibility for disabled	1.47
Park improvements	1.53
Community facilities	1.63
Neighborhood/commercial improvements	1.63
Small/minority business development	1.73
Other community development need	2.13

**Note: 1 = Highest ranking, 3 = neutral, 5 = lowest ranking*

Housing Needs

Ten items were included in the list of housing needs, with a blank space for “other need” if respondents wished to specify an additional concern. Respondents ranked needs on a scale of 1 to 5, and also selected their top three priorities from the list. Figure II-6 shows the average rankings of each need.

Figure II-6. HOUSING	
Need	Average Ranking*
Repair of existing homes	1.20
Waste water/septic repair or installation	1.27
Affordable homeownership	1.63
Housing for people with disabilities	1.63
Homeless/emergency/domestic violence shelters and services	1.70
Fair housing counseling/renters' rights	1.73
Affordable apartments/rental units	1.87
Housing information and referral	2.03
Housing assistance for people with HIV/AIDS	2.13
Transitional housing	2.27
Other housing need	2.27

**Note: 1 = Highest ranking, 3 = neutral, 5 = lowest ranking*

Public Service Needs

Nine items were included in the list of public service needs, with a blank space for “other need” if respondents wished to specify an additional concern. Respondents ranked needs on a scale of 1 to 5, and also selected their top three priorities from the list. Figure II-7 shows the average rankings of each need.

Figure II-7. PUBLIC SERVICES	
Need	Average Ranking*
Senior services	1.40
Job training/placement	1.43
Services for youth	1.60
Rent/utility/food assistance	1.63
Child care and early education services	1.67
Drug/alcohol abuse treatment	1.80
Mental health services	1.80
Literacy services	2.00
English as a second language	2.03
Other public service need	2.33

**Note: 1 = Highest ranking, 3 = neutral, 5 = lowest ranking*

Notes:

1. Some survey respondents did not complete the survey as directed. Several respondents assigned X marks to priority needs rather than numerical rankings. In these instances, the highest priority ranking was assigned to the needs marked with an X, and all others were assigned a neutral value.
2. Some respondents did not complete the priority needs sections of the surveys. For this reason, although there are 30 surveys in the sample, priority needs may not add up to 30.



Travis County

Section III: Community Needs

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



A. Housing and Homeless Needs Assessment

Housing Needs by Income and Occupancy Type

Housing Needs by Household Income

In total, 113,476 Travis County households face a housing problem¹. **Very low-income (less than or equal to 30% MFI) and low-income (up to 50% MFI) households in Travis County face housing problems at the highest rates:** Of the county's low- and very low-income households, 80% (61,524 households) face one or more housing problems. By comparison, 49% of moderate-income households (up to 80% MFI) and 35% of all households in the county face one or more housing problems.

Figure III-1: Travis County Households with a Housing Problem by Household Income

	Total Number of Households	Percent of Households with Any Housing Problems	Number of Households with a Housing Problem
Household Income <=30% MFI	41,486	80.0%	33,189
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	35,331	80.2%	28,335
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	58,991	48.6%	28,670
Household Income >80% MFI	184,745	12.6%	23,278
Total Households ²	320,553	35.4%	113,476

Source: CHAS Data Book, 2000

Cost burden is the most frequent housing problem. Of the 113,476 Travis County households with a housing problem, 83% (94,563 households) face a cost burden (i.e. pay more than 30% of household income on housing expenses) and 37% face a severe cost burden (i.e. pay more than 50% of household income on housing expenses.) **Very low-income households are most likely to face a severe cost burden:** Of the estimated 41,992 Travis County households facing a severe cost burden, 66% (27,588) of these are very low income.

Figure III-2: Travis County Households with a Housing Cost Burden by Household Income

	Total Number of Households	Percent of Households with Cost Burden (> 30%)	Number of Households with Cost Burden (> 30%)	Percent of Households with Severe Cost Burden (> 50%)	Number of Households with Severe Cost Burden (> 50%)
Household Income <=30% MFI	41,486	76.9%	31,903	66.5%	27,588
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	35,331	72.3%	25,544	25.4%	8,974
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	58,991	38.2%	22,535	6.2%	3,657
Household Income >80% MFI	184,745	7.9%	14,595	1.0%	1,847
Total Households	320,553	29.5%	94,563	13.1%	41,992

Source: CHAS Data Book, 2000

¹ Housing problems may include a cost burden greater than 30% of income, overcrowding and/or housing without complete kitchen or plumbing facilities.

² Due to rounding in data set, the estimated number of households in need of housing assistance is approximate and estimated households in need of housing in each income bracket will not add up to total number of households in need of housing assistance. This is true for each Figure in this section for which the source is the CHAS Data Book, 2000.

Housing Needs of Renters and Owners

An estimated 113,476 (or 34.4%) of Travis County households face a housing problem (which may include a cost burden, overcrowding and/or housing without complete kitchen or plumbing facilities). **Renter households are more likely to face housing problems than are owner households.** This is in part because low and very low-income households are more highly represented among renter households, yet even within most income categories, renters are more likely to face housing problems than are owners. Among very low-income households, 81.4% of renters face housing problems, compared to 75.4% of owners. Nearly 87% of low-income renters face housing problems, compared to 64.5% of low-income owners.

Figure III-3: Travis County Households with a Housing Problem: Renter and Owner Households by Income

	Renters			Owners		
	Total Renter Households	Percent with Any Housing Problems	Number with Any Housing Problems	Total Owner Households	Percent with Any Housing Problems	Number with Any Housing Problems
Household Income <=30% MFI	32,274	81.4%	26,271	9,212	75.4%	6,946
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	24,910	86.8%	21,622	10,421	64.5%	6,722
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	36,503	47.6%	17,375	22,488	50.1%	11,266
Household Income >80% MFI	61,754	13.5%	8,337	122,991	12.2%	15,005
Total Households*	155,441	47.3%	73,524	165,112	24.2%	39,957

Source: Chas Data Book, 2000

Housing Needs of Special Household Types

Elderly Households

The elderly population in Travis County continues to show a strong growth pattern as a population group. The elderly live a distinctive lifestyle requiring numerous supportive services, and the demand for these services will continue to rise. 2040, adults age 60 and older will account for 27% of the population of the ten-county region that includes Travis County, as compared to 11% in 2000. Altogether, there are projected to be more than 730,000 adults age 60 or older in 2040, compared to about 149,000 in 2000 (Community Action Network Community Conditions Report, 2006). These conditions emphasize the growing need for services and facilities for elderly and disabled persons in the county. The needs to be addressed for this population include: transportation, medical care and prescription medications, mobility assistance, assistance in daily activities such as meal preparation and housekeeping, and physical rehabilitative care due to injury/falls (City of Austin Consolidated Plan, 2004-2009).

Figure III-4 shows the current numbers of renter and owner households by income group for the elderly population. Comparing the data in Figures III-3 and III-4 reveals that overall, one- or two-member **elderly households in Travis County experience housing problems at roughly the same rate as all Travis County households:** 51.5% of elderly renters (4,398 households) experience a housing problem compared to 47.3% of all renter households, and 22.3% of elderly homeowners (6,544 households) experience a housing problem compared to 24.2% of all owner households. However,

elderly renters with incomes under 50% of the median family income do experience housing problems at a slightly higher rate than that of all renter households.

Figure III-4: Travis County Households with a Housing Problem: One- and Two-Member Elderly Households

	Renters			Owners		
	Total Elderly Households	Percent with Any Housing Problems	Number with Any Housing Problems	Total Elderly Households	Percent with Any Housing Problems	Number with Any Housing Problems
Household Income <=30% MFI	2,729	61.5%	1,678	3,342	66.2%	2,212
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	1,626	76.0%	1,236	3,433	45.1%	1,548
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	1,638	54.8%	898	5,295	26.3%	1,393
Household Income >80% MFI	2,546	23.0%	586	17,277	8.0%	1,382
Total Households	8,539	51.5%	4,398	29,347	22.3%	6,544

Source, CHAS Data Book 2000

Households With a Member With a Disability

Travis County households with one or more members with a disability (under age 62) experience a housing problem at a slightly higher rate than all Travis County households. This is true for both renter and owner households with a disability, for which 54.5% and 32.1% face housing problems (compared to 47.3% and 24.2% for all Travis County renter and owner households respectively). Among households with a member with a disability, housing problems are most pronounced for very low-income owner households, of which 81.6% face a housing problem.

Figure III-5: Travis County Households with a Housing Problem: Persons with Disabilities (under age 62)

	Renters			Owners		
	Total with Disabilities (<62 yrs)	Percent with Any Housing Problems	Number with Any Housing Problems	Total with Disabilities (<62 yrs)	Percent with Any Housing Problems	Number with Any Housing Problems
Household Income <=30% MFI	2,910	77.5%	2,255	1,115	81.6%	910
Household Income >30 to <=50% MFI	1,910	79.6%	1,520	1,060	61.3%	650
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	2,370	50.8%	1,204	2,610	51.7%	1,349
Household Income >80% MFI	3,145	20.8%	654	7,880	14.7%	1,158
Total Households	10,335	54.5%	5,633	12,665	32.1%	4,065

Source, CHAS Data Book 2000

Large Families

In every income group, large related families (five or more members) experience housing problems at much higher rates than all Travis County households. 80.5% of large family renter households (9,039 households) and 40.8% of large family owner households (7,617 households) experience one or more housing problems (compared to 47.3% and 24.2% of all renter and owner households respectively).

Figure III-6: Travis County Households with a Housing Problem: Large Related Households (five or more members)

	Renters			Owners		
	Total Large Household Renters	Percent with Any Housing Problem	Number with Any Housing Problem	Total Large Household Owners	Percent with Any Housing Problem	Number with Any Housing Problem
Household Income <=30% MFI	2,550	92.2%	2,351	960	90.6%	870
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	2,470	92.9%	2,295	1,724	85.2%	1,469
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	2,885	80.2%	2,314	3,615	65.8%	2,379
Household Income >80% MFI	3,324	62.5%	2,078	12,370	23.4%	2,895
Total Households	11,229	80.5%	9,039	18,669	40.8%	7,617

Source, CHAS Data Book 2000

While a cost burden is the most common type of housing problem for Travis County households (83% of households facing a housing problem face a cost burden), **for large family households the most common problem is overcrowding** (defined as 1.01 or more persons per room, excluding kitchens and bathrooms).

Figure III-7: Housing Problems for Large Related Households by Cost Burden and Other Housing Problems

	Large Family Renters	Large Family Owners
Percent with any housing problems	80.5%	40.8%
Percent with a cost burden	31.5%	18.5%
Percent with other housing problem	49.0%	22.3%
Number with other housing problem	5,502	3,454

Source: CHAS Data Book, 2000

Although a breakdown of housing problems by problem type is not provided herein, a significant percentage of large family households face a housing problem other than a cost burden (see Figure III-7). This “other housing problem” is likely overcrowding, rather than substandard housing (i.e. lacking complete kitchen or plumbing facilities).

Figure III-8 below provides summary information regarding the number of households experiencing a housing problem by income group for each of the special household types described above. Again, what emerges as most significant from this table is the consistently higher incidence of housing problems among renter households, persons with disabilities, and large family households.

Figure III-8: Percent of Travis County Households with a Housing Problem by Household Type

	Renters				Owners			
	Elderly	Large Families	Persons with disabilities	All Renter Households	Elderly	Large Families	Persons with disabilities	All Owner Households
Household Income <=30% MFI	61.5%	92.2%	77.5%	81.4%	66.2%	90.6%	81.6%	75.4%
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	76.0%	92.9%	79.6%	86.8%	45.1%	85.2%	61.3%	64.5%
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	54.8%	80.2%	50.8%	47.6%	26.3%	65.8%	51.7%	50.1%
Household Income >80% MFI	23.0%	62.5%	20.8%	13.5%	8.0%	23.4%	14.7%	12.2%
Total Households	51.5%	80.5%	54.5%	47.3%	22.3%	40.8%	32.1%	24.2%

Source: Chas Data Book, 2000

Disproportionate Needs by Racial/Ethnic Group

Disproportionately greater need exists when the percentage of persons in a category of need who are members of a particular racial or ethnic group is at least ten percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in the category as a whole. **Hispanic households, and to a lesser extent Asian households, have a higher prevalence of housing problems as compared to all Travis County households.** Hispanic households (both renters and owners) face housing problems at a higher rate in each income category when compared to all renters or all owners. While there is not a disproportionately greater need in any one income category, a disproportionately greater need for housing assistance does exist within the Hispanic population overall. 59.8% of all Hispanic renters (compared to 47.3% of all Travis County renters) and 40% of Hispanic owners (compared to 24.2% of all Travis County owners) face a housing problem. Low and moderate-income Asian homeowners also face housing problems at a disproportionately greater rate as compared to all owner households (see Figure III-9 below).

Figure III-9: Travis County Households with a Housing Problem by Race and Hispanic Origin³

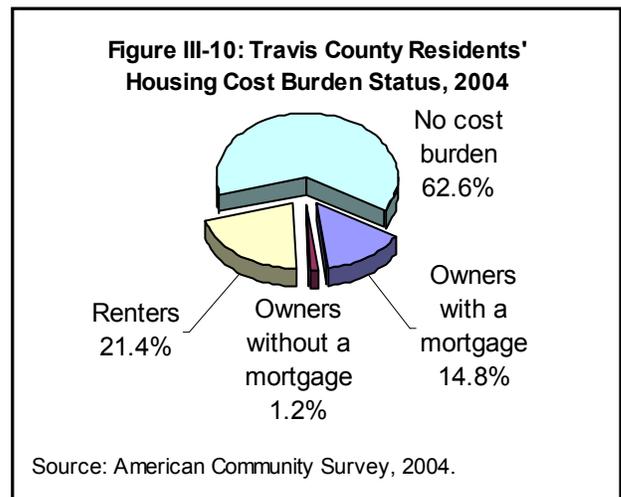
	Renters					Owners				
	Non-Hispanic Asian	Non-Hispanic Black	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic	All	Non-Hispanic Asian	Non-Hispanic Black	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic	All
Household Income <=30% MFI	72.8%	73.0%	83.2%	84.9%	81.4%	77.5%	69.5%	74.5%	79.6%	75.4%
Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI	90.8%	81.1%	87.6%	86.9%	86.8%	75.0%	60.2%	61.5%	70.1%	64.5%
Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI	50.8%	38.1%	46.5%	52.9%	47.6%	73.8%	44.7%	46.6%	58.1%	50.1%
Household Income >80% MFI	20.7%	11.4%	9.1%	27.5%	13.5%	21.6%	12.7%	10.5%	19.8%	12.2%
Total Households	51.1%	47.3%	41.4%	59.8%	47.3%	30.3%	30.1%	19.7%	40.0%	24.2%

Source: CHAS Data Book, 2000

Cost Burden Analysis

Paying more than 30% of household income on housing expenses constitutes a cost burden. **The majority of Travis County residents with a housing cost burden are renters.** Almost 15% are homeowners with a mortgage, and 1.2% are homeowners without a mortgage, likely spending more than 30% of their household income on property taxes. (See Figure III-10 at right.)

Between 1990 and 2000, the median cost of renting and the median housing value both increased more than did the median household income, making housing affordability more challenging for Travis County residents. Figure III-11 shows differences in housing costs by household income.



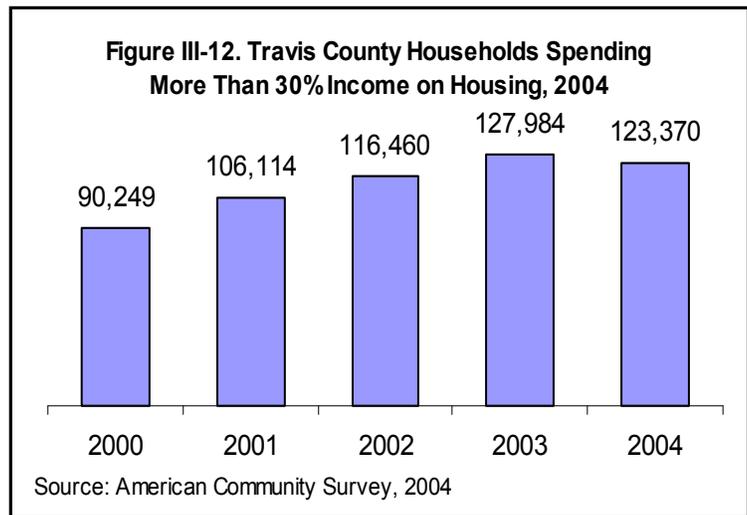
³ Race/Ethnic groups representing 5% or more of the total household population are included.

Figure III-11: Housing Costs Versus Household Income in Travis County, 1990-2000			
Housing Characteristics	1990	2000	% Change
Median Contract Rent	\$349	\$636	82.2%
Median Housing Value	\$77,700	\$134,700	73.4%
Median Household Income	\$27,488	\$46,761	70.1%

Source: U.S. Census 1990 & 2000

This trend continued in the following years. Though the total number of households spending 30% or more on housing costs decreased slightly between 2003 and 2004, Figure III-12 shows an overall increasing trend between 2000 and 2004. Affordable housing is a growing problem in Travis County.

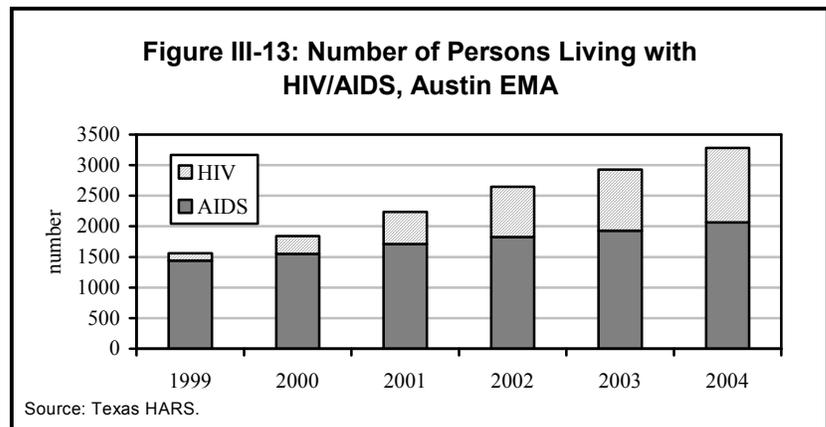
Of county residents who rent their homes, 48.0% (up from 39% in 2000) spent more than 30% of their annual income on housing costs during 2004⁴. This proportion is higher than that of both the Texas (42.0%) and national (44.1%) estimates for renters facing housing affordability challenges. In addition, fully one third (33.3%) of Travis County residents who live in housing with a mortgage spent more than 30% of their annual income on housing (up from 24.6% in 2000). In comparison, 29.9% of Texas and 32.4% of American homeowners spent more than 30% of their annual income on housing in 2004.



Housing Needs of Persons with HIV/AIDS

Overview of HIV/AIDS in Travis County

The number of people in the Travis County area living with both HIV and AIDS greatly increased between 1999 and 2004 (shown by Figure III-13). Recent epidemiological data for Travis County indicate percent increases in new cases reported, and continued racial and ethnic trends demonstrated in years past. In 2004, 161 AIDS cases and 181 HIV cases were reported, increases of 9.5% and



⁴ The definition of affordability according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is that a household pays no more than 30% of its annual income on housing (www.hud.gov).

18.3% respectively from the previous year. As in previous years, the race/ethnicity group with the most newly reported cases of both AIDS and HIV were White non-Hispanics. Figure III-14 below illustrates the total number of reported infections in Travis County by racial/ethnic group.

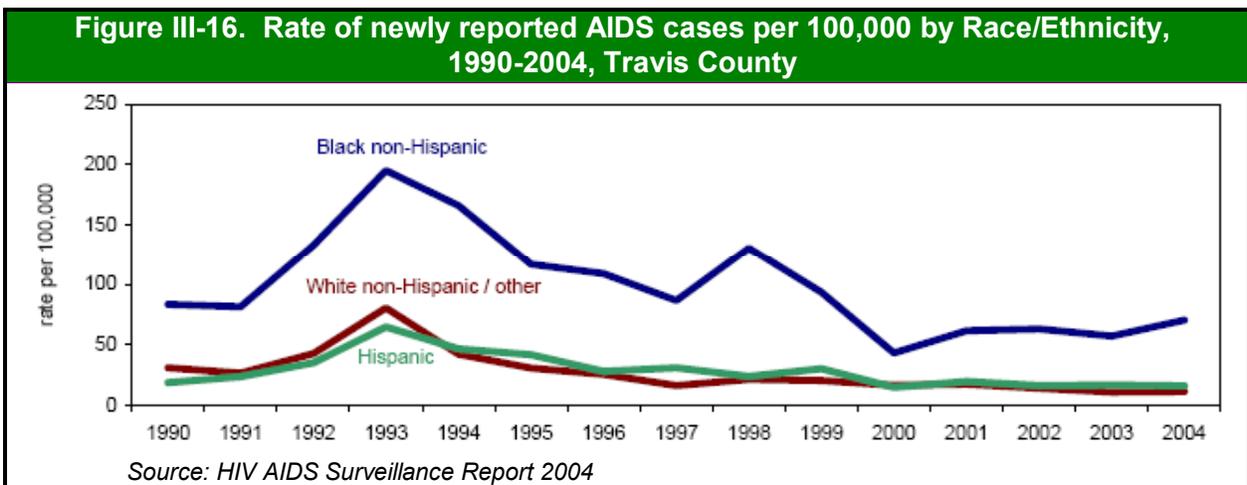
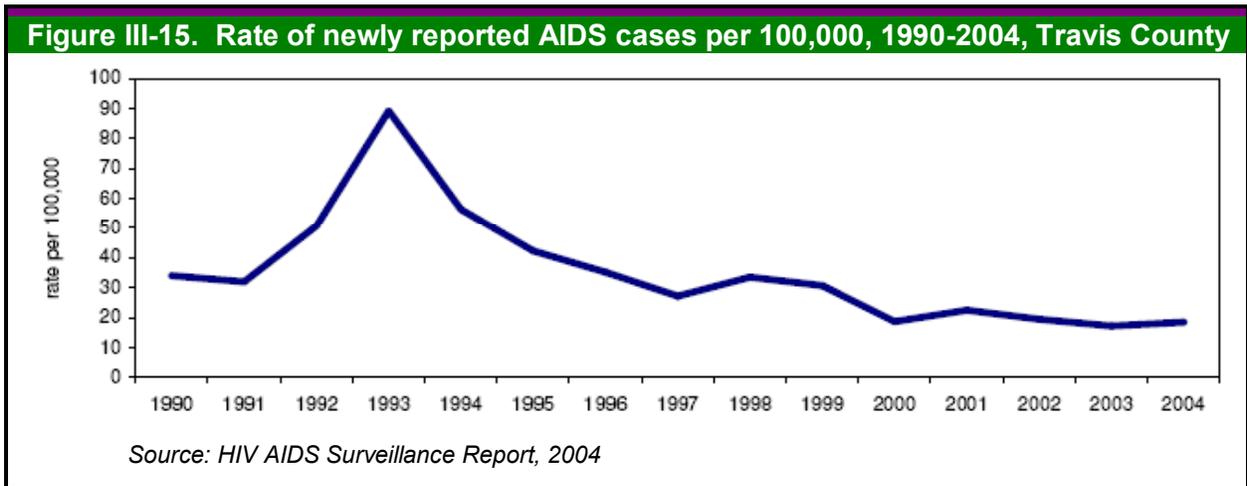
Case counts (Figure III-14) do not account for the relative population sizes of each group in the county. Rates of infection, which account for relative population sizes and changes in population sizes over time, show that **HIV/AIDS disproportionately impacts African Americans in the Austin EMA**. The rate of new AIDS cases among Black non-Hispanics (70.5 per 100,000) was significantly higher than the rate among both White non-Hispanics (11.6 per 100,000) and Hispanics (16.1 per 100,000). White non-Hispanics had among the lowest rates of disease in the county.

Figure III-14. Cumulative HIV infections (including AIDS) by race/ethnicity, through December 31st, 2004 – Travis County, TX

Race/ethnicity	Number
White non-Hispanic	2,702
Black non-Hispanic	1,364
Hispanic – all races	1,044
Asian	18
American Indian / Alaskan Native	9
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0
Multi Racial	2
Unknown	0

Source: HIV AIDS Surveillance Report 2004

Similar distinctions across race/ethnicity were true for newly reported cases of HIV. As illustrated by comparisons in Figures III-15 and III-16 below, each year the rate of new cases of AIDS was highest among Black non-Hispanics.



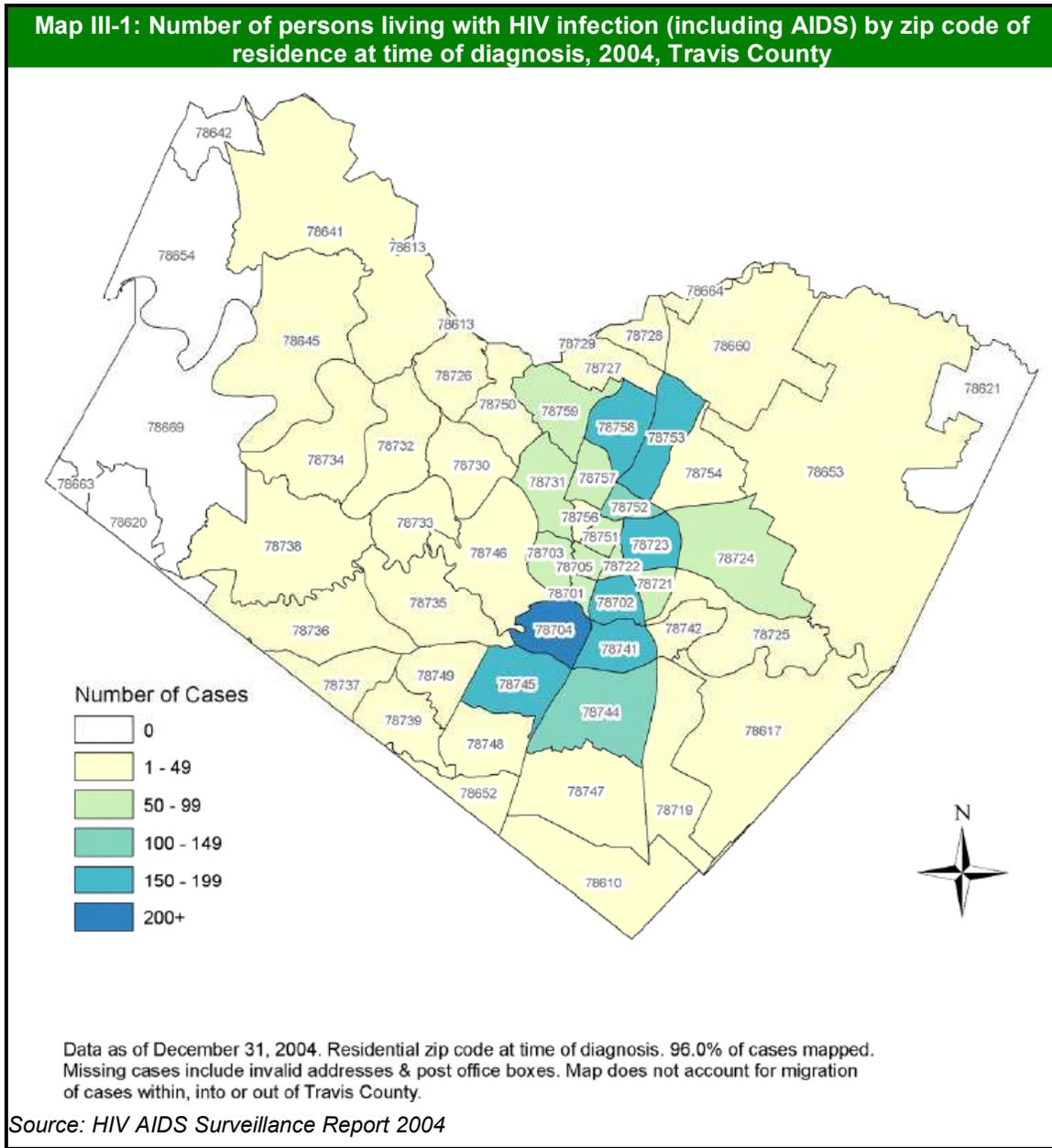
The burden of disease among African Americans is evident in disease incidence, prevalence, mortality and in disparities by sex. In 2003-2004, African Americans accounted for only 7.8% of the EMA’s population, but 33.8% of new cases of AIDS and 25.1% of new HIV cases (Texas State Data Center & Office of the State Demographer). This racial disparity in new AIDS cases has been consistent in the Austin EMA for more than 10 years. The age-adjusted mortality rate among African Americans was 7.5 and 5.0 times higher than the rate among Whites and Hispanics, respectively. The disparity in mortality among African Americans is also evident when examined by sex: The mortality rate among African American men was 6.8 times higher than the rate among White men, and the rate among African American women was more than 16 times higher than the rate among White women. (HIV Planning Council, Austin Travis County Health & Human Services.)

Regarding gender disparities, males were the majority of newly reported AIDS cases (80.7%) and newly reported HIV cases (87.3%) in 2004. Males accounted for 87.1% of cases ever reported in the county. More males were White non-Hispanic than any other race/ethnicity category. However the **HIV/AIDS burden of disease was most pronounced among females.** Consistent with overall trends, the majority of new female AIDS and HIV cases were among Black non-Hispanics (new AIDS = 61.3%; new HIV = 60.9%). The rate of new AIDS cases was more than thirty times higher among Black non-Hispanic females (45.7 per 100,000) than among White non-Hispanic females (1.5 per 100,000). Likewise, the rate of new HIV among females was more than fourteen times higher among Black non-Hispanics (33.7 per 100,000) than White non-Hispanics (2.3 per 100,000). (HIV AIDS Surveillance Report, 2004). Figure III-17 below contains more detailed information by year on persons in Travis County living with HIV/AIDS by age, sex and race/ethnicity.

Figure III-17. Number of persons living with HIV infection (including AIDS) by year and selected characteristics, 2000-2004, Travis County					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Age at Diagnosis					
<13	18	21	23	23	24
13-19	11	18	26	30	35
20-29	403	506	615	688	759
30-39	722	884	1,045	1,166	1,299
40-49	285	358	457	254	608
>= 50	63	94	113	135	169
Sex					
Male	1,267	1,593	1,941	2,181	2,458
Female	235	285	338	385	436
Race/Ethnicity					
White non-Hispanic	781	995	1,208	1,334	1,478
Black non-Hispanic	426	499	590	673	763
Hispanic	295	387	481	559	653
Total					
	1,502	1,881	2,279	2,566	2,894

Source: HIV AIDS Surveillance Report 2004

As illustrated by Map III-1, the majority of persons with HIV and AIDS live within the city limits of Austin, and only a limited number live in the unincorporated areas.



Housing Needs of People with HIV/AIDS

The Austin Area Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Planning Council (HIV PC) is responsible for planning services that support the use of HIV medical care among people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in a five-county region, including Travis County. In order to effectively plan services and set funding priorities, the HIV PC requires information about service use, needs, availability and gaps in care.

HIV PC conducted a survey of 365 people living with HIV disease during February and March 2005. This included 268 (73%) consumers receiving HIV medical care, and 97 (27%) who were out-of-care.

42% of respondents identified a need for housing-related services (which includes assessment, search, placement, and advocacy services), and 54% reported a need for housing assistance (limited to short-term or emergency financial assistance to support temporary and/or transitional housing to enable the individual or family to gain and/or maintain medical care). The Planning Council also found that one quarter of respondents had experienced “housing trouble” in the previous 12 months, citing reasons such as substance abuse, insufficient funds for security deposits, bad credit, and lack of transportation for housing search. (Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council 2005 Austin Area Comprehensive Needs Assessment.) A more detailed summary of housing problems for PLWHA and attributed causes appears below in Figure III-18.

Figure III-18: Housing Problems for People Living with HIV and AIDS in the Five County Area, Including Travis County, 2005						
If you had trouble getting housing in the last 12 months, what caused the trouble?	Total (n=94)		In-Care (n=57)		Out of Care (n=37)	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Didn't have enough money for security deposit	57	60.6%	35	61.4%	22	59.5%
Bad credit	38	40.4%	21	36.8%	17	45.9%
Criminal record	29	30.9%	13	22.8%	16	43.2%
Didn't have transportation to search for housing	29	30.9%	19	33.3%	10	27.0%
Alcohol or drug use	26	27.7%	6	10.5%	20	54.1%
Mental health conditions	12	12.8%	11	19.3%	1	2.7%

Source: Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council 2005 Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Needs Assessment.

The Planning Council’s comprehensive needs assessment also included qualitative data from two focus groups. One focus group, with executive directors or their proxies, discussed the current and projected future service delivery system, service needs and suggestions to improve care and services for PLWHA in the region. A second focus group with case managers examined client service needs. (Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council 2005 Austin Area Comprehensive Needs Assessment.) Focus groups revealed that as a basic need, housing is a concern for PLWHA who have limited resources, because safe, affordable housing can be difficult to find. The following housing-related comments from focus groups were excerpted from the Planning Council’s 2005 Austin Area Comprehensive Needs Assessment:

- *The biggest problem for our clients is maintaining or getting people into permanent housing and keeping that housing. There is little housing. It drains our case management clients who lose housing. (Case Managers)*
- *Housing is very expensive here. It is one of the biggest problems here. You can't live by yourself and make ends meet. (Young Men)*
- *It's difficult for anyone, HIV or not. (Young Men)*
- *For me it was two months. (Latino Men)*
- *When I was in treatment, I ended up losing my apartment—I couldn't pay the rent. When I got out, I had no place to go. (Substance User)*
- *I am homeless and need housing. I am on the housing authority waiting list--number 90. The waiting list is 2 years long if not longer. Right now I live at ___ [homeless shelter] which is day to day. (Delayed Care)*
- *There's a six month waiting list for transitional housing. (African American Men)*

Case managers also reported that some people are not able to accept the responsibilities that come with permanent housing. One case manager commented: “I have people who leave housing because it is too hard—too hard to pay bills, too hard to use the food pantry, etc. They don’t have the stamina to go through the system to access everything. They hit barriers and quit.”

Housing Needs of Homeless and Other Special Populations

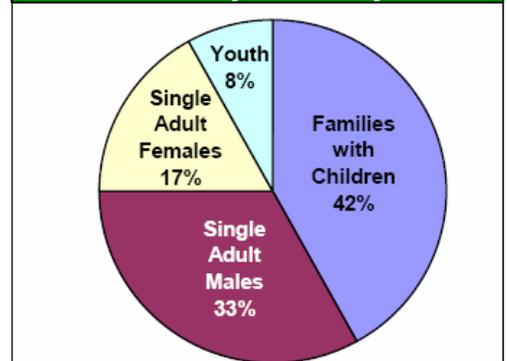
Housing Needs of the Homeless

The primary causes of homelessness are poverty and the lack of affordable housing. Approximately 133,408 people in Travis County live in poverty, and between 5% and 10% of poor people will experience homelessness. Housing costs have increased more than 70% since 1990, making Austin the most expensive housing market in Texas. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Homelessness, 2002.) Low-wage earners and persons on fixed incomes are disproportionately affected.

On any given day, nearly 4,000 persons are homeless in Travis County, and over the course of a year, an estimated 16,000 – 20,000 people experience homelessness. This includes several sub-populations of homeless persons, including: families with children, single adults, youth, persons with disabilities, elderly, and veterans. **People in families comprise over 40% of the homeless and are the fastest growing sub-population of homeless** (see Figure III-19 at right). Individual circumstances that increase a person’s vulnerability to homelessness include: family violence, mental or physical disabilities, addiction issues, and lack of support after foster care (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Homelessness, 2002).

On average, homeless families experience homelessness once or twice, for less than a year; families tend to enter and exit homelessness relatively quickly. Homeless families are typically headed by a young single mother who did not finish high school or is unemployed, and who has with 2 to 3 children (Community Action Network Homelessness Frequently Asked Questions, 2002).

Figure III-19: Homeless Persons in Travis County, February 2002



Source: Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Homelessness, 2002

Table 1A below details the gaps in services available for individuals and families in Travis County, as well as homeless subpopulations.

Table 1A: Homeless and Special Needs Populations				
Housing Gap Analysis Chart				
Number of Beds	Current Inventory in 2005	Under Development	Unmet Need/Gap	
Individuals				
Emergency Shelter	386	0	453	
Transitional Housing	153	0	596	
Permanent Supportive Housing	159	0	315	
Total	698	0	1,364	
Families with Children				
Emergency Shelter	258	0	60	
Transitional Housing	458	0	682	
Permanent Supportive Housing	32	39	157	
Total	748	39	899	
Continuum of Care: Homeless Population and Subpopulations				
Part I: Homeless Populations	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
1. Homeless Individuals	503 (N)	135 (N)	726 (N)	1364
2. Homeless families with children	65 (N)	112 (N)	0 (N)	177
2a. Persons in homeless families with children	204 (N)	324 (N)	0 (N)	528
Total	707 (N)	459 (N)	726 (N)	1892
Part 2: Homeless Sub-Populations	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
1. Chronically homeless	185 (A)		73 (A)	258
2. Severely mentally ill	240 (A)			240
3. Chronic substance abuse	265 (A)			265
4. Veterans	119 (A)			119
5. Persons with HIV/AIDS	8 (A)			8
6. Victims of domestic violence	342 (A)			342
7. Youth (under age 18)	306 (A)			306

Source: Austin Travis County Homeless Task Force Housing Inventory, 2005.

Lead Based Paint Hazards

Lead was banned from residential paint in 1978, prior to which point it was a major ingredient in most interior and exterior oil-based house paint. Housing built before 1978, therefore, may present a lead hazard if any coat of paint contains lead. The older the home, the more likely it is to contain lead based paint. 83% of private housing and 86% of public housing built prior to 1980 contain some lead-based paint (Lead in Your Home: A Parent’s Reference Guide, 1999).

House paints peel, chip, chalk and crack as they deteriorate. Exterior paints can contaminate soil, and interior paints can contaminate dust when dry scraped or sanded or when paint surfaces rub together. Young children most frequently become exposed by inadvertently ingesting dust or soil containing lead through the course of normal play and hand-to-mouth activities, or during the remodeling or the

repair of older homes. Small children may also be exposed to lead by touching or chewing on high-use surfaces such as windows, doors, stairs, porches and fences. Older plumbing fixtures, painted toys and furniture, and lead-glazed ceramic ware or pottery are less common sources of lead hazards found in homes.

Lead is poisonous and exposure is hazardous to anyone, but children ages six and younger are at the highest risk, because their bodies are growing rapidly, and because they tend to put things in their mouths. For these children, low-level exposure to lead can cause nervous and kidney system damage, reduction in IQ, reading and learning disabilities, increased hyperactivity and behavioral problems, poor muscle coordination, decreased muscle and bone growth, and hearing damage. High-level exposure for children can cause seizures, unconsciousness, and death. For adults exposed to lead, effects can include increased chance of illness during pregnancy, harm to a fetus, fertility problems in men and women, high blood pressure, digestive problems, nerve disorders, memory and concentration problems, and muscle and joint pain. (Lead in Your Home: A Parent’s Reference Guide, 1999.)

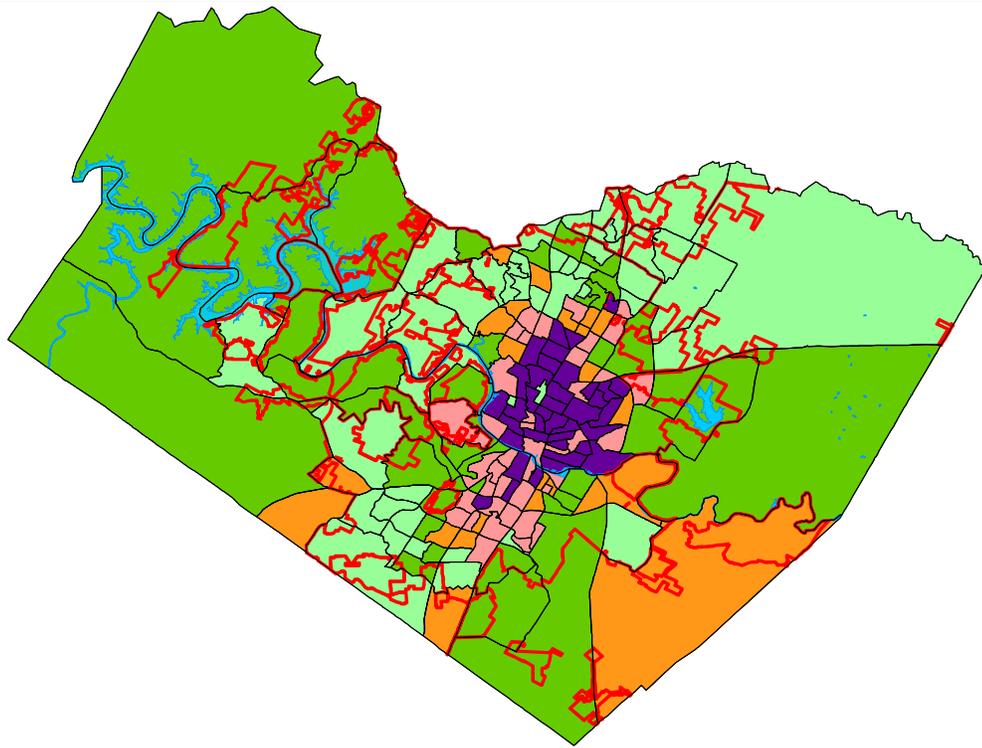
Lead poisoning affects children of every demographic group. Low-income families, however, are disproportionately affected. Housing that has not been adequately maintained is potentially the most hazardous to young children due to the likelihood of chipping, peeling, or flaking paint. Much of the older housing stock available to low-income families is likely to be in deteriorated condition. (City of Austin Consolidated Plan, 2004-2009).

The lead hazard is important in the Travis County area because it has a significant number of older housing units. According to 2000 Census data, over 150,000 housing units in Travis County were built prior to 1980 (see Figure III-20 at right). However, many of these homes are located within city limits. As shown on Map III-2 below, a limited number of housing units in the unincorporated areas may contain lead based paint hazards.

Figure III-20. Tenure By Year Structure Built, Travis County	
Owner occupied	
Built 1970 to 1979	32,815
Built 1960 to 1969	16,498
Built 1950 to 1959	13,947
Built 1940 to 1949	6,963
Built 1939 or earlier	6,145
TOTAL	76,368
Renter occupied	
Built 1970 to 1979	39,147
Built 1960 to 1969	18,439
Built 1950 to 1959	9,672
Built 1940 to 1949	4,622
Built 1939 or earlier	4,637
TOTAL	76,517

Source: Census 2000

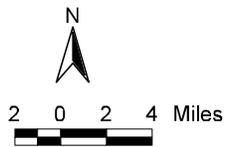
Map III-2.



Percent of Housing Units that
May Contain Lead Based Paint, 2000

Travis County

 Austin City Limits
Percent Pre-1980 Housing Stock
0 - 20%
20.01 - 40%
40.01 - 60%
60.01 - 80%
80.01 - 98%
City of Austin
Fair Housing Impediment Study
J-QUAD & Associates, LLC.



B. Non-Housing Community Development Needs Assessment

Neighborhood Infrastructure

Citizen engagement efforts with residents revealed a high need for neighborhood infrastructure implementation or improvements. At public hearings, residents in Precincts 1, 3 and 4 all expressed that water and wastewater systems were a primary need in their communities. Particularly in economically disenfranchised areas, residents expressed they lacked access to running water, had wells running dry, and were without infrastructure to access the area water utility. In addition, comments made at public hearings expressed the need for road improvements and repairs, and utility infrastructure.

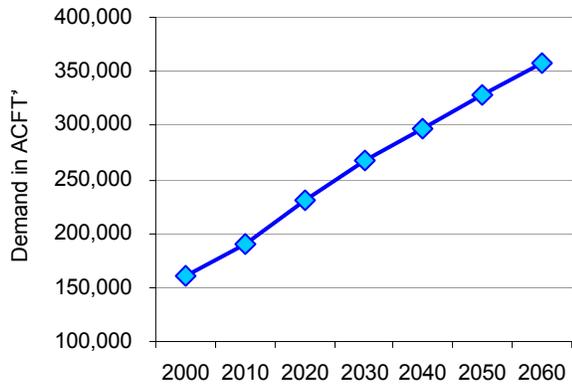
Water and Wastewater

With strong population growth in the area, total water consumption continues to increase in Central Texas, but per capita water use appears to be declining, largely due to conservation and new plumbing standards. Municipal uses continue to be the largest demand type. (Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Annual Report 2004.)

There are three major reservoirs in Central Texas: Lake Travis and Lake Georgetown, which are primarily drinking water reservoirs, and Granger Lake, which is primarily a recreational reservoir. Annual cycles of use are clearly visible, as are the effects of severe drought. Central Texas has three major aquifers: the Trinity, the Edwards-Balcones Fault Zone, and the Carrizo-Wilcox. There are also several minor aquifers layered around these major aquifers. Aquifer water levels can fluctuate wildly based on rainfall, as well as the effects of unique geology, hydrology, and the amount of pumping through wells. Over the long-term, of the three major aquifers in the Central Texas region, only the Edwards-Balcones Fault Zone is showing an increase in depth to water, suggesting that water removal is outpacing recharge. Aquifer depletion is one of the most significant questions facing planners and regional water planning groups over the next several years. (Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Annual Report 2004.)

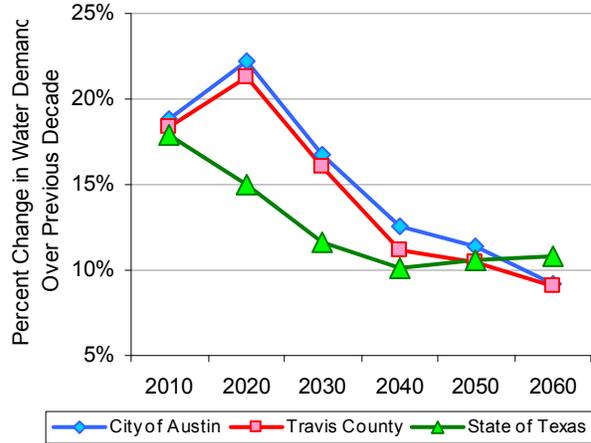
Water demand projections for Travis County suggest a steady increase in water usage (see Figure III-21), with consumption demands potentially doubling over the next 30 years. Additionally, Travis County's water demand will increase at a rate significantly higher than that of the state of Texas as a whole (see Figure III-22).

Figure III-21. Travis County Water Demand Projections, 2000-2060



*ACFT: An amount of water to cover one acre with one foot of water; equals 325,851 gallons.
 Source: Texas Water Development Board 2006 Regional Water Plan.

Figure III-22. Water Demand Percent Increases: City of Austin, Travis County & Texas, 2000-2060



Source: Texas Water Development Board 2006 Regional Water Plan.

Roads and Mobility

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) provides transportation planning and air quality planning services to the three county area of Williamson, Travis, and Hays Counties in Central Texas. CAMPO is governed by a 23-member transportation Policy Board made up of elected officials representing cities, counties, and state legislative districts within CAMPO's boundaries, as well as transportation providers.

The plan:

- States a vision for the future of the region's transportation system;
- Advises member jurisdictions on work that can be done at the local level to move toward this vision;
- Provides information about emerging regional trends that impact transportation;
- Provides parameters for allocating federal transportation dollars during CAMPO's Transportation Improvement Program project selection process;
- Provides direction to various implementers about initiating or continuing transportation-related actions and programs in the region;
- Guides CAMPO's organizational mission and future work program;
- Provides a status report on some of the work that has been completed since the last plan update; and
- Complies with federal requirements.

The CAMPO Mobility 2030 Plan addresses new assumptions about the future state of the region. In particular the Plan assumes:

- A higher population forecast (the previous plan assumed a population of 2.27 million in 2025, while the 2030 Plan assumes a population of 2.75 million in 2030);

- The need to make future transportation investments stretch further by improving the efficiency of the transportation system through transportation system management, travel demand management, and a more integrated approach to land use and transportation planning; and
- An increased reliance on innovative sources of funding, including vehicle tolling, to supplement the existing gas tax.

The Plan's Roadway Table and Project List identifies all major road work projected through 2030. (See Attachment E for the full list of projected efforts.)

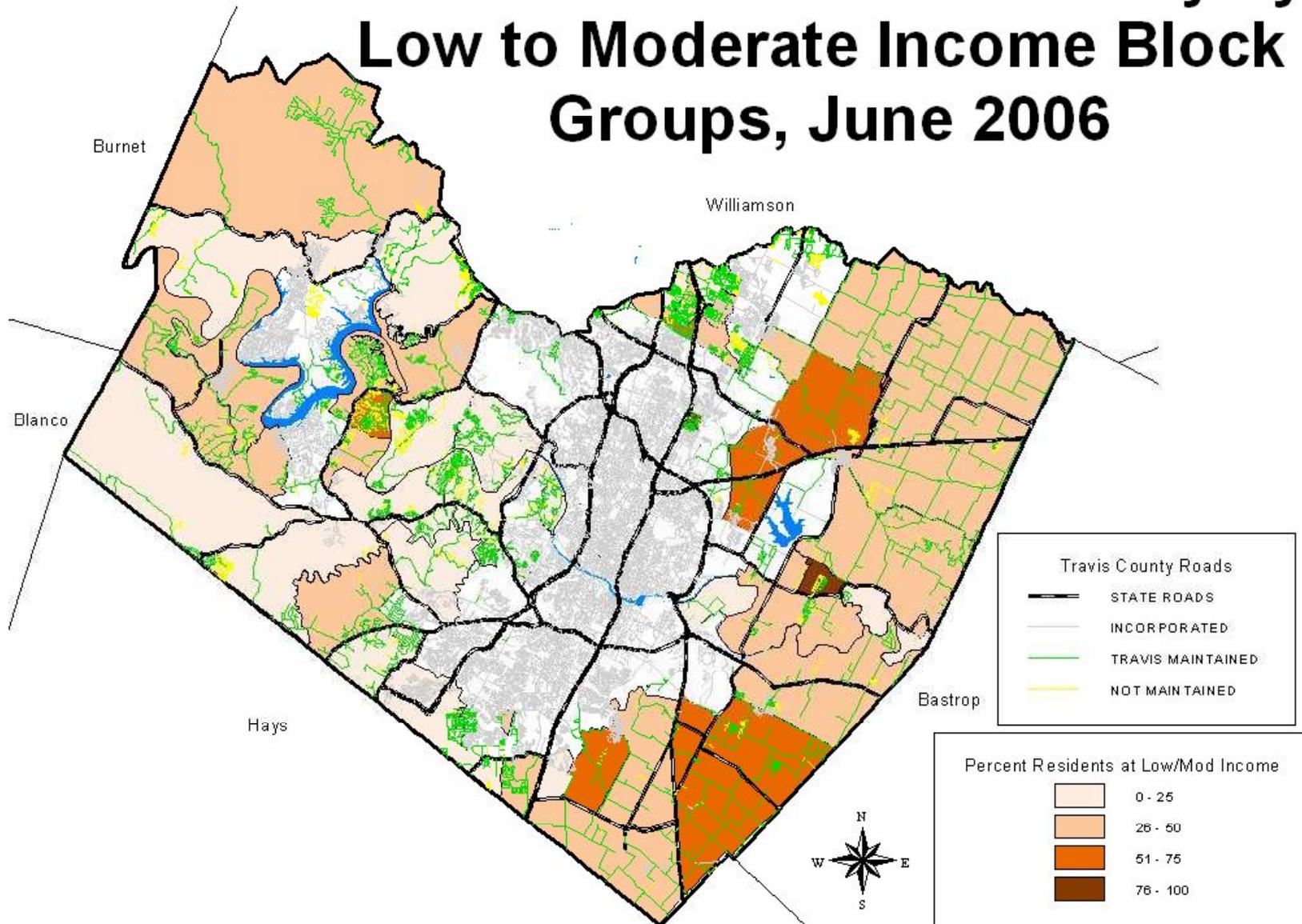
Citizen engagement in the needs assessment process clearly identified a need for acquisition and repair of roads that do not meet current Travis County mobility codes. Many roads currently utilized by low- to moderate-income residents in the unincorporated areas of Travis County are not currently maintained by Travis County. In order for the County to maintain the roads, they would first need to be brought up to minimum code standards. Map III-3 on the following page details these roads that are in very poor condition:

Flooding, Erosion and Drainage

Travis County's citizen engagement process identified needs for drainage improvements. Map III-4 shows the flood plain areas in Travis County. As the map illustrates, Travis County flood plains run through areas where low- to moderate- income residents live.

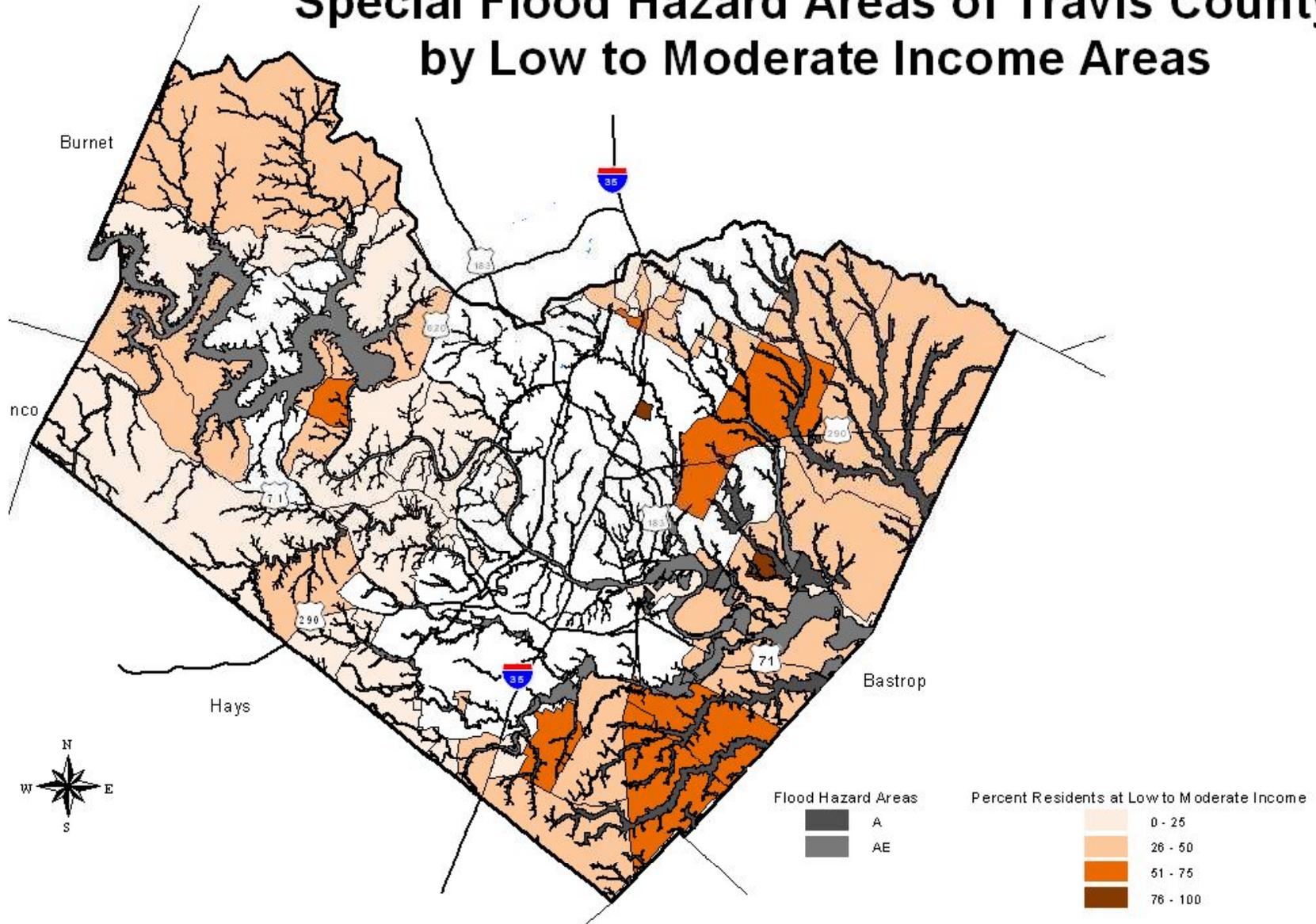
Map III-3.

Road Status in Travis County by Low to Moderate Income Block Groups, June 2006



Map III-4.

Special Flood Hazard Areas of Travis County by Low to Moderate Income Areas



Public Facilities

Parks and Recreational Facilities⁵

Travis County is committed to sustaining a system of signature parks and natural areas, linked by greenways and riparian corridors, with a diversity of community places, where people may enjoy nature through passive and active recreation. The core values of this system, initially oriented towards managing recreational uses in lake and river parks, were recently expanded to protect and manage endangered species habitat and to provide recreational opportunities in the unincorporated regions of the county experiencing development pressure.

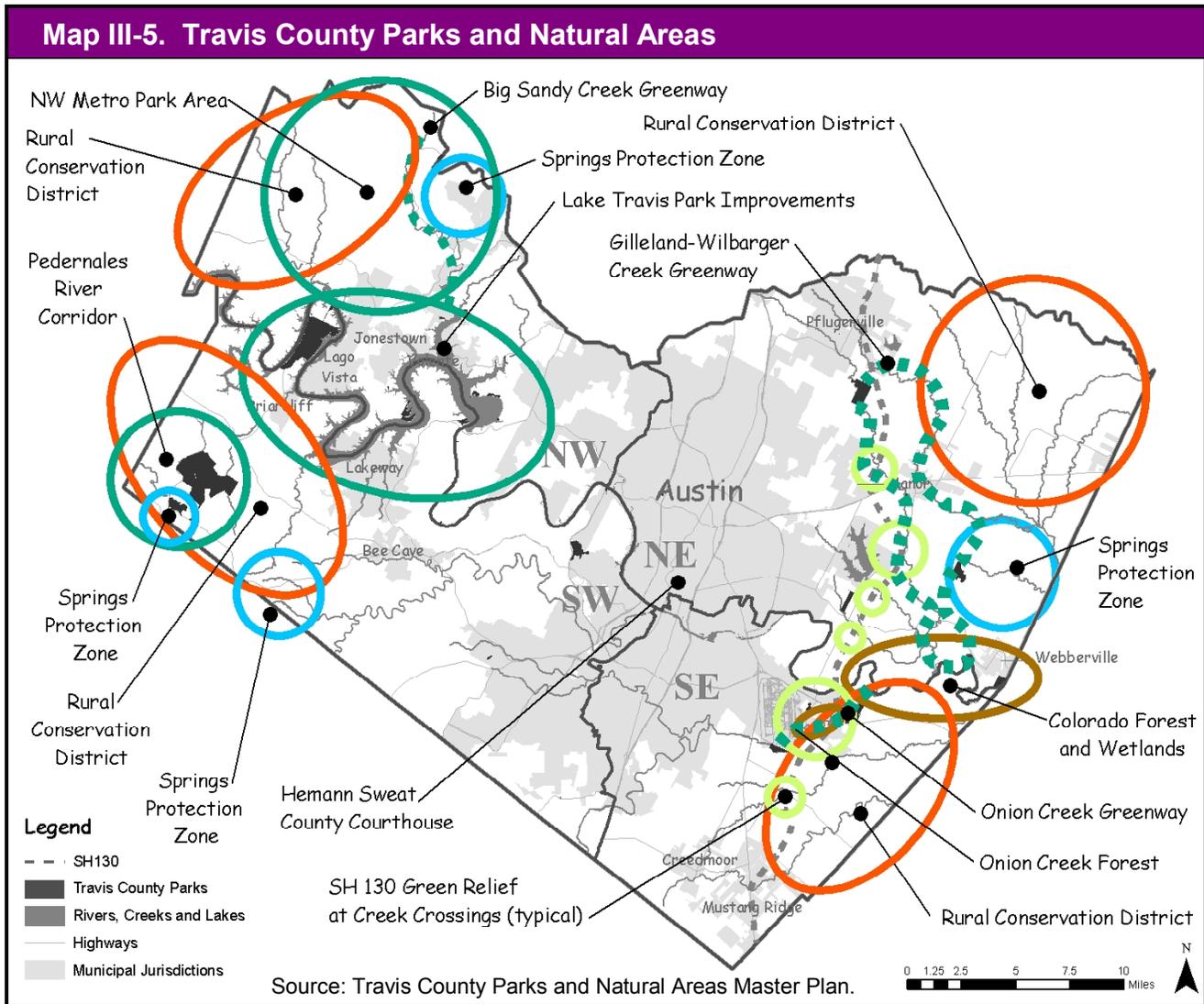
Travis County's Parks and Natural Areas Master Plan describes the policies and actions guiding the development of a sustainable system of signature parks and natural areas in unincorporated regions of Travis County. The planning timeframe is 10 years, with updates every two years. The public and staff will review and modify components of the plan during the update process to address new challenges and opportunities. The intent of this plan is to build a comprehensive system of parks and natural areas for residents throughout Travis County to enjoy now and in the future.

Master Plan components:

- Improve Lake Travis Parks
- Complete development of existing metro parks
- Develop a NW Metro Park, completing the metro park program
- Develop greenways and riparian corridors along the Pedernales River, Onion Creek, Gilleland Creek, and Wilbarger Creek
- Preserve high quality ecosystems including Blackland Prairie, Post Oak upland woods, bottomland forests, wildlife habitat, and endangered species habitat
- Preserve critical environmental features
- Protect hensel sand areas and alluviums
- Preserve rural areas
- Preserve cultural resources (prehistoric native American Indian and historic sites, working farms and ranches, and scenic views)
- Preserve/enhance natural areas at SH 130 creek and river crossings

The master plan concept is illustrated in Map III-5. See Attachment F for the full Master Plan.

⁵ All information in this section excerpted from Travis County's Parks and Natural Areas Master Plan.



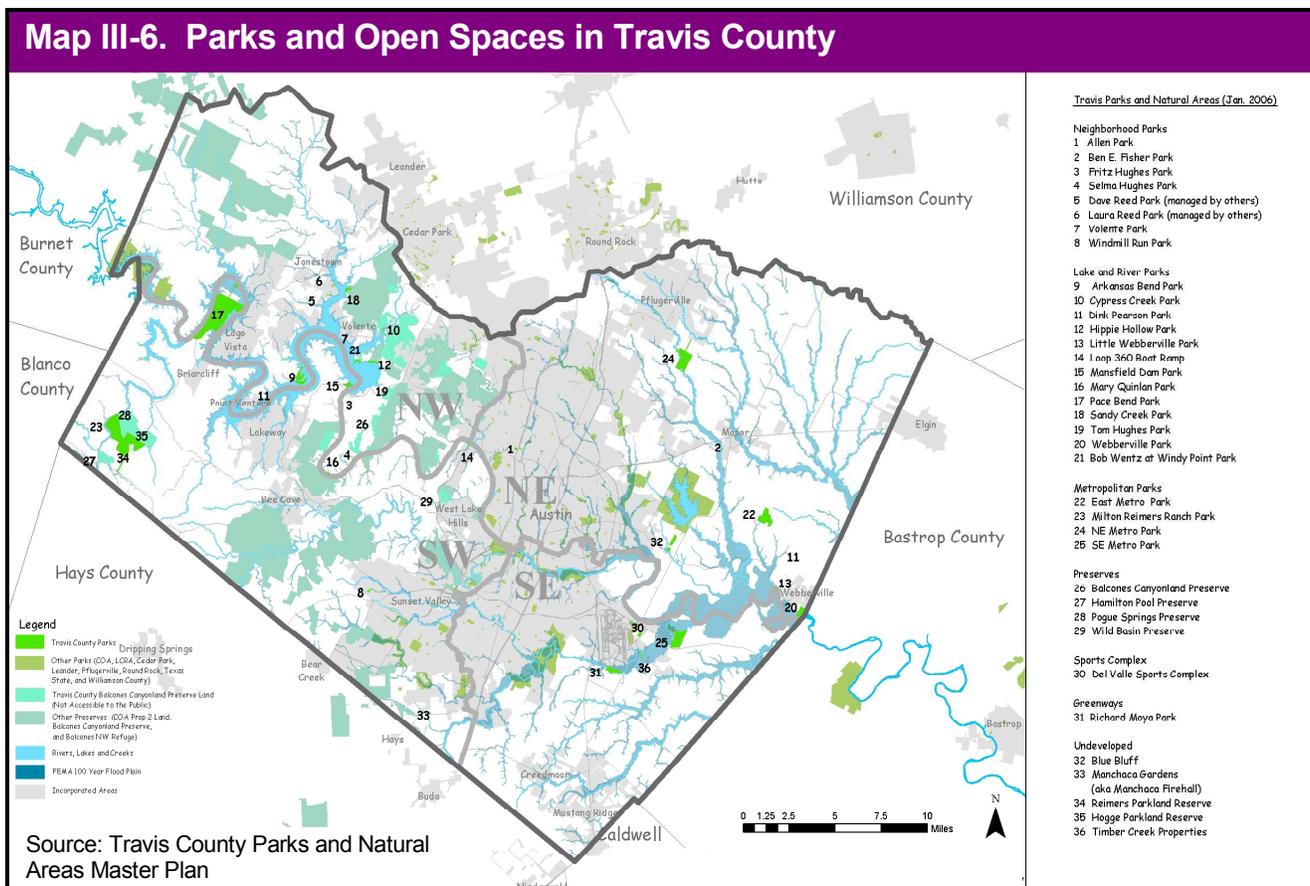
Recreational opportunities for the community have expanded greatly with the addition of metro parks to the county system, starting in 1997. Most County-owned parks and open spaces are found in the western half of the county, due to the presence of endangered species and federal law to protect listed species, and to the existence of lakes for recreational purposes. However, Travis County Southeast Metro Park principally serves low- to moderate-income residents in the unincorporated area of eastern Travis County. The park currently lacks recreational facilities. See Map III-6 for a map of Metro Parks.

Aspects of the planning environment that influence Travis County parks planning include:

- **Increasing County Population and need for infrastructure.** The population of Travis County grew from 576,470 in 1990 to 812,000 in 2000, and is forecasted to grow to approximately 1.25 million by 2017. As the population grows, so does the need for park and open space amenities.
- **Development pushes east in Travis County.** Development moves east with the construction of SH130 and the City’s designation of this region as the desired development zone. Agricultural lands and rural landscapes give way to subdivisions, roads, and commercial development. Residents in eastern Travis County protest odor problems from landfills, wastewater facilities and

the noise, dust, and heavy truck traffic associated with aggregate mining operations. Aggregate mining operations will expand in the alluvial deposit areas along the Colorado River as construction of SH 130 continues, and with increased demand for aggregate material for roadways and other development.

- **Social equity emerges as important community issue.** An income disparity exists between the highly paid, young, educated workforce of the Austin area and lower earning service industry workers. Ensuring that all Travis County citizens have access to high quality parks, open space, and physical activity infrastructure is a tool for mitigating certain aspects of this inequity.
- **Regional green space planning takes hold in Central Texas.** A regional perspective on green space planning is supported by local advocacy and planning groups. Development of interconnected green spaces that cross jurisdiction boundaries, often following creeks and rivers, encourages bike/pedestrian modes of transportation, wildlife habitat conservation, storm water management, visual quality, and other positive attributes for our communities.
- **Concerns about light pollution, traffic generation, water availability, and the affordability of operating and maintaining new parks.** Critical issues relevant to park and open space development in unincorporated areas emerged from the Travis County park bond program implementation in 1997 and 2001. Particularly in southwestern rural areas, residents are concerned that developing parks with recreational facilities near their homes will produce light pollution and additional traffic in their neighborhoods. Additionally, the cost of operating and maintaining parks with active recreational facilities, and the availability and/or affordability of irrigation water, are concerns for developing parks with high water-consuming facilities, such as sports fields.



C. Public Services Needs Assessment

Overview of Service Needs in Travis County

Citizen engagement efforts with residents, in the form of surveys and public hearings, revealed the highest perceived needs in the unincorporated areas for: senior services, job training and placement, services for youth, emergency food assistance, and childcare and early education. Engagement efforts with service providers, in the form of surveys and consultations, revealed a similar spectrum of perceived needs: job training and placement, childcare and early education, drug/alcohol abuse treatment, and emergency food assistance.

The Community Action Network (CAN), a collaborative planning body for the Central Texas region, connects diverse stakeholders through a community forum for collaborative problem solving. The CAN is organized into planning bodies across more than a dozen different issue areas. The CAN also conducts ongoing assessments of community conditions, resources and needs, which are summarized in the following sections.

After-School Care

After-school time encompasses all out-of-school time for school-age youth, including after school, before school, summer, and weekend programs. It also encompasses all types of program providers, including school-based, non-profit, for-profit, and faith-based providers.

According to the 2000 Census data, there are 163,844 school-age youth (ages 5-19) in Travis County. Of youth in surveyed low-income Travis County zip codes, 70% do not have access to after-school programming. Furthermore, only 60% of surveyed after-school providers provide programming for middle school and older youth, and approximately half of all providers maintain a waiting list of youth to be served. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Afterschool Care, 2004.)

Key barriers in accessing after-school programming are: lack of transportation, insufficient days and times of available services, staff recruitment and retention, childcare responsibilities for younger siblings, cost of programs, and lack of funding. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Afterschool Care, 2004.)

Basic Needs

Basic needs are defined by the CAN as food, clothing and housing (rent, mortgage, utility). Job loss and unemployment, poverty, and the high cost of living in the greater Austin area all contribute to the demand for basic needs assistance. According to 2-1-1 Texas, an information and referral help line operated by the United Way of the Capital Area, the top community needs are utility assistance, rent assistance, and food pantry assistance. There have been overall increasing trends in the demands for these services. Between Fiscal Years 2003 and 2004, 2-1-1 Texas experienced an 18% increase in the number of people requesting help with paying utility bills, and a 24% increase in calls for rent assistance. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Basic Needs, 2004.)

According to the eligibility guidelines of two major basic needs service providers in Travis County (Caritas and the Travis County Health & Human Services Department), clients are eligible for services

once every 12 months. The average rent and/or utility assistance provided is approximately \$150 to \$200 per family. People who qualify for services are generally in extreme poverty (an income of 50% of Federal Poverty Income Guidelines). Exceptions are made for older adults and persons with disabilities. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Basic Needs, 2004).

The Basic Needs Coalition of Central Texas, a grass-roots collaboration of nineteen human service providers, addresses core challenges for families as they move toward self-sufficiency. Among other efforts, the Basic Needs Coalition developed the Best Single Source project, a collaborative project that links participant agencies electronically to share outcomes and avoid duplication. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Basic Needs, 2004). Many faith- and community-based organizations are also addressing basic needs in Travis County, and Travis County Family Support Services is the largest provider of basic needs assistance in the county.

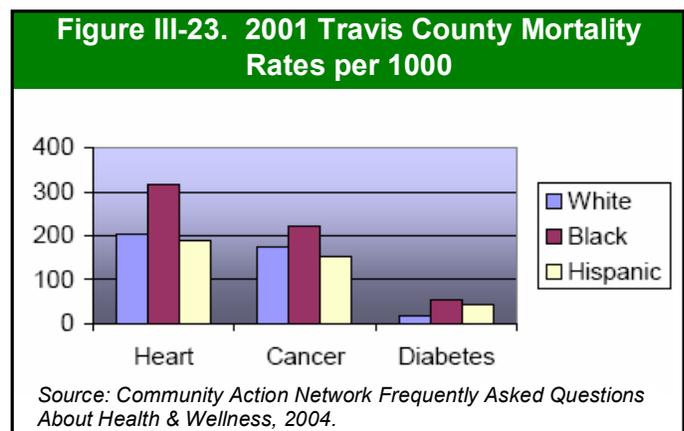
Early Education and Childcare

Texas has the fastest growing child population in the United States and the second largest child population overall. In Travis County, there are approximately 69,602 children under the age of five. Of children under age six, an estimated 52% (approximately 40,000 children) have parents in the workforce, and 88% of families with children under age five indicate they need full-time childcare at least part of the year. Yet Travis County has less than 6,420 children attending programs at accredited childcare facilities. This leaves the vast majority of children in care that is not rated as quality, including unregulated childcare in informal settings. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions about Early Education, 2005.)

Health and Wellness

Austin/Travis County continues to have a relatively youthful and healthy population. The leading cause of injury and death for children and adults below age 45 is unintentional, or accidental, injuries. Certain injuries occur in Travis County more frequently than in the state or nation: The Travis County suicide rate was 11% higher than the state average, and the unintentional injury rate was 15% higher than the national average, according to Texas Department of Health data available in 2003. Motor vehicle accident death rates, 14 per 100,000 residents in 1999, rose to 17 per 100,000 in 2002. During the same time frame, poisonings, which affect mostly the adult population, rose from 5 to 7 per 100,000. Obesity increasingly affects the children of Travis County, leading to an increase in diabetes, which, along with hypertension, is among the most prevalent chronic conditions in Travis County. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Health and Wellness, 2004).

Health disparities persist among Travis County racial/ethnic subpopulations, and are most apparent within the African-American community, as illustrated by Figure III-23. In Travis County in 2001, the cancer mortality rate of African Americans was 27.6% higher than that of Whites, and 46.7% higher than that of Hispanics. Similarly, the mortality rate for heart disease in African-Americans was 56.1% higher



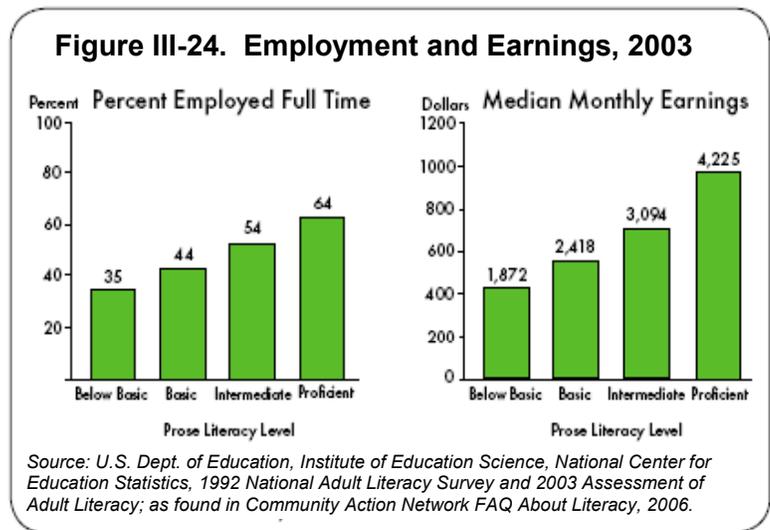
than for Whites and 69% higher than for Hispanics. Unemployment, reduced reimbursements to providers, malpractice insurance premiums, and rising health insurance premiums, co-pays and deductibles all limit access to care for underserved populations. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Health and Wellness, 2004).

Several initiatives have been undertaken in Travis County to improve health and well-being. In 2003, the Austin Travis County Health and Human Services Department (A/TCHHSD) received the first approximately \$900,000 of a five-year grant from the Federal Department of Health and Human Services. Focusing on 167,000 households with almost a half million residents in twenty Austin zip codes, ATCHHSD is using the grant to plan and implement media, policy, school-based, community, and workplace health and wellness strategies aimed at preventing obesity, diabetes, and asthma, and promoting exercise, improved diet, and tobacco control efforts. A new ordinance against smoking in public places was made effective June 1, 2004, by Austin City Council. Also, AISD has been active in promoting student health by removing sodas and candy from vending machines. Lastly, the Indigent Care Collaboration (ICC), formed in 1998, improves access to care. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Health and Wellness, 2004).

Literacy

Central Texas is home to seven major institutions of higher learning. It has one of the highest levels of education in the state. Yet more than 20% of our citizens live with limiting illiteracy. In some rural counties, close to 40% of citizens struggle with low literacy. Estimates place more than 225,000 Central Texans at literacy levels below the basic level necessary to qualify for more than a minimum wage job, and less than 10% of these citizens are getting the help they need to improve their reading skills (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Literacy, 2006).

The U.S. Department of Education has found a striking connection between both employment and earnings: Only 35% of people at the below-basic literacy level were working full-time, compared to 64% of those at the proficient literacy level, illustrated in Figure III-24 at right (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Literacy, 2006).



Mental Health

Mental health is a broad term used to characterize an individual's ability to function in daily life. The majority of mental health disorders can be categorized into three major groups: Anxiety, Mood Disorders (Depression) and Schizophrenia. Based on Census data for adults, Travis County does not fare much better than the national average in prevalence rates for any of these three categories of disorders. However, Travis County has had the highest suicide rate (12.0 per 100,000 population) of

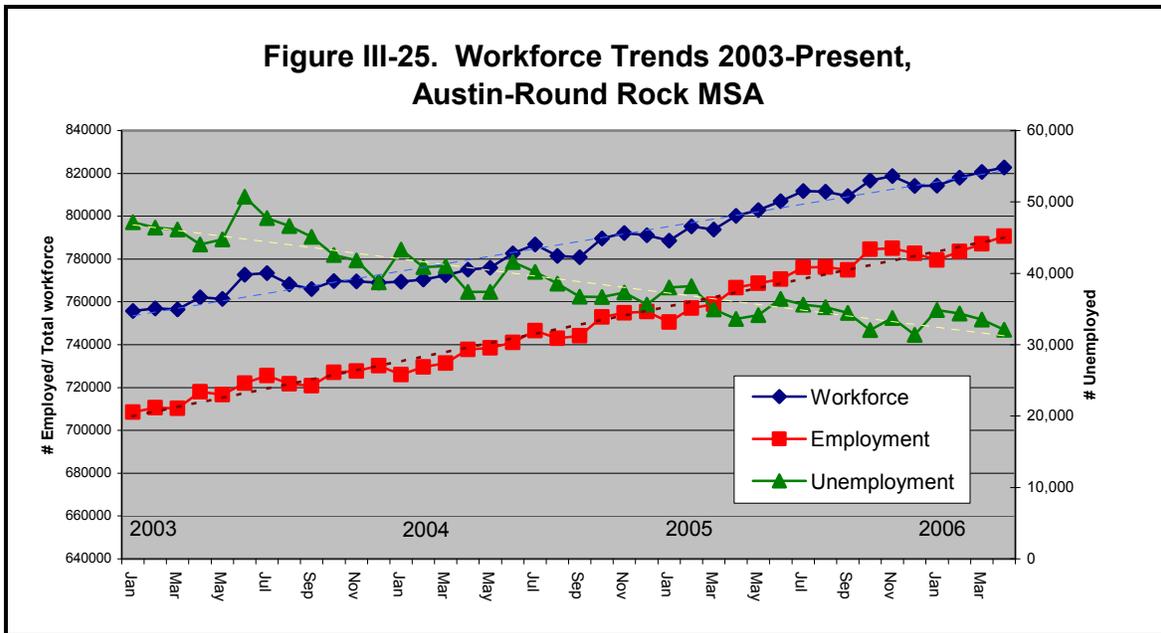
any major Texas county for the past five years. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Adult Mental Health, 2005).

It is estimated that 22.1% of American adults will have a diagnosable mental disorder in a given year. Based on American Community Survey population estimates for 2005, this translates to approximately 147,774 adults (ages 18 and older) in Travis County. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Adult Mental Health, 2005). For the same year, the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (now part of the Texas Department of State Health Services) estimated that approximately 42,450 children and adolescents (under age 18) were at risk of mental health disorders (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Children's Mental Health, 2005). Homeless persons are also at risk: From July 31, 2004 to August 1, 2005, social service providers documented that an estimated 39% (3,227) of Travis County's homeless population have some form of mental illness. In 2003, the estimated economic impact of mental illness in Travis County totaled \$700 million (a cost that includes lost income and mortality costs). (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Adult Mental Health, 2005).

The number of psychiatric beds available in Travis County has remained static over the past three years. Currently, Travis County has 135 psychiatric beds, 56 of which are private with the remaining 78 psychiatric beds funded publicly. However, the funding for these public psychiatric beds has been reduced for FY 2006. The reduction in public mental health funding combined with narrowing eligibility criteria have led to higher numbers of people unable to receive services within the publicly funded mental health system. For the first time in its 38-year history, Austin Travis County MHMR (ATCMHMR) has had to create a waiting list for its services. The Community Care Services Department (CCSD), which runs the primary care clinics in Austin and Travis County, also reports a 40% increase in patients with a mental health diagnosis over the past year. Similarly, there has been a decrease in the number of mental health professionals (those with an MD, LPC, LCSW, LMFT, and/or PhD) relative to the county's population: The total number of mental health professionals registered in Travis County was estimated to be about 2,041 in 2005—a 20% to 30% decrease from that of 2002. During the same time period the County's population increased by 30%. (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Adult Mental Health, 2005).

Workforce Development

Travis County is the heart of an economically thriving Austin/Round Rock metropolitan area. The area has experienced steady growth in the number of people employed and a rapid decline in the number of people unemployed (see Figure III-25). According to data from the US Department of Labor and the Texas Workforce Commission, from the beginning of 2003 to the most recent reported month (March 2006), the number of people in the workforce increased by 67,106 (about 9%) and the number of people employed increased by 82,137 (about 11%). During the same period, the number of people unemployed dropped by 15,031 (more than 30%).



Within these extremely positive workforce trends, there are a number of challenges that still face our community. First, there are demographic groups and geographic pockets that are not sharing equally in this prosperity. Targeted investments in these groups/areas can provide an opportunity to both help these residents become more self-sufficient and provide the workforce that local employers need in order to continue prospering. Second, population growth and rising cost of living have led to an increasingly dispersed population as residents have sought, in greater numbers, more affordable housing away from the urban core. This change requires development and implementation of new approaches to service delivery that can overcome transportation and other spatial challenges. Third, broad demographic trends show larger segments of our community that have less education and speak English less than well. This trend means an increasing portion of our community that lacks basic skills necessary for employment.

In defining approaches to meet economic challenges, it is useful to look at the workforce in three broad segments:

- 1) **Emerging Workforce:** Youth and young adults just entering the workforce upon completion of their formal education (secondary or post-secondary). For this segment, programs and services focus on academic achievement and career preparation – ensuring that education is both sufficiently rigorous and relevant to career pathways that support self-sufficiency.
- 2) **Transitional Workforce:** Residents who, for a variety of reasons (lack of education, little or no work history, disability, criminal history, etc.), face particular barriers that prevent success in the workforce. Programs and services in this area are much more remedial in nature: adult basic education and literacy, job readiness (employability or “soft” skills), occupation specific training, placement assistance, and supportive services (such as child care) throughout the process.
- 3) **Current Workforce:** Everyone currently in the workforce. There is some overlap with transitional workforce needs, particularly among current workers at the lower end of the pay scale. A significant number of low-wage workers can benefit from assistance with basic and/or

technical skills that can allow them to advance to higher wages that support true self-sufficiency. In the increasingly competitive, knowledge-based, global economy, continuous skill improvement and expansion is a necessity for everyone in the current workforce.

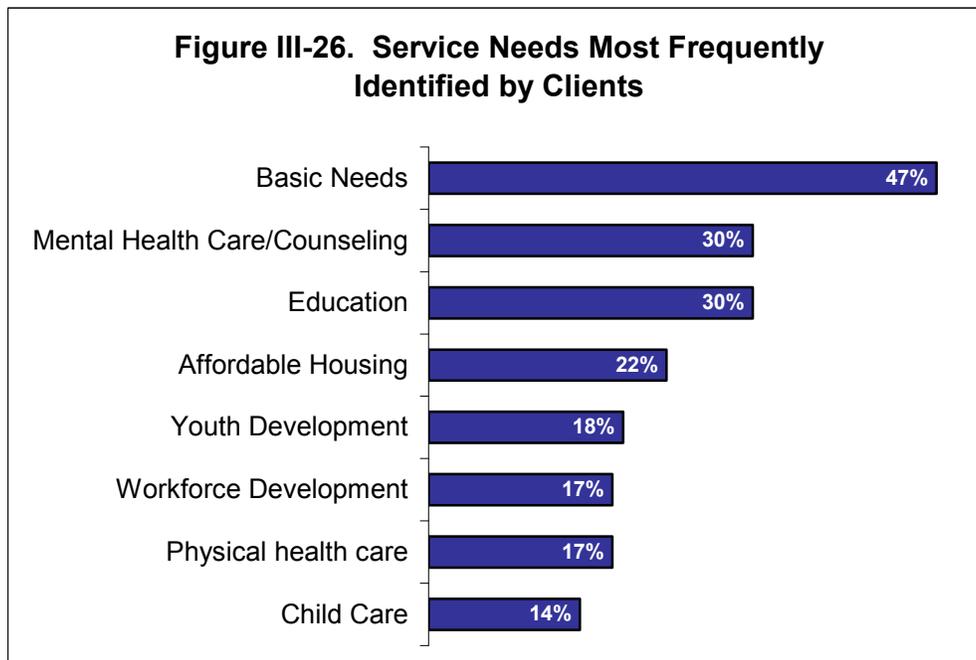
Providers of Public Services in Travis County

The Travis County Health and Human Services Department conducts an annual survey of human services non-profits to assess the demand for social services and the community's capacity to meet the need. The 5th annual survey conducted in December 2005, to which 78 of 213 501(c)(3) agencies responded, revealed the following key findings:

1. Public demand for services continues to rise:

86% of respondents reported experiencing an increase in demand for services in 2005. Not surprisingly, respondents attributed the rise in demand partly to the recent influx of hurricane evacuees.

As in past surveys, **respondents reported basic needs as the top service need** followed by mental health care/counseling and education (see Figure III-26). These needs, most frequently identified by providers, are also those that most often go unmet: In an open-ended question, **18% of respondents reported that their clients have unmet mental health care needs**, 13% reported an unmet need for education services and 11% saw basic needs continue to go unmet among their clients.



Other reported service needs include transportation, translation/interpreter services, substance abuse services, foster care related services, residential treatment, and family support or parent training.

2. Capacity gradually increasing, but not as rapidly as demand for services:

58% of 2005 respondents reported that their overall budget had increased, compared to 54% of respondents last year and 30% of respondents in 2003. Just 18% of respondents reported that their overall agency budget had decreased (in comparison to 25% in 2004 52% in 2003).

Figure III-27 below shows the percent of respondents reporting stable or increased funding by funding type. When compared to 2003 when the majority of agencies reported a decrease in funding of all types, **2004 and 2005 data indicate an overall trend toward stabilized and/or increased funding for most respondent agencies.**

Figure III-27. Percent of Respondents Reporting Significant or Increased Funding, by Funding Type and Year				
	2002	2003	2004	2005
Community Donations	42%	42%	71%	69%
Corporate Funding	45%	48%	66%	69%
Private Foundation Funding	54%	41%	60%	79%
Government Funding	53%	24%	69%	82%
Overall Budget	62%	48%	75%	82%

Although agencies are generally seeing budget increases, **more than half (53%) of respondents still had to turn away some of the clients who applied for services in 2005.** Respondents also anticipate that balancing the needs of evacuees with the needs of other area residents will continue to be a challenge.

3. Cost of doing business continues to increase:

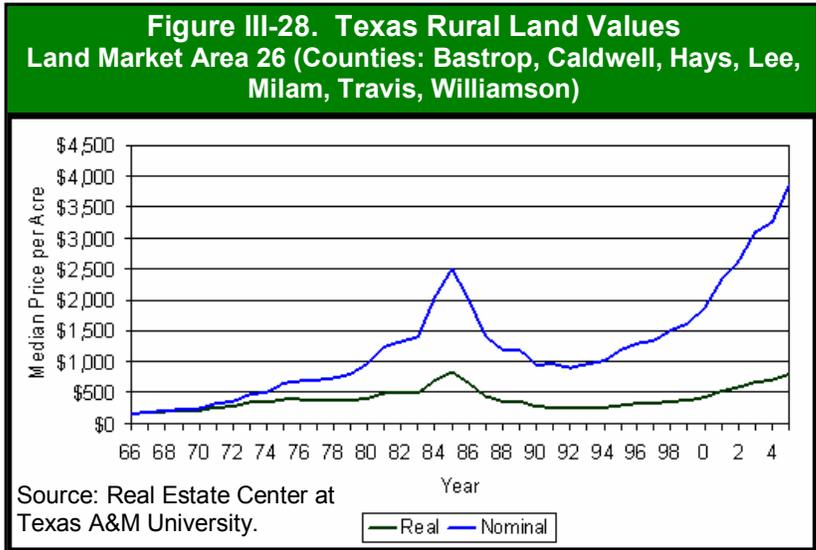
83% of social service providers reported that they have experienced an increase in the cost of doing business since this time last year. This appears to be a consistent increase—80% of providers reported an increase in the cost of doing business in 2004 and 90% reported this increase in 2003. Despite increasing costs, many providers (57%) report offering more programs and services in 2005.

D. Housing Market Analysis

Housing Supply and Demand

Central Texas Land Values

Location in relation to Austin greatly influences land value. The entire Central Texas area has experienced strong buyer interest and positive value trends in the counties in close proximity to Austin, including Travis County. Recreational and aesthetic qualities also increase demand and development, and consequently, the price of land. Land Market Area 26 (which includes Travis and six other counties) experienced a **106% increase in land value between 2000 and 2005**, shown in Figure III-28. (Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University.)



Single- and Multi-Family Housing Inventory

In recent years, housing construction has primarily been driven by a demand for single-family units. Between 2000 and 2004, the total number of new building permits in Travis County has remained relatively stable, but the proportions of single- to multi-family building permits has skewed heavily toward single-family dwellings (see Figures III-29 and III-30). (Building permits for 2-4 family units have historically comprised a small and consistent portion of overall construction.)

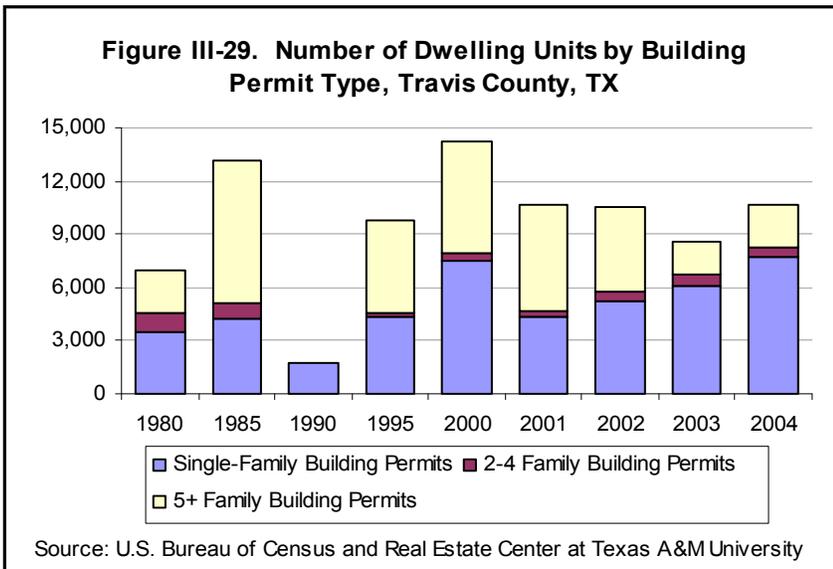
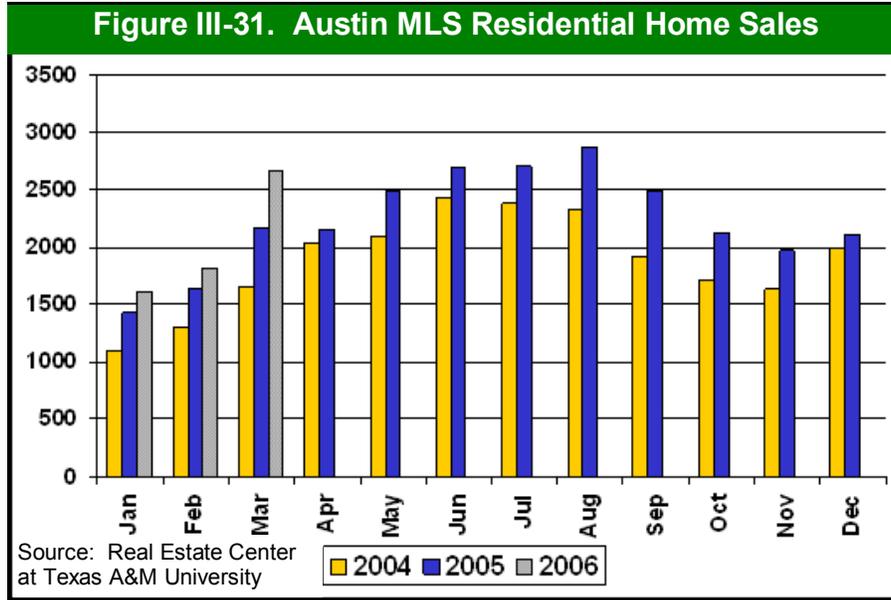


Figure III-30: Number of Dwelling Units by Building Permit Type, Travis County

Year	Single-Family Building Permits	2-4 Family Building Permits	5+ Family Building Permits
1980	3,424	1,146	2,388
1985	4,237	833	8,041
1990	1,708	46	0
1995	4,400	117	5,261
2000	7,451	465	6,353
2001	4,393	264	6,035
2002	5,246	490	4,859
2003	6,118	632	1,815
2004	7,757	492	2,409

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census and Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University

The boom in apartment construction of the early 2000s has subsided, and as illustrated by Figure III-31 below, single-family homes continue to sell at higher rates, with 2005 sales showing an overall increase over those of 2004, and available data for 2006 mirroring the same trend. This demand would appear to drive the shift in new construction towards single-family homes with fewer new multi-family units.



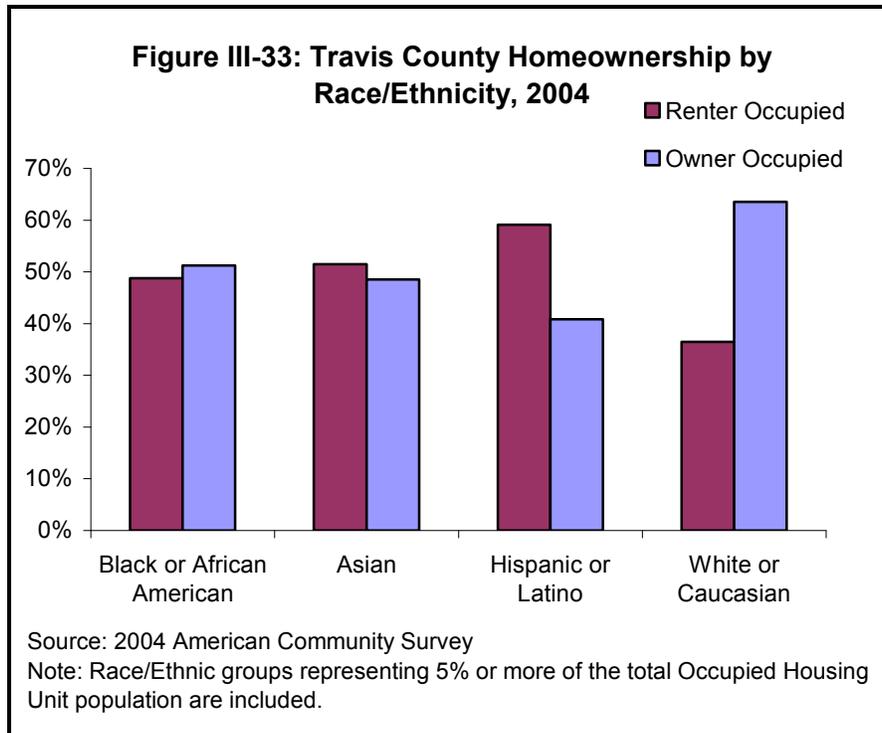
Homeownership and Home Loans

Though the number of housing units in Travis County increased greatly between 1990 and 2004 for all housing types (single- and multi-family homes and mobile homes), the distribution of housing units in Travis County did not change much during that time period. In 2004, single-family homes comprised over half (56%) of the total housing units, multi-family homes accounted for about 40% of the total housing units, and less than 4% of housing units were mobile homes.

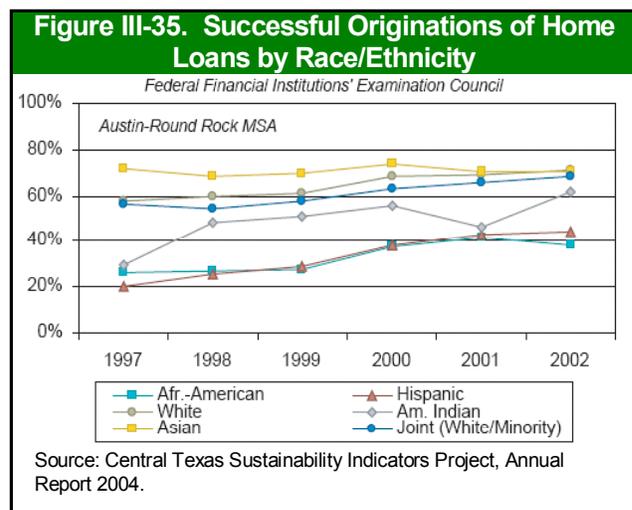
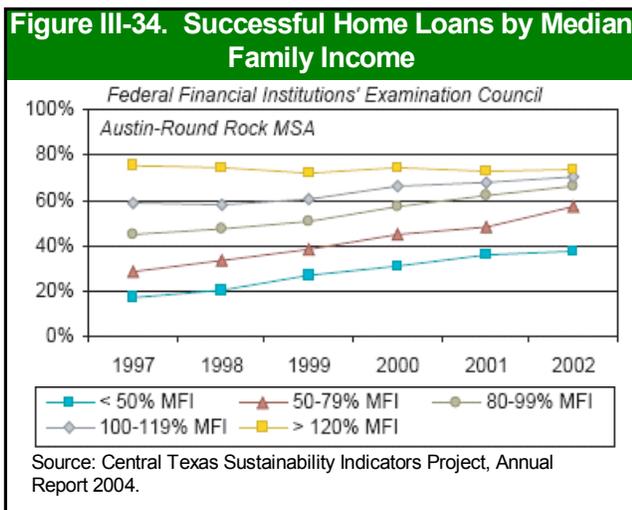
Figure III-32. Housing Unit Types in Travis County, 1990-2004
 Source: U.S. Census 1990 & 2000, 2004 American Community Survey

Housing Type	1990		2000		2004	
	# of Units	% of Units	# of Units	% of Units	# of Units	% of Units
Single Family	145,928	55.2%	187,633	55.9%	213,656	56.0%
Multi-Family	106,954	40.5%	134,320	40.0%	153,512	40.2%
Mobile Homes	8,503	3.2%	13,252	3.9%	14,162	3.7%
Other	2,788	1.1%	676	0.2%	212	0.1%

Homeownership rates vary by race/ethnicity. In 2004, just over 40% of Hispanic or Latino residents in Travis County owned a home, while approximately 64% of White or Caucasian residents owned a home, as illustrated in Figure III-33. For both Asian and African American residents, there were almost equal proportions of renters and owners in Travis County.

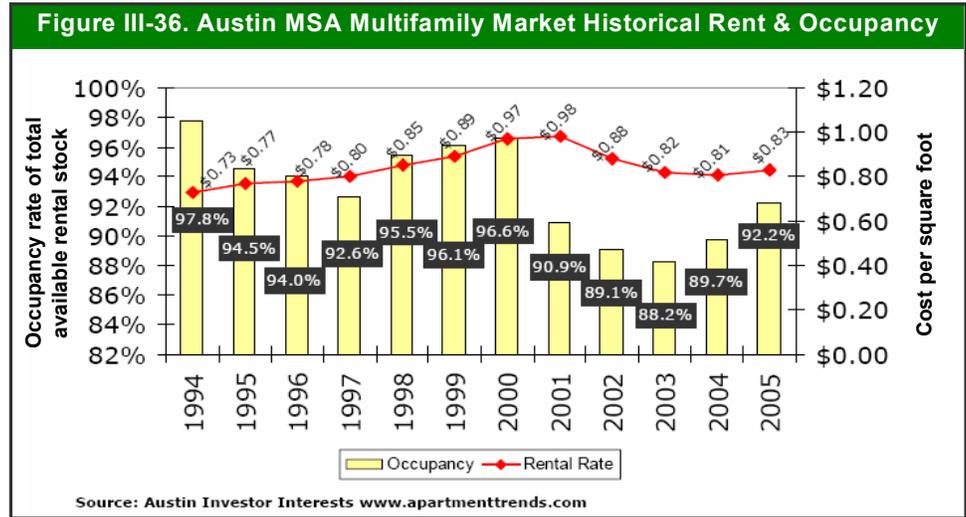


Income plays an important role in the success of a home loan application. The increase in success rates for applicants with less than the median income, as displayed in Figure III-34 below, may be related to low interest rates rather than to improved overall market accessibility. (Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Annual Report 2004.) The trend in Figure III-35 below shows that there has been some improvement for all groups over the past six years, except for Asian applications, yet Asians have maintained greater success rates than all other groups. Over the most recent years available, African-Americans' loan success rates remained below 40% in comparison to 70% for white applicants. (Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Annual Report 2004.)



Occupancy and Rental Rates

Since 1994, the occupancy rate in the Austin MSA has fluctuated between a high of 97.8% in 1994 and a low of 88.2% almost ten years later in 2003, and climbing back to 92.2% by 2005. These high occupancy levels, illustrated in Figure III-36 at right, create a fairly tight rental market in the Austin MSA, especially for those seeking more affordable housing.



Housing Cost and Affordability

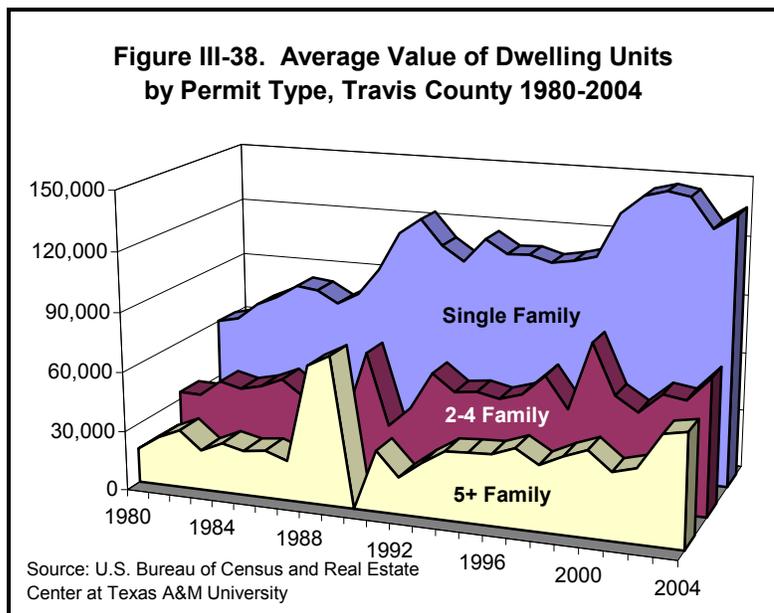
Figure III-38 (below right) illustrates the full picture of the changes in average housing values over a 25 year time span for all dwelling types in Travis County, while Figure III-37 (below left) shows exact data in five-year snapshots between 1980 and 2000, and annually from 2000 to 2004. Between 2000 and 2004, although single-family home values were much higher than those of multi-family homes, the average values of multi-family dwelling units increased dramatically relative to single-family homes. While single-family dwellings did not change much in value (a net loss of 4%), two-to-four-family units and five-plus-family units increased by a net 24% and 32% respectively. (U.S. Census Bureau and the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University).

Figure III-37. Average Value Per Dwelling Unit by Building Permit Type, Travis County

Year	Single-Family Building Permits	2-4 Family Building Permits	5+ Family Building Permits
1980	60,100	33,700	17,400
1985	81,800	46,100	22,600
1990	123,700	28,000	-
1995	109,700	47,900	35,000
2000	143,300	55,500	42,700
2001	146,400	48,400	33,600
2002	144,400	58,500	36,700
2003	129,500	56,700	54,300
2004	137,000	68,700	56,400

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census and Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University

Figure III-38. Average Value of Dwelling Units by Permit Type, Travis County 1980-2004

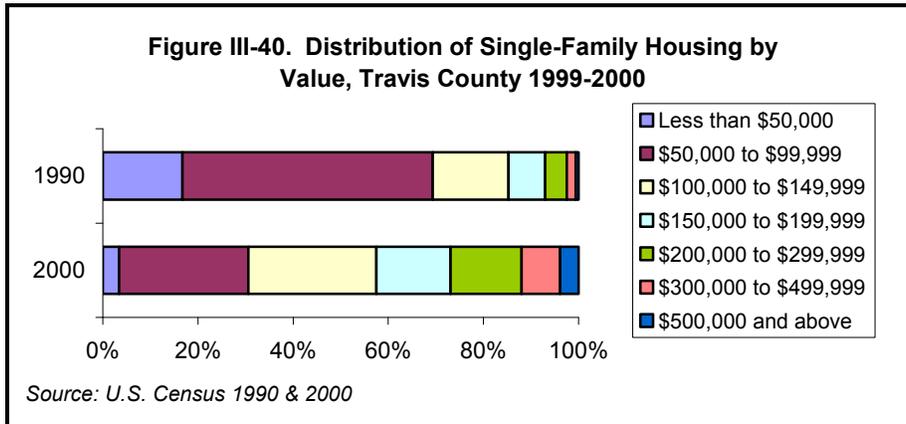


Affordability for Owners

Both the value and the number of homes in Travis County increased greatly between 1990 and 2000, as over 50,000 housing units were constructed during that decade. **While most homes (79.3%) in 1990 were valued at less than \$100,000, the majority of homes (69.4%) in 2000 were worth \$100,000 or more**, as illustrated in the following figures. Figure III-39 details the specific numbers of dwellings at different values over time, and Figure III-40 visually illustrates the dramatic shift in home values over the past two decades.

Figure III-39. Single-Family Housing Value, Travis County, 1990-2000				
Housing Unit Value	1990		2000	
	# of Units	% of Units	# of Units	% of Units
Less than \$50,000	15,179	16.7%	4,858	3.4%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	47,681	52.6%	38,306	27.2%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	14,419	15.9%	37,963	26.9%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	7,000	7.7%	21,983	15.6%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	4,085	4.5%	20,996	14.9%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,699	1.9%	11,457	8.1%
\$500,000 and above	588	0.6%	5,448	3.9%
Total Units	90,651	100.0%	141,011	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census 1990 & 2000

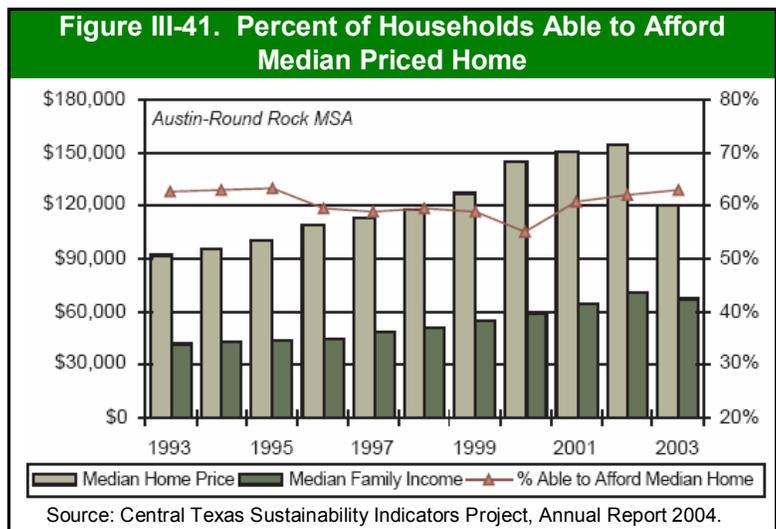


Source: U.S. Census 1990 & 2000

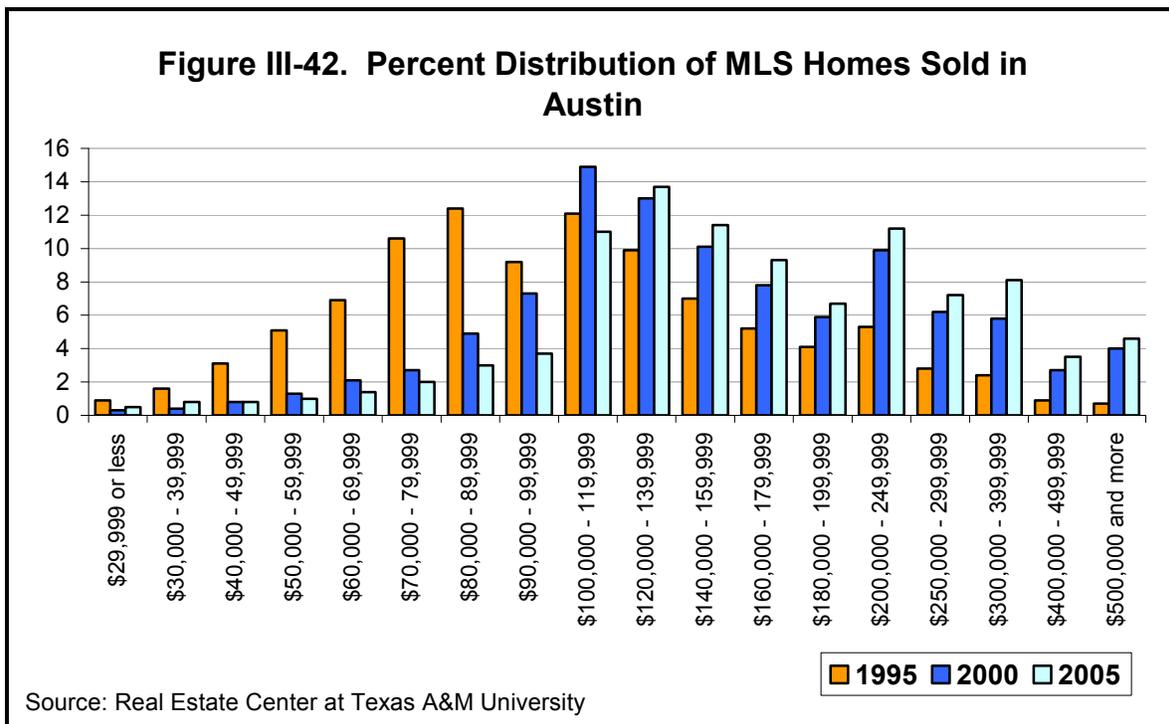
In 2005, Austin’s housing affordability index⁶ (HAI) of 1.8 was higher than both that of Texas and the US overall (1.68 and 1.23 respectively). However, compared to the HAI of prior years (2.49 in 2004, 1.89 in 2003, and 1.87 in 2002), the affordability of homeownership in Austin has fallen over the past four years. Additionally, several major metropolitan areas in Texas—including Houston, Dallas and Fort Worth—all have higher housing affordability indexes than Austin, i.e. provide more affordable homeownership than Austin. (Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University.) Of over 40 Texas metropolitan MLS areas for which data is tracked by the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University, the Austin MLS had the third highest median and average home values in 2005.

⁶ The Housing Affordability Index is the ratio of the median family income to the income required to buy the median-priced house using standard mortgage financing at the current interest rate. Standard financing is a fixed-rate, 30 year loan covering 80 percent of the standard loan to purchase the median-priced house.

The percent of Austin-Round Rock MSA households able to afford a home gradually fell until 2000, when this number began to increase in conjunction with slower growth in median home prices (see Figure III-41 at right). Combined with the continued overall increase in access to home loan capital, more households can buy a home. While the regional median income fell slightly from 2002 to 2003, median home prices fell dramatically, so that homes became more accessible. (Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Annual Report 2004).

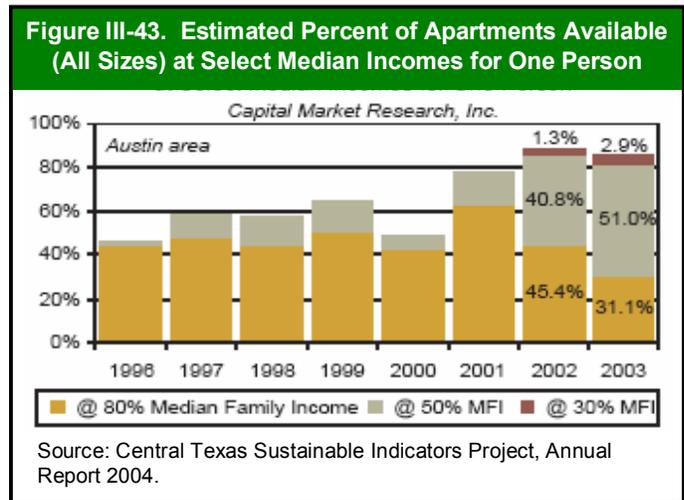


A striking proportion of residents (well over 30% between 1993 and 2003) cannot afford the median priced home (see Figure III-41 above). For residents with low- to moderate-income, the availability of homes at affordable prices is dwindling. Figure III-42 below shows a snapshot of home sales in the Austin MLS at different price ranges for 1995, 2000, and 2005, and graphically highlights a skew in the distribution of home values towards increasingly expensive homes. In the span of only one decade, houses valued at under \$100,000, which comprised 49.8% of home sales in 1995, comprised only 13.2% of home sales in 2005; simultaneously, the proportion of housing sales comprised by homes valued over \$200,000 grew from 12.1% to 34.6% during the same time period. (Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University.)



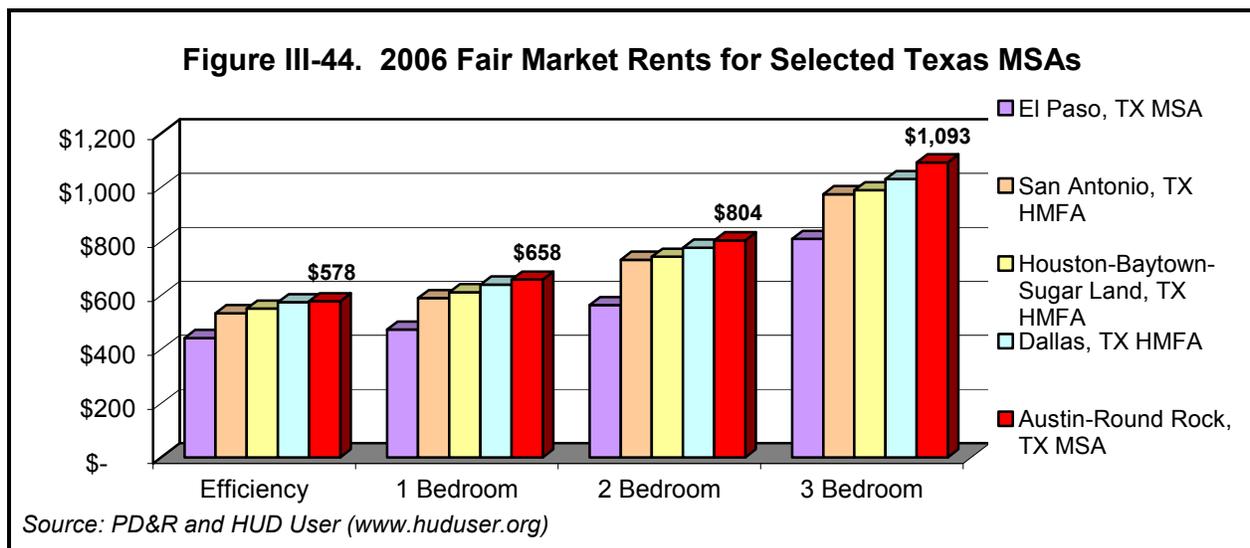
Affordability for Renters

Availability in the rental market has fluctuated significantly over the past decade, particularly in relation to income groups (as shown in Figure III-43 at right). For renters at 80% or higher of median family income, the increasing availability that was observable prior to 2001 dropped sharply, with availability reduced from over 60% to 31.1%. Simultaneously, during the same time period of 2001 through 2003, availability for renters at 50% MFI more than doubled. The decrease in average rent during this time period, combined with the steady increase in regional median income, suggests that more apartments became available at rents affordable to people with lower incomes. (Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Annual Report 2004.)



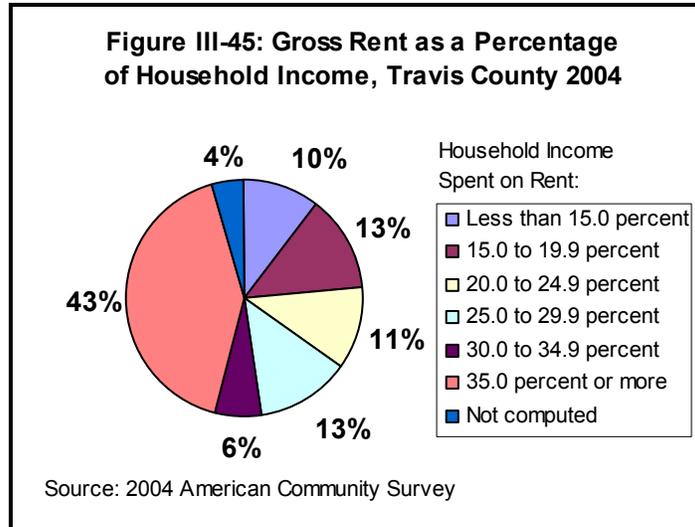
However, this analysis shows only a slight increase in affordability to those at 30% median family income. This proportion of the whole (2.9% in 2003) is insufficient when renter households at 30% MFI comprised approximately 4.8% of all renter households (Chas Data Book, 2000).

The Austin area has some of the highest fair market rents of Texas metropolitan areas. **Thus there is not enough affordable renter housing available for those at the lowest ends of the income scale.** Figure III-44 below shows fair market rents for 0-, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartments in the Austin-Round Rock MSA, compared to those of other housing markets.



Not only does the Austin-Round Rock MSA have higher fair market rents for all apartment sizes than those of many other Texas metropolitan areas, but **the cost difference is most pronounced with each additional bedroom, having the greatest effect on larger families.**

Such high rents impose a burden on a significant portion of Travis County renters. According to American Community Survey 2004 data, **over 50% of Travis County renters spend 30% or more of their household income on rent**—an expenditure that qualifies as a housing cost burden (see Figure III-45).



Housing Conditions

Age of Housing Stock

There are almost 50,000 more owner-occupied housing units than renter-occupied housing units in Travis County, and over 15,000 more owner-occupied housing units were built before 1960 than were rented units. Figure III-46 (at right) compares the age of rented housing units to the age of owner-occupied housing units.

Figure III-46. Travis County Age of Housing Structure by Homeownership

Year Built	Renter-Occupied		Owner-Occupied	
2000 or later	15,283	10.4%	23,737	12.4%
1995 to 1999	20,250	13.8%	29,526	15.4%
1990 to 1994	16,531	11.2%	13,142	6.9%
1980 to 1989	40,420	27.5%	45,061	23.5%
1970 to 1979	33,546	22.8%	36,389	19.0%
1960 to 1969	9,454	6.4%	13,181	6.9%
1950 to 1959	5,759	3.9%	16,225	8.5%
1940 to 1949	2,994	2.0%	7,901	4.1%
1939 or earlier	2,721	1.9%	6,326	3.3%
Total	146,958	100.0%	191,488	100.0%

Source: 2004 American Community Survey

Overcrowding and Substandard Housing

More than 40,000 families in the Austin area (about 6%) live in homes or apartments that are overcrowded, have faulty wiring, leaking roofs, rotting floors, inadequate kitchen or bath facilities, and many other unsafe conditions (Community Action Network Housing Update, 2004). Overcrowding and substandard housing are the two primary barriers to housing safety and quality.

Sufficient housing refers to a housing unit that provides enough space for the number of occupants, without exceeding unit capacity. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, an overcrowded household is

one in which there are more household members than there are rooms (not including kitchen and bathrooms). Overcrowding is present in more rented housing units than owned housing units, with 4.4% overcrowding in owner-occupied housing units, and 12.1% overcrowding in renter-occupied units. Figure III-47 below displays in more detail Travis County’s renter- and owner-occupied housing units and their overcrowding conditions.

Figure III-47. Occupants per Room by Homeownership in Travis County, 2000				
Occupants per Room	Owned	% Owned	Rented	% Rented
0.50 or less	118,552	71.8%	83,684	53.8%
0.51 to 1.00	39,243	23.8%	53,246	34.2%
1.01 to 1.50	4,177	2.5%	7,930	5.1%
1.51 to 2.00	2,313	1.4%	6,771	4.4%
2.01 or more	838	0.5%	4,012	2.6%

Source: U.S. Census 2000

Black or African American, Asian and Hispanic or Latino populations face overcrowding challenges more than the White or Caucasian population in Travis County, where overcrowding is present in 1 of 4 Hispanic/Latino households. Figure III-48 below illustrates the number of households by race living in overcrowded conditions.

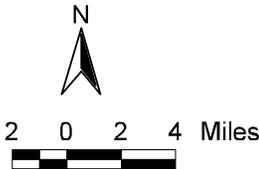
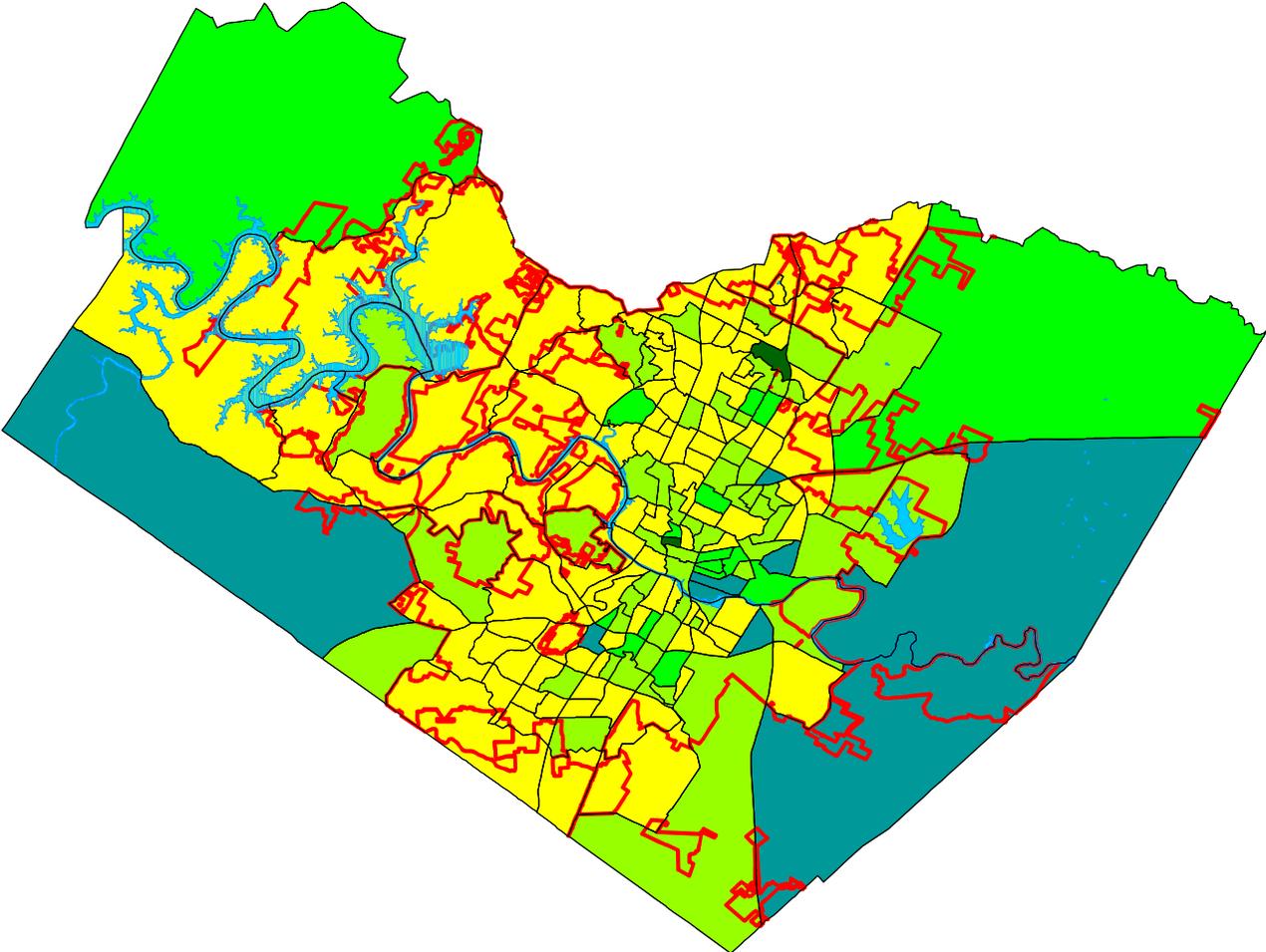
Figure III-48. Occupants per Room by Race in Travis County, 2000 ⁷			
Race/Ethnicity	Occupants per Room		Percent Overcrowded
	1.00 or less	1.01 or more	
Black or African American	24,635	2,686	9.8%
Asian	10,931	2,201	16.8%
Hispanic or Latino	48,402	16,784	25.7%
White or Caucasian	205,365	4,090	2.0%

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

The U.S. Census defines a substandard housing unit as one that lacks a complete kitchen or bathroom. Map III-7 on the following page shows the concentration of households in Travis County living in substandard housing. **The highest concentrations of substandard housing are primarily in the unincorporated areas of the county.**

⁷ Race/Ethnic groups representing 5% or more of the total Occupied Housing Unit population are included.

Map III-7



Percent of Housing with Lack of Complete Plumbing and Kitchen Facilities

Travis County

 Austin City Limits
Lack of Complete Plumbing and Kitchen Facilities
0 - 1%
1.01 - 3%
3.01 - 5%
5.01 - 9%
9.01 - 17.1%
City of Austin
Fair Housing Impediment Study
J-QUAD & Associates, LLC.

Public and Assisted Housing and Homeless Services

Public and Assisted Housing

In Travis County, public and assisted housing opportunities are provided by the Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC). HATC offers federally subsidized voucher programs to low-income, elderly and disabled residents throughout the county, but does not maintain any public housing developments in the unincorporated areas. The following figures (III-49 and III-50) show summary data for the public housing that does exist within incorporated areas of Travis County.

Figure III-49. Section 8 Waiting List: Statistical Summary			
Source: Housing Authority of Travis County			
Demographic Characteristic	Count	Percent Avg. Age	
Gender			
Male	316	12.46%	43.91
Female	2221	87.54%	34.55
No gender	0	0.00%	0.00
Elderly			
Elderly	150	5.91%	72.35
Non-Elderly	2387	94.09%	33.42
Near Elderly	284	11.19%	8.87
Disability			
Disabled	687	27.08%	45.39
Non-Disabled	1850	72.92%	32.13
Non-Disabled/Non-Elderly	1793	70.67%	30.86
Race			
White	354	13.95%	46.43
Black/African American	1540	60.70%	34.10
American Indian/Alaska Native	11	0.43%	44.00
Asian	10	0.39%	35.60
Race	0	0.00%	0.00
Ethnic			
Ethnic	562	22.15%	33.77
Non-Ethnic	1975	77.85%	36.27
Preference			
Families with Federal Preference	83		
Families with Local Preference	0		
PHA Employee	0		
Family types			
Elderly Families	155		
Families with Disabilities	692		
Families with Children	188		
		Bedrooms	Count
		0	2
		1	747
		2	971
		3	631
		4	144
		5	33
		6	6
		7	1
		8	0
		8+	0
Total Count	2537		
Number of Elderly	161		
Number of Disabilities	698		
Number of Children	351		

Figure III-50. Public Housing Waiting List: Statistical Summary			
Source: Housing Authority of Travis County			
Demographic Characteristic	Count	Percent	Avg. Age
Gender			
Male	127	21.17%	46.10
Female	473	78.83%	33.36
No gender	0	0.00%	0.00
Elderly			
Elderly	21	3.50%	69.43
Non-Elderly	579	96.50%	34.85
Near Elderly	72	12.00%	8.38
Disability			
Disabled	139	23.17%	46.88
Non-Disabled	461	76.83%	32.80
Non-Disabled/Non-Elderly	454	75.67%	32.24
Race			
White	96	16.00%	42.88
Black/African American	358	59.67%	34.83
American Indian/Alaska Native	8	1.33%	43.75
Asian	4	0.67%	53.50
No Race	0	0.00%	0.00
Ethnic			
Ethnic	122	20.33%	33.66
Non-Ethnic	478	79.67%	36.67
Preference			
Families with Federal Preference	15		
Families with Local Preference	0		
PHA Employee	0		
Family types			
Elderly Families	25		
Families with Disabilities	149		
Families with Children	327		
		Bedrooms	Count
		0	0
		1	265
		2	175
		3	114
		4	37
		5	7
		6	2
		7	0
		8	0
		8+	0
Total Count			
600			
Number of Elderly			
27			
Number of Disabilities			
151			
Number of Children			
700			

Homeless, Emergency and Transitional Housing

In the “Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness,” the Austin/Travis County Homeless Task Force cites the number of homeless people in Travis County at any given time to be 3,789 individuals. Of these, approximately 600 are chronically homeless (defined by the federal government as an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years). In 2003, various

homeless facilities operating within the framework of the Continuum of Care provided shelter to: 264 seriously mentally ill persons, 287 chronic substance abusers, 107 veterans, 89 persons with HIV/AIDS, and 598 victims of domestic violence (Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Austin/Travis County, 2003).

Figures III-51, III-52, and III-53 show the number of homeless individuals by housing activity, as well as the unmet need in each component, as determined by the Austin Travis County Homeless Task Force. These data were obtained from the 2005 Austin Travis County Homeless Task Force Housing Inventory, but these activities are not eligible for Travis County CDBG expenditures.

Figure III-51. Travis County Emergency Shelter, 2005									
Provider Name	Facility Name	Year Round Beds		2005 Year Round Units/Beds				2005 Other Beds	
		Individual	Family	Family units	Family beds	Individual Beds	Total Year Round	Seasonal	Overflow-Voucher
Austin Travis County MHMR	Safe Haven	16	0	0	0	16	16	0	0
Casa Marianella	Men's Shelter	26	0	0	0	26	26	0	4
Casa Marianella	Posada Esperanza	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	0
Central Presbyterian Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0
Community Advocates for Teens and Parents		0	0	3	6	0	6	0	0
Congregational Church of Austin		0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0
David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0
Foundation for the Homeless	Interfaith Hospitality Network	0	32	8	32	0	32	0	0
Front Steps	Austin Resource Center for the Homeless	10	0	0	0	100	100	0	75
LifeWorks	Youth Shelter	16	4	2	4	16	20	0	0
Metropolitan Community Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0
First Unitarian Universalist Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0
SafePlace	Family Shelter	10	90	25	90	10	100	0	0
Saint Austin's Catholic Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0
Saint David's Episcopal Church	Trinity Center	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0
Saint Ignatius Catholic Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	75	0
Salvation Army	Austin Women and Children's Shelter	6	54	0	54	6	60	0	0
Salvation Army	Family Dorm	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	0
Salvation Army	Men's Dorm	118	0	0	0	118	118	200	0
Salvation Army	Men's Worker Dorm	31	0	0	0	31	31	0	0
Salvation Army	Turning Point	44	0	0	0	41	41	30	16
Salvation Army	Women's Worker	22	0	0	0	22	22	0	0
Trinity United Methodist Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0
TOTALS		299	252	38	258	386	644	520	95
		Unmet Need		20	60	453	513		
Total Year-Round Individual Beds		386		Total Year-Round Family Beds		258			
Year-Round Individual Beds in HMIS		299		Family Beds in HMIS		252			
HMIS Coverage of Individual Beds		77%		HMIS Coverage Family Beds		98%			

Source: Austin Travis County Homeless Task Force Housing Inventory, 2005.

Figure III-52. Travis County Transitional Housing, 2005							
Provider Name	Facility Name	Number of Year Round Beds		2005 Year Round Units/Beds			
		Individual	Family	Family units	Family beds	Individual Beds	Total Year Round
Austin Travis County MHMR	Alameda	13	0	0	0	13	13
Blackland CDC	Blackland Transitional Housing	0	36	9	36	0	36
Caritas	Re-Entry Program	20	0	0	0	20	20
Community Advocates for Teens and Parents		0	0	0	0	25	25
Family Eldercare	Elder Shelter	8	0	0	0	8	8
Family Eldercare	Lake View Apartments	8	4	2	4	8	12
LifeWorks	Supportive Housing	0	46	23	46	0	46
LifeWorks	Transitional Housing	16	0	0	0	16	16
Marywood	Stepping Stones	0	24	8	24	0	24
PushUp	Women's Program	10	20	5	20	10	30
PushUp	Men's Transitional	45	0	0	0	45	45
SafePlace	Supportive Housing	8	140	43	140	8	148
Salvation Army	Passages/TBRA	0	158	45	158	0	158
Vincare	St. Louise House	0	30	11	30	0	30
TOTALS		128	458	146	458	153	611
		Unmet Need		194	682	596	1278
Total Year-Round Individual Beds		153	Total Year-Round Family Beds		458		
Year-Round Individual Beds in HMIS		128	Family Beds in HMIS		458		
HMIS Coverage of Individual Beds		84%	HMIS Coverage Family Beds		100%		

Source: Austin Travis County Homeless Task Force Housing Inventory, 2005.

Figure III-53. Travis County Supportive Housing, 2005								
Provider Name	Facility Name	Number of Year Round Beds		2005 Year Round Units/Beds				
		Individual	Family	Family units	Family beds	Individual Beds	CH Beds	Total Year Round
Front Steps & Garden Communities	Garden Terrace	50	0	0	0	50	0	50
HACA, ATCMHMR, ASA	Shelter Pluse Care (1-yr)	23	12	12	19	23	0	41
HACA, ATCMHMR	Shelter Pluse Care (5-yr)	29	4	4	4	29	0	33
HACA, ATCMHMR	Shelter Pluse Care (1-yr)	37	9	9	9	37	0	46
HACA, ATCMHMR	Shelter Pluse Care (5-yr)	0	0	0	0	20	20	20
TOTALS		139	25	25	32	159	20	190
		Unmet Need		78	157	315	60	472
Total Year-Round Individual Beds		159	Total Year-Round Family Beds		32			
Year-Round Individual Beds in HMIS		139	Family Beds in HMIS		25			
HMIS Coverage of Individual Beds		87%	HMIS Coverage Family Beds		78%			

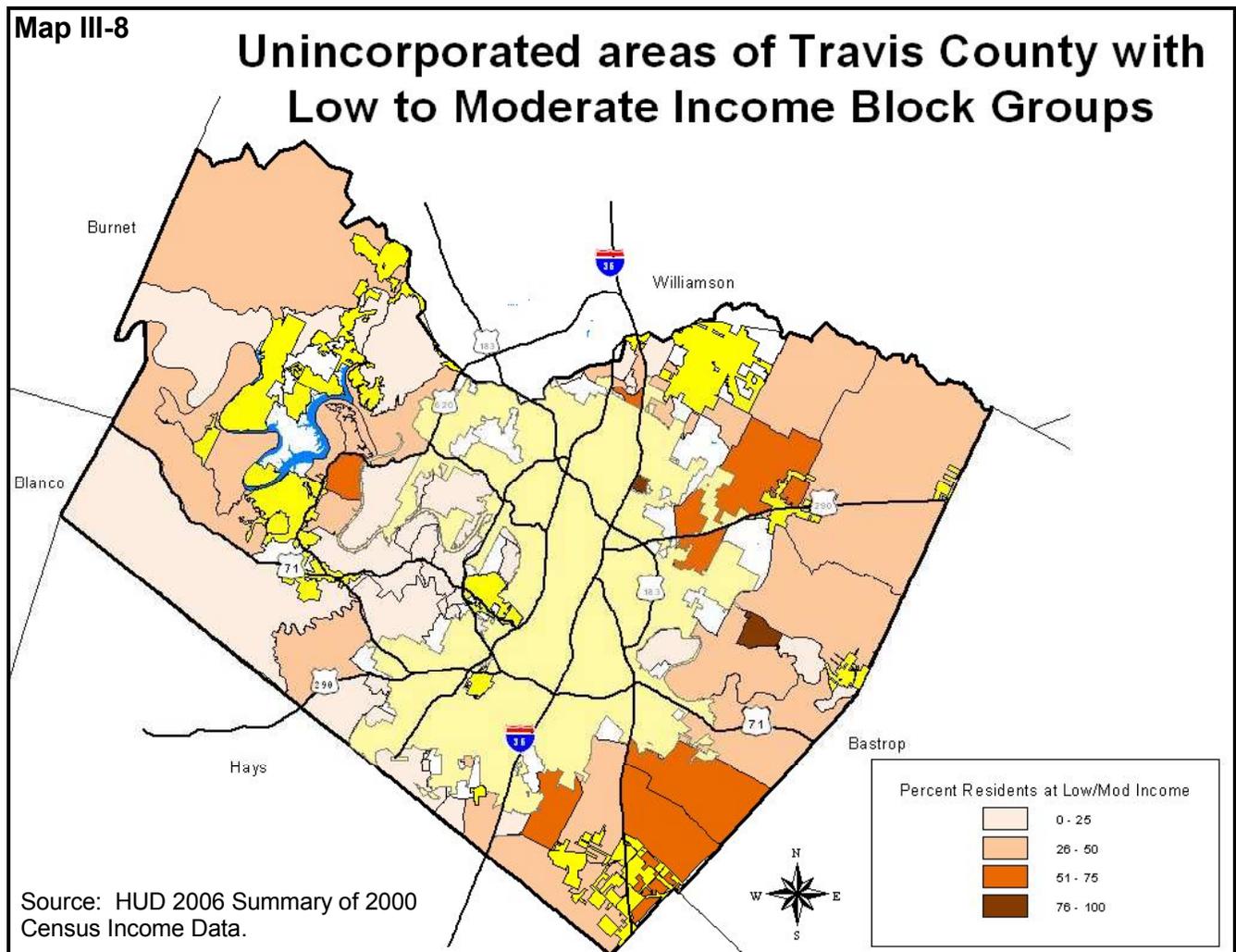
Source: Austin Travis County Homeless Task Force Housing Inventory, 2005.

Housing Stock Available to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS

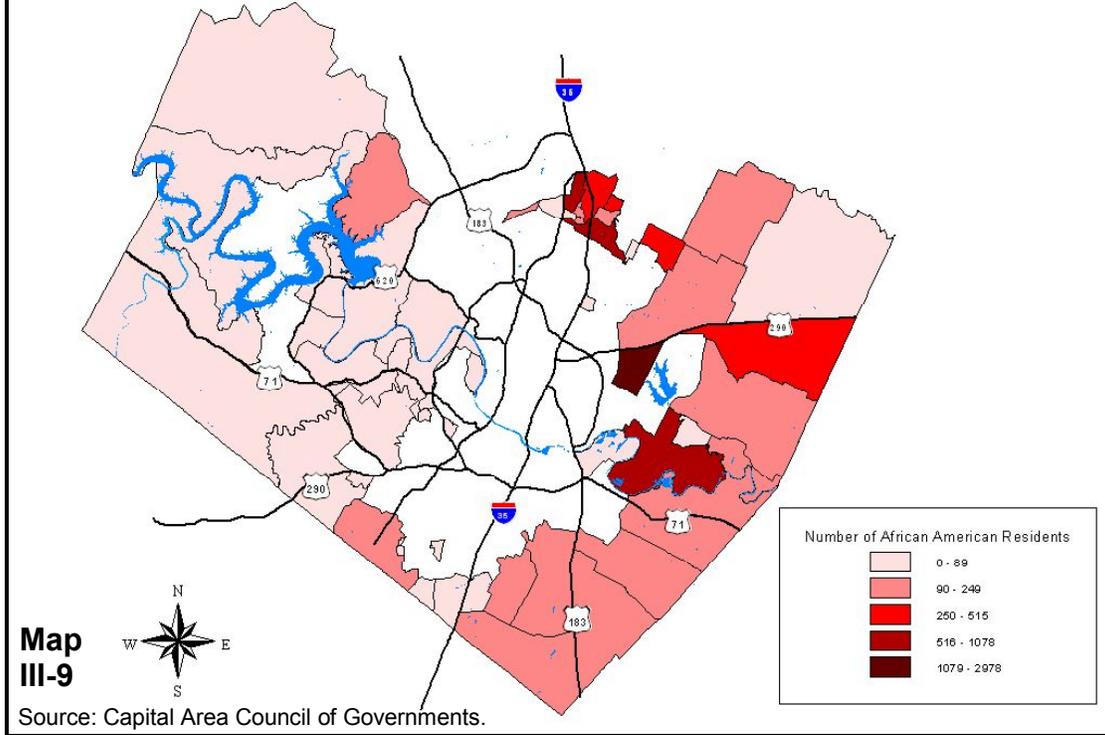
Project Transitions, which serves approximately 150 clients per year, is the only organization in the Austin area that provides HIV/AIDS housing. Waiting lists for Project Transitions housing span from six months to one year. The organization operates a variety of facilities, including Doug’s House, Roosevelt Gardens, Highland Terrace, and fifteen scattered sites. In addition, five AIDS services agencies in Austin provide rental assistance. The aforementioned forms of assistance are available within the city of Austin. In the unincorporated areas of Travis County, persons living with HIV/AIDS have access to the same housing options and assistance as all Travis County residents.

Areas of Concentration: Low Income Families, Racial/Ethnic Minorities

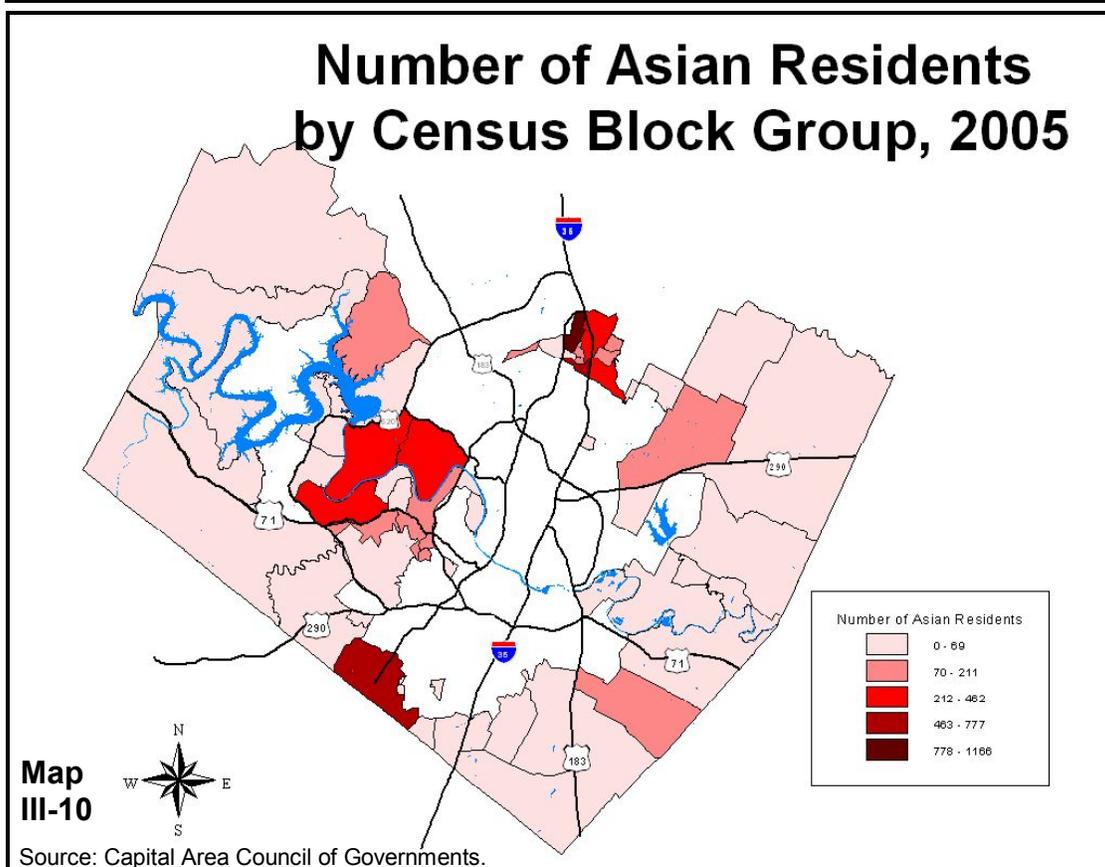
Map III-8 shows the areas of concentration of low-income families in unincorporated Travis County. (Areas shaded in yellow are incorporated.) Maps III-9, III-10, III-11 and III-12 on the following pages represent block group data collected by the US Census Bureau. Of minority groups in Travis County, Hispanic residents and residents identified as “Other Race” have the highest concentrations in the unincorporated areas. Lastly, Maps III-13 and III-14 show the elderly and disabled populations.

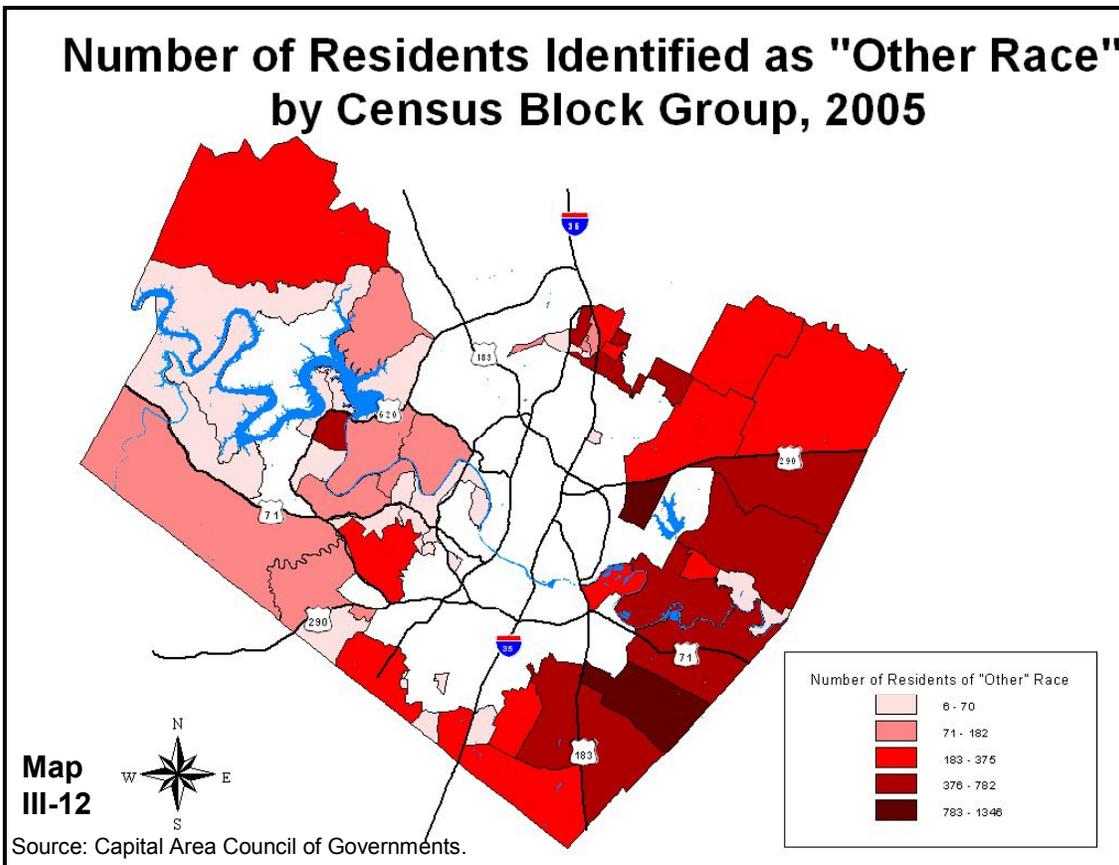
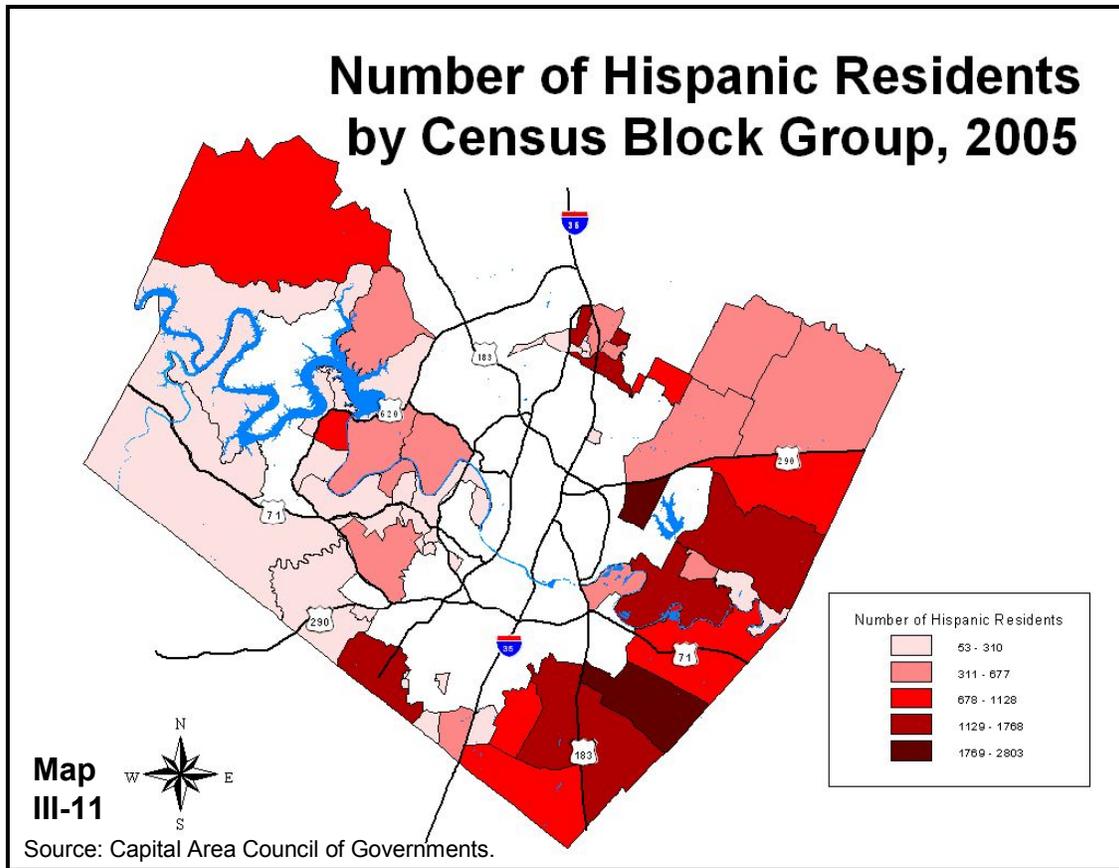


Number of African American Residents by Census Block Group, 2005

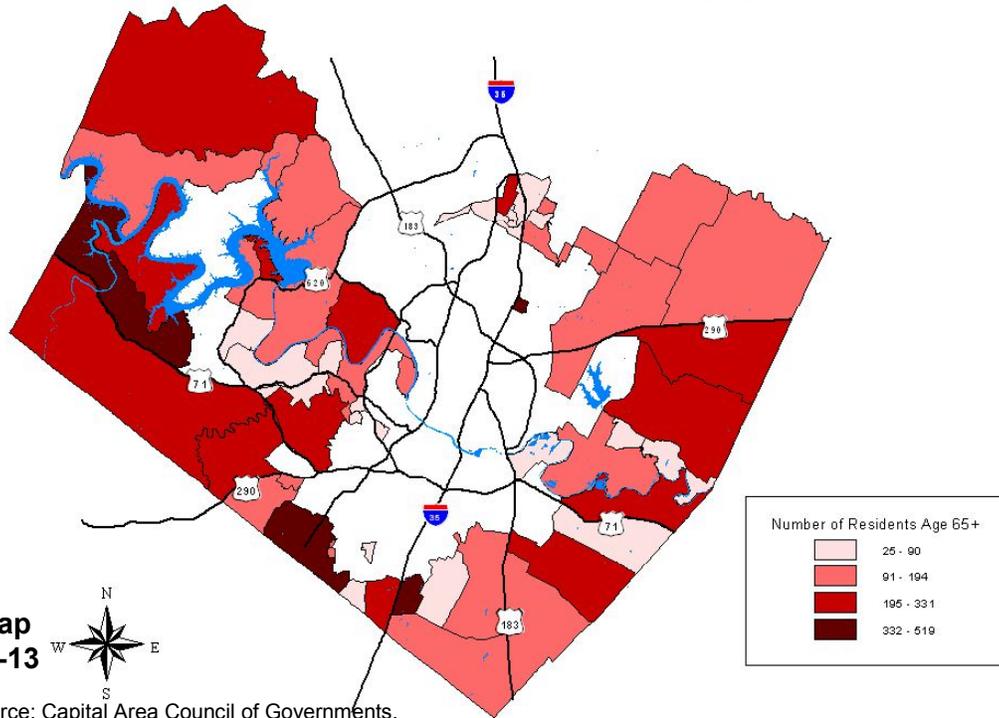


Number of Asian Residents by Census Block Group, 2005





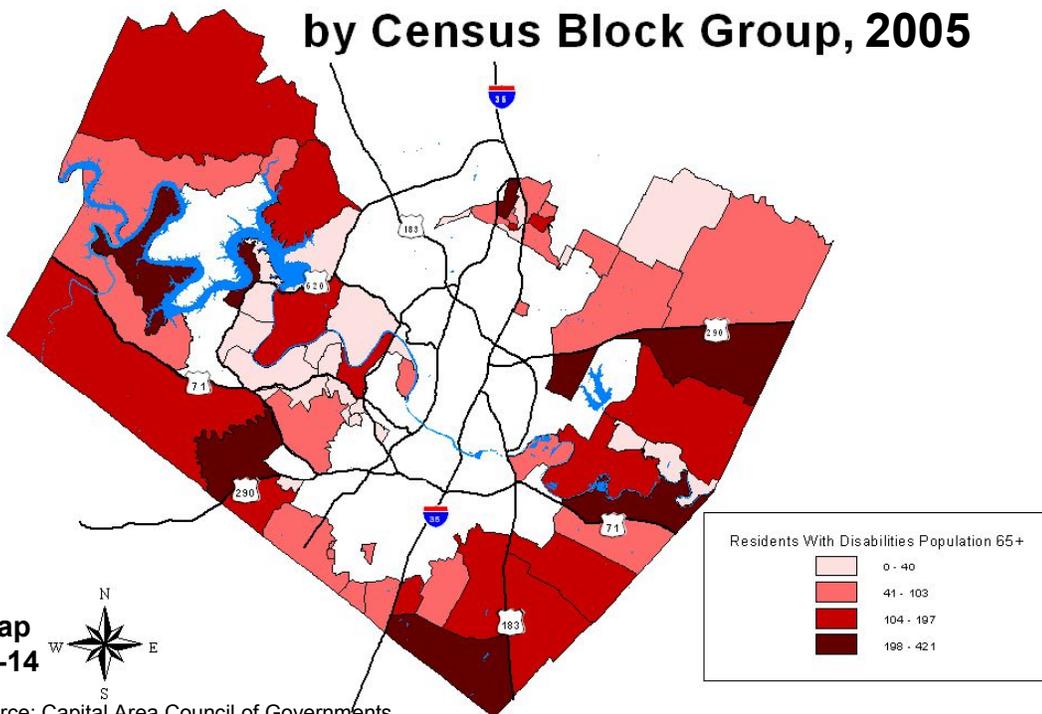
Number of Residents Age 65 or Over by Census Block Group, 2005



Map III-13

Source: Capital Area Council of Governments.

Number of Residents Age 65 or Over with Disabilities by Census Block Group, 2005



Map III-14

Source: Capital Area Council of Governments.

Impediments to Fair Housing

Fair Housing

In 1968, the United States Congress enacted Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act (commonly referred to as the “Fair Housing Act”), which prohibited discrimination in the housing market against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or handicap. In addition, Executive Order 11063 prohibits discrimination in housing or residential property financing related to any federally assisted activity.

Furthering fair housing efforts is crucial to ensuring that all persons have equal access to housing. The trend in Travis County includes an ever increasing disparity between the wealthy and the poor, which limits housing choices regardless of fair and ethical housing policies.

HUD requires that jurisdictions receiving federal funds commit to affirmatively further fair housing. Travis County will continue to promote and practice compliance with the Fair Housing Act and engage in efforts to reduce and/or eliminate barriers to affordable housing.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Many factors impact affordability of the housing stock in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The high cost of living and the demand for land and housing create a lack of affordable housing for very low- and low-income households. Outlined below are the barriers to affordable housing identified through the needs assessment, housing market analysis, provider forum and surveys, consultations and public hearings.

Availability of Funding for Affordable Housing

Travis County’s Housing Finance Corporation currently has funding and programs in place to increase affordable home ownership through first time homebuyers down payment assistance and bond programs. While this funding creates opportunities to increase housing affordability, poor credit scores and other factors make it difficult for low to moderate-income families to qualify for mortgage loans.

The majority of Travis County residents with a housing cost burden are renters. Not enough funding exists to subsidize renters to make rents more affordable. The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) reported that it operates 1,928 units of public housing at approximately 98% occupancy and has more than 4,000 people on the waiting list. HACA also had more than 5,000 housing choice vouchers/Section 8 participants and more than 3,500 people on the waiting list in January of 2005 (Housing Authority of the City of Austin). The Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC) owns and operates 105 units of public housing in three developments in incorporated areas of Travis County, and manages the subsidized housing voucher program for Travis County. HATC has more than 652 people on the waiting list for public housing and 2,248 people on the waiting list for Section 8 tenant based assistance, of which both lists are currently closed (Housing Authority of Travis County, 2006).

High Cost of Housing, Land and Infrastructure

The high cost of housing, land and infrastructure makes homeownership and rents unaffordable to many of Travis County’s low-income families. Austin/Travis County has one of the highest median

home values in the nation: \$161,616 (Community Action Network Frequently Asked Questions About Housing, December 2004). For residents with low- to moderate-income, the availability of homes at affordable prices is dwindling.

The cost of land in Land Market 26 (which includes Travis County) increased by 106% from 2000 to 2005 (Real Estate Center at Texas A&M). The cost of land, along with a lack of available lots with pre-existing infrastructure, significantly increase the costs of new home construction, often making housing unaffordable to households under 80% of median family income. In addition, the Austin/ Travis County area has some of the highest fair market rents of Texas metropolitan areas. There is not enough affordable rental housing available for households with incomes at or below 30% of median family income.

Building Codes, Zoning Provisions, Growth Restrictions and Fees

At this time, Travis County does not have any building codes, zoning provisions or growth restrictions in the unincorporated areas. This is largely a function of state statutes that place significant limits on the authority of counties to regulate or restrict development. While less structure initially increases affordable development, it also increases the likelihood for substandard housing and other unsuitable living conditions throughout the unincorporated areas.

Travis County is characterized by minimal fees for development (compared to other municipalities), however, these fees still reduce affordability for low to moderate-income households.

Environmental Regulations

Several state and federal regulations exist for the purpose of protecting the environment. Federal regulations include the Endangered Species Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and the Wetland regulations. Texas rules include regulation for the installation of septic systems and for development over the Edwards Aquifer. These regulations may increase costs for development, affecting affordability.



Travis County

Section IV:

Strategic Plan

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



Introduction

As an urban entitlement county, Travis County must comply with the Consolidated Plan requirements in order to receive funding for its formula-based HUD programs. Designated as the lead agency by the Travis County Commissioners Court, the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) is charged with the preparation and the submission of this Consolidated Plan to HUD. HHS/VS is also responsible for oversight of the public notification process, approval of projects, and the administration of these grants. Travis County intends to administer CDBG funded projects in the unincorporated areas of the County. Community development, housing, and public service opportunities in geographic areas outside of the incorporated cities and villages in Travis County will be considered.

The Strategic Plan sets general guidelines of the Travis County Consolidated Plan for housing and community development activities for the next five years, beginning October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2010. The policies and priorities of the strategic plan are drawn from an analysis of housing, community development, and service needs within the urban county. These needs assessments are detailed in Section III of this plan– *Community Needs*. The priorities and objectives provide structured guidelines that direct HHS/VS, on behalf of the Travis County Commissioners Court, regarding the selection of projects to be funded over the next five years.

This Strategic Plan presents policies and a course of action to focus on priorities anticipated over the next five years that will address the statutory program goals as established by federal law:

1. Decent Housing – which includes:

- Assisting homeless persons obtain affordable housing;
- Assisting persons at risk of becoming homeless;
- Retention of affordable housing stock;
- Increase the availability of affordable permanent housing in standard condition to low-income and moderate-income families, particularly to members of disadvantaged minorities without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability;
- Increasing the supply of supportive housing which includes structural features and services to enable persons with special needs (including persons with HIV/AIDS) to live in dignity and independence; and
- Providing affordable housing that is accessible to job opportunities.

2. A Suitable Living Environment – which includes:

- Improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods; and
- Increasing access to quality public and private facilities and services;

3. Expanded Economic Opportunities – which includes:

- Job creation and retention for low-income persons;

- Availability of mortgage financing for low-income persons at reasonable rates using non-discriminatory lending practices; and
- Empowerment and self-sufficiency for low-income persons to reduce generational poverty in federally assisted housing and public housing.

The Strategic Plan focuses on those activities funded through CDBG funds that are provided to the County by HUD on an annual basis. Based on the County's annual allocation of \$838,659 for fiscal year 2006-07, the County is expected to receive approximately \$4.19 million over the five-year Consolidated Plan period.

Note: In the original preparation of the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, HUD informed Travis County of an allocation of an estimated \$2,449,337 annually. Due to human error, HUD informed Travis County of a reduction in the allocation amount by approximately \$1.6 million dollars annually. HUD disallowed the original submission prepared by Travis County, and the Plan was substantially amended in November of 2006. At the time of amendment, Travis County chose only to address the Action Plan for program year 2006, and to re-evaluate the strategic direction later. The amendment to the strategic direction results from the information gathered through the citizen engagement process in 2006 and 2007 and the original needs assessment data gathered in 2006.

While the amendment to the strategic direction is not required to go through a public comment period, the scope of the change is substantial enough to warrant Travis County's interest in eliciting public comment. During the week of June 4, 2007, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed amendment to the strategic direction. The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 30-day public comment period commenced June 20, 2007 and ended July 19, 2007.

After considering the housing, community development and public service needs of Travis County's low- to moderate-income residents as identified in the Housing Needs Assessment, Market Analysis, and citizen engagement efforts, Travis County Commissioners Court identified the following national goals as its focus for CDBG funds for the five year grant period:

1. Decent Housing:

- Assisting low- and moderate-income persons obtain affordable housing

2. A Suitable Living Environment:

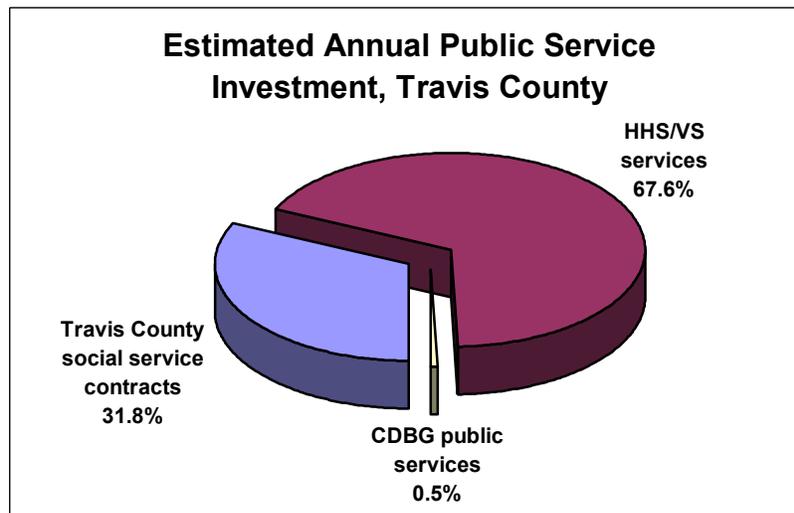
- Improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods and
- Increasing access to quality public and private facilities and services

Availability of Resources

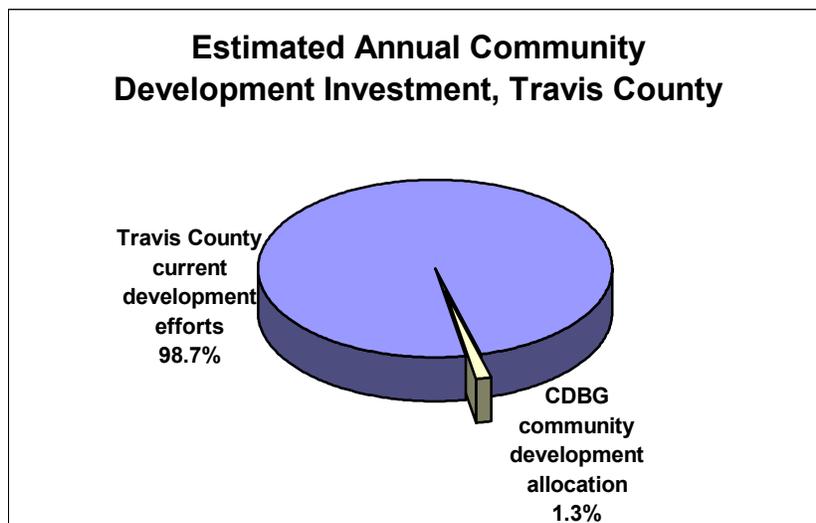
The Strategic Plan focuses on those activities funded through CDBG funds provided to Travis County by HUD on an annual basis. Based on the County's annual allocation of \$838,659 for fiscal year 2006-07, the County is expected to receive approximately \$4,193,000 over the five-year Consolidated Plan period. At this time, the County does not receive HOME funds.

In addition to these funds, the County has other funds that may be used to leverage CDBG money for housing, community development and public service projects.

Public Service Investment: The County currently contracts annually with over 40 non-profits in the form of social service contracts to the sum of approximately \$7,268,700. In addition, the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) provides direct public services annually in the amount of approximately \$15,442,265. The cap on public service dollars for CDBG is 15% of the County's allocation, or approximately \$125,798 annually. Therefore, CDBG public service dollars equal not more than 0.5% of the County's overall efforts in public services.



Community Development and Affordable Housing Investment: The County's infrastructure department, Transportation and Natural Resources, conducts community development activities in the form of public parks, bridge and drainage projects, storm water management, road maintenance, onsite sewage facilities, transportation planning, and various other projects, totaling approximately \$56,274,900 annually. Housing and Community Development activities using CDBG funds are anticipated to total at least \$545,128 annually. Therefore, CDBG community development and housing funds equal approximately 1.3% of the County's overall efforts in housing and community development.



Priority Needs Analysis and Strategies

Priority Needs Determination

The priority needs for housing, homelessness, and non-housing community development efforts were determined using data presented in Section III (*Community Needs*) of this plan, and through public hearings, surveys, and consultations with both County staff and with housing, community development, and public service providers serving low- to moderate-income residents of the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

Key factors affecting the determination of the five-year priorities included: 1) the types of target income households with greatest need for assistance; 2) those activities that will best address their needs; and 3) the limited amount of funding available to meet those needs.

Priority ranking indicates the following intent:

High Priority: Travis County plans to use funds made available for activities that address this unmet need during the period of time designated in the strategic plan.

Medium Priority: If funds are available, activities to address this unmet need may be funded by Travis County during the period of time designated in the strategic plan. Also, Travis County will take actions to locate other sources of funds to address this identified unmet need.

Low Priority: The jurisdiction does not plan to use funds made available for activities to address this unmet need during the period of time designated in the strategic plan. The jurisdiction will consider certifications of consistency for other entities' applications for Federal assistance.

For the five-year Consolidated Plan period, Table 2A, Figure IV-1, and Table 2B identify the priorities assigned to the housing and community development activities and the populations the County anticipates targeting during the Consolidated Plan period. While priorities and goals have been assigned to housing and community development needs, these represent estimates. The specific type and level of need in the community is not completely known at this time. The County will undertake additional analysis of the specific nature of needs in the unincorporated areas of Travis County in the coming years. In addition, the County will continually assess the service delivery system, gaps in services and emerging housing and community development needs of low- to moderate-income residents in order to ensure effective and efficient program development for the use of CDBG funds.

Affordable Housing Strategy

Table 2A: Priority Needs Summary Table					
Priority Housing Needs (Households)		Priority Need Level (High, Medium, Low)		Unmet Need	Goals
Renter	Small Related	0-30%	High	385	6 2
		31-50%	High	295	5 1
		51-80%	High	432	8 2
	Large Related	0-30%	Medium	78	0
		31-50%	High	181	3 1
		51-80%	High	186	3 1
	Elderly	0-30%	High	129	2 1
		31-50%	High	59	4 0
		51-80%	Medium	22	0
	All Other	0-30%	High	387	6 1
		31-50%	High	335	5 1
		51-80%	High	458	8 2
Owner	0-30%	High	1399	50 20	
	31-50%	High	1493	52 15	
	51-80%	High	2873	105 31	
Special Needs		0-80%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Goals					264 78
Total 215 Goals					N/A
Total 215 Renter Goals					N/A
Total 215 Owner Goals					N/A

Information from the CHAS Data Book 2000 was used to determine unmet need, specifically numbers of households with housing problems by type and income level. CHAS data is

available at the county or city levels, but not by block group. Unmet need for residents in unincorporated areas was calculated for each category of need by subtracting the number of City of Austin residents with housing problems from the number of Travis County residents with housing problems. The resulting figures were then multiplied by the percent of County residents with housing problems in order to estimate the number of residents in the unincorporated areas of Travis County who experience a housing problem, and thus have an unmet need. Due to the two-thirds reduction in the allocation amount, the goals were reduced to approximately one-third of the original goal set.

As evidenced by the information in Table 2A, there are a significant number of both renter and owner households experiencing housing problems, and thus needing housing services. Travis County will prioritize housing development and services toward the populations with the highest number of households with housing problems. In addition, clients may be prioritized by considering vulnerability and other such conditions other than income. Data show a significantly higher number of owner households with housing problems in Travis County outside the City of Austin than the number of renter households with housing problems.

Figure IV-1 below identifies the kinds of projects through which Travis County anticipates alleviating the housing problems of low- to moderate-income residents in the unincorporated areas of the County.

Two previously high priority categories were changed to medium. This change reflects a more targeted approach to address the housing development needs. Changes made to the Figure IV-1 reflect the Travis County Commissioners Court approved narrowed direction.

Figure IV-1: Priority Housing Projects	
RENTAL HOUSING GOALS	
Production of new units	High <u>Medium</u>
Rental Assistance	Medium
Acquisition of existing units	Medium
Rehabilitation of existing units	Medium
OWNER HOUSING GOALS	
Production of new units	High
Homebuyer Assistance	High <u>Medium</u>
Acquisition of existing units	Medium
Rehabilitation of existing units	High
Other: Other ways to promote affordable housing development <u>Infrastructure to support affordable housing development</u>	High

Homeless Strategy

For the five-year time period covered in this plan, Travis County does not intend to target Community Development Block Grant funds toward efforts to address homelessness. Travis County invests \$298,000 in general fund dollars in contracts with social service providers targeting the homeless in conjunction with the Austin/Travis County ESG grant administration and according to the Austin/Travis County Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.

See the *Anti-Poverty Strategy* section of this document for Travis County’s strategy to help low-income families avoid homelessness.

Non-Housing Community Development Strategy

The priority needs for Travis County’s non-housing community development efforts were determined using research from multiple sources, information gathered in public hearings and surveys, consultation with County staff, and consultation with community development and public service providers serving low- to moderate-income residents of the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

Eight (8) previously high priority categories were changed to medium. This change reflects a more targeted approach to address the non-housing community development needs. Changes made to the Table 2B reflect the Travis County Commissioners Court approved narrowed direction.

Table 2B: Community Development Needs		
PRIORITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	Priority Need Level High, Medium, Low	Dollars to Address Unmet Priority Need
PUBLIC FACILITY NEEDS (projects)		
Senior Centers	Medium	N/A
Handicapped Centers	Medium	N/A
Homeless Facilities	Medium	N/A
Youth Centers	Medium	N/A
Child Care Centers	Medium	N/A
Health Facilities	Low	N/A
Neighborhood Facilities	Low	N/A
Parks and/or Recreation Facilities	Low	N/A
Parking Facilities	Low	N/A
Non-Residential Historic Preservation	Low	N/A

Other Public Facility Needs	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
INFRASTRUCTURE (projects)		
Water/Sewer Improvements	High	\$2,500,000
Street Improvements	High	\$1,500,000
Sidewalks	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
Solid Waste Disposal Improvements	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
Flood Drain Improvements	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
Other: Erosion Abatement	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
Other: Litter Abatement/clearance	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
PUBLIC SERVICE NEEDS (people)		
Senior Services	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
Youth Services	High	\$1,000,000 \$250,000
Employment Training	High Medium	\$500,000 N/A
Child Care Services	Medium	N/A
Transportation Services	Medium	N/A
Substance Abuse Services	Medium	N/A
Health Services	Medium	N/A
Lead Hazard Screening	Low	N/A
Crime Awareness	Low	N/A
Other Public Service Needs	High	\$1,000,000 \$500,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
ED Assistance to For-Profits	Low	N/A
ED Technical Assistance	Low	N/A
Micro-Enterprise Assistance	Low	N/A
Rehab; Publicly- or Privately-Owned Commercial/Industrial	Low	N/A
C/I Infrastructure Development	Low	N/A
Other C/I Improvements	Low	N/A
PLANNING		

Assessment and Planning	High (<u>was not included in the assessment of ranking</u>)	\$600,000 N/A
TOTAL ESTIMATED DOLLARS NEEDED:		\$11,050,000 <u>\$4,750,000</u>

Note: The total estimated dollars to address unmet non-housing community development needs in the above table is based on needs identified for Travis County’s first program year. The dollar amounts represent a rough estimate and do not include the cost of administration and planning, public services or housing efforts. Due to the reduction in the allocation, all estimated dollar amounts of need for priorities that changed from high to medium also reduced the amount of assistance to Not Applicable (N/A). Dollar amounts for the remaining public services considered a high priority were reduced as well to reflect the small amount of public service dollars available through CDBG.

Strategy to Address Barriers to Affordable Housing

Fair Housing

Travis County will continue to promote and practice compliance with the Fair Housing Act and engage in efforts to reduce and/or eliminate barriers to affordable housing through approaches including:

- Collaboration with non-profits, businesses, agencies and coalitions
- Promote legal advocacy for fair housing issues via funding or other forms of support
- Increase knowledge about fair housing via community education, social work services and outreach

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Travis County will invest, as funding allows, in opportunities to mitigate housing, land, fees and infrastructure costs through:

- Acquisition of land
- Construction of new infrastructure for single family and multi-family dwellings
- Collaboration with non-profits, businesses, agencies and coalitions
- Supporting initiatives throughout the County which increase affordable housing opportunities

County staff will work to ensure the development of county policies affecting building codes, zoning and growth that promote, to the greatest extent possible, affordable housing development.

Lead-Based Paint Strategy

Only a small proportion of Travis County’s housing units are likely to contain lead-based paint. The vast majority of housing units were built after 1978. Figure 2 provides an inventory of potential numbers of homes that may contain Lead Based paint.

Upon establishment of any programs for owner occupied rehabilitation and/or minor repairs, the County will develop procedures in that program year’s Action Plan in compliance with the Residential Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X) and subsequent changes in September, 1999. The procedures will include:

- Notification
- Identification
- Treatment (if necessary)

Figure IV-2: Tenure By Year Structure Built, Travis County TX	
Owner occupied	
Built 1970 to 1979	32,815
Built 1960 to 1969	16,498
Built 1950 to 1959	13,947
Built 1940 to 1949	6,963
Built 1939 or earlier	6,145
TOTAL	76,368
Renter occupied	
Built 1970 to 1979	39,147
Built 1960 to 1969	18,439
Built 1950 to 1959	9,672
Built 1940 to 1949	4,622
Built 1939 or earlier	4,637
TOTAL	76,517

Source: Census 2000

Anti-poverty Strategy

In 2004, 12.6 % (106,765), of Travis County residents lived below the federal poverty level. However, of single parent households headed by a female, 19.4% were under the poverty level (2004 American Community Survey).

Travis County does not yet have a formally adopted anti-poverty strategy. However, the Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Department is committed to developing a formal anti-poverty strategy over the time period covered by this Consolidated Plan. Staff will work with other county departments as well as community partners to initiate, engage, and develop a comprehensive, coordinated anti-poverty strategy to address the root causes of poverty in Travis County. In addition, the Travis County Commissioners Court has allocated an anti-poverty reserve in its annual budget cycle for fiscal year 2007 which will initiate coordination of current efforts and implement additional programmatic efforts to address poverty in a comprehensive manner.

Many of the Consolidated Plan strategies directly assist individuals who are living in poverty. In addition, Travis County’s lead agency for administering these funds is the Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Department, whose mission is “to work in partnership with the community to promote full development of individual, family, neighborhood, and community potential.” The vision of HHS/VS is “optimizing self-sufficiency for families and

individuals in safe and healthy communities.” Both the mission and vision of HHS/VS are essentially aimed at preventing and ameliorating conditions of poverty in Travis County.

In addition, Travis County participates in the assessments, plans, and activities of the Community Action Network, whose members have informally pursued anti-poverty strategies as part of their primary mission. The Network consists of seventeen partners, including:

- Austin Area Human Services Association
- Community Justice Council
- Austin Independent School District
- Capital Metro
- City of Austin
- Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce
- Health Partnership 2010
- Higher Education Coalition
- Travis County
- United Way Capital Area
- Austin Travis County MHMR Center
- Travis County Healthcare District
- Worksource - Greater Austin Area Workforce Board

In its *2006 Poverty Fact Sheet*, the Community Action Network identified the following factors as primary causes of poverty:

1. Low wages and a lack of benefits
2. Unemployment/underemployment
3. Very young or very old age and dependency on others to meet basic needs
4. Mental illness
5. Disability status
6. Social exclusion of special populations, including ex-prisoners, homeless, people with AIDS, and people with language barriers.

The Travis County Community’s Anti-Poverty Programs

- **Providing comprehensive case management for low- to moderate-income families to address the root causes of financial instability and promote self-sufficiency.***
- **Employment training for unemployed or underemployed persons to promote job skills and retention.***
- Providing assistance with emergency basic needs (including rent, utility and food assistance) in order to prevent homelessness.
- Advocating for and supporting public policy initiatives that create real solutions for adequate healthcare, childcare, living wages, education and disability assistance.

**Denotes Travis County's intent to use CDBG funds to address this strategy.*

Institutional Structure and Coordination

Effective implementation of the Consolidated Plan involves a variety of agencies. Coordination and collaboration within the Travis County government and between agencies helps to ensure that the needs in the community are addressed. The key departments and agencies that are involved in the implementation of the Plan are described below.

Institutional Structure

Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) is the lead county agency responsible for the administration of the County's CDBG funding. This department has primary responsibility for assessing community need, developing the Consolidated Plan and yearly Action Plans, managing project activities in conjunction with other county departments and other community partners, administering the finances, and monitoring and reporting. In addition, HHS/VS administers some CDBG funded public service project activities. HHS/VS reports to the Travis County Commissioners Court for oversight authority.

Other County departments involved in providing services and administering the funds might include Transportation and Natural Resources, Facilities Management, the County Attorney's Office, and the Planning and Budget Office. Contracts will be procured through the County's Purchasing Office, and the County Auditor will audit financial records of the County as well as any sub-recipients used to conduct funded activities.

At this time, Travis County's jurisdiction does not include consortium member cities.

Coordination

The County is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with federal, state, county, and local agencies, as well as with the private and non-profit sector in order to serve the needs of targeted income individuals and families in the community.

Travis County will partner with local Community Housing and Development Organizations (CHDOs), non-profits, and other community development and housing providers to explore options for community development and public service projects to best meet the community's need and leverage other federal, state, local and private funding.

In addition, Travis County will partner with the Travis County Housing Authority to explore options for affordable housing development and the development of public housing in the unincorporated areas of the county.

Public Housing

Created in 1975, the Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC) provides safe, decent and sanitary housing for low-income families in Travis County. HATC is not designated by HUD as a “problem housing authority.” The Housing Authority’s mission is to:

- Operate existing federally supported housing programs in an effective manner.
- Create and foster partnerships with other Travis County service providers to develop a common vision from which to coordinate delivery of housing services to families and individuals in need.
- Develop capital devoted to providing low-income housing, without creating additional tax burdens.
- Meet and exceed the highest quality standards for provision of low-income housing and services.
- Assure long-term availability of affordable housing and strive to build a secure community environment.

HATC manages a total of 105 public housing units at three public housing sites in the incorporated areas of Travis County. Additionally, together with the Housing Authority of the City of Austin, HATC administers three Shelter Plus Care projects in the Austin-Travis County area, which utilize integrated rental housing and flexible and intensive support services to promote community tenure and independence to the chronically homeless and disabled. These Public Housing and Shelter Plus sites are all located in incorporated areas of the county. In the unincorporated areas, HATC does administer the Section Eight Housing Choice Voucher Program to assist very low income, disabled and elderly families or individuals. HATC also operates a Lease-Purchase program, to provide homeownership opportunities for prospective homebuyers who can afford monthly mortgage payments, but do not have funds for a down payment and/or closing costs or the credit standing to qualify for a loan. However, at this time no publicly owned housing developments exist in the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

The major strategic goals of HATC’s Five-Year Plan (FY 2005-2009) are as follows:

- Expand supply, improve quality, and increase available choices for assisted housing
- Provide an improved living environment
- Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of assisted households
- Ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing
- Improve physical conditions of all properties and create a safe workplace

Travis County will continue to support HATC’s efforts to provide homeownership and affordable housing opportunities to low-income residents. Travis County will partner with HATC to explore opportunities to expand these efforts in the unincorporated areas in the five-year period covered in this Strategic Plan.



Travis County

Section V:

PY 2006 Action Plan

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



Executive Summary

The 2006-2007 program year marks the first year of Travis County's five-year Consolidated Plan. In accordance with Section 91 of 24 CFR, Travis County is submitting its first Consolidated Plan. The consolidated planning process combines the application, planning, and reporting requirements for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

As an Urban Entitlement County, Travis County must comply with the Consolidated Plan requirements in order to receive funding for these formula-based HUD programs. Designated as the lead agency by the Travis County Commissioners Court, the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) prepares and submits this Consolidated Plan to HUD. HHS/VS oversees the public notification process, approval of projects, and the administration of these grants.

A series of public hearings occurred throughout the development of the Consolidated Plan beginning in April 2006. On the week of June 12th, 2006, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan for FY 2007 in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 30-day public comment period began on June 28, 2006, and ended July 27, 2006.

Due to an error in the amount initially allocated to Travis County by HUD, Travis County's allocation was reduced from \$2,449,337 to \$838,659. Due to the scope of the reduction, the substantial amendment process was initiated.

On the week of October 30, 2006, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed substantial amendment to the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan for FY 2007. The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 15-day public comment period commenced November 15, 2006, and ended November 29, 2006.

After the implementation of Year One began, staff assessed the progress of each project and made recommendations to the Travis County Commissioners Court to substantially amend the Year One (PY06) Action Plan. The substantial amendment process was instituted due to the deletion of the Youth and Family Assessment Center Flex Fund Expansion, a public service project. The services to 30 youth will still be provided, but through the Travis County General Fund. In addition, timelines for projects were updated and more detailed information was provided for the Substandard Road Street Improvement project located in Apache Shores and the Land Acquisition Project with Habitat for Humanity.

During the week of June 4, 2007, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan. The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 30-day public comment period commenced June 20, 2007 and ended July 19, 2007.

The following is the amended Action Plan for FY 2006, the first in the five-year Consolidated Plan for 2006-2010. Each of the programs supports the overall goals and priorities of Travis County's efforts in housing and community development as prioritized in the five-year Consolidated Plan process.

Through the citizen participation process, Travis County staff informed the community of the purpose and intent of its CDBG allocation, in order to ensure that citizens had time to comment on a proposed project located in their neighborhood. Any projects proposed for which specific activities or locations have not yet been identified will have additional public hearings during PY 2006 in order to inform Travis County citizens of the intended use of funds.

After considering the housing, community development and public service needs of Travis County's low- to moderate-income residents as identified in the Housing Needs Assessment, Market Analysis, and citizen engagement, Travis County Commissioners Court identified the following national goals as its focus for CDBG funds for the five year time period:

1. Decent Housing:

- Assisting low- and moderate-income persons obtain affordable housing

2. A Suitable Living Environment:

- Improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods and
- Increasing access to quality public and private facilities and services

Travis County's CDBG dollars target the unincorporated areas of Travis County with no consortium cities included. At this time, Travis County's urban county entitlement status does not require city participation. This is an unusual circumstance and makes the projects, work and structure of the CDBG program within Travis County unique.

Proposed Projects for Year One include:

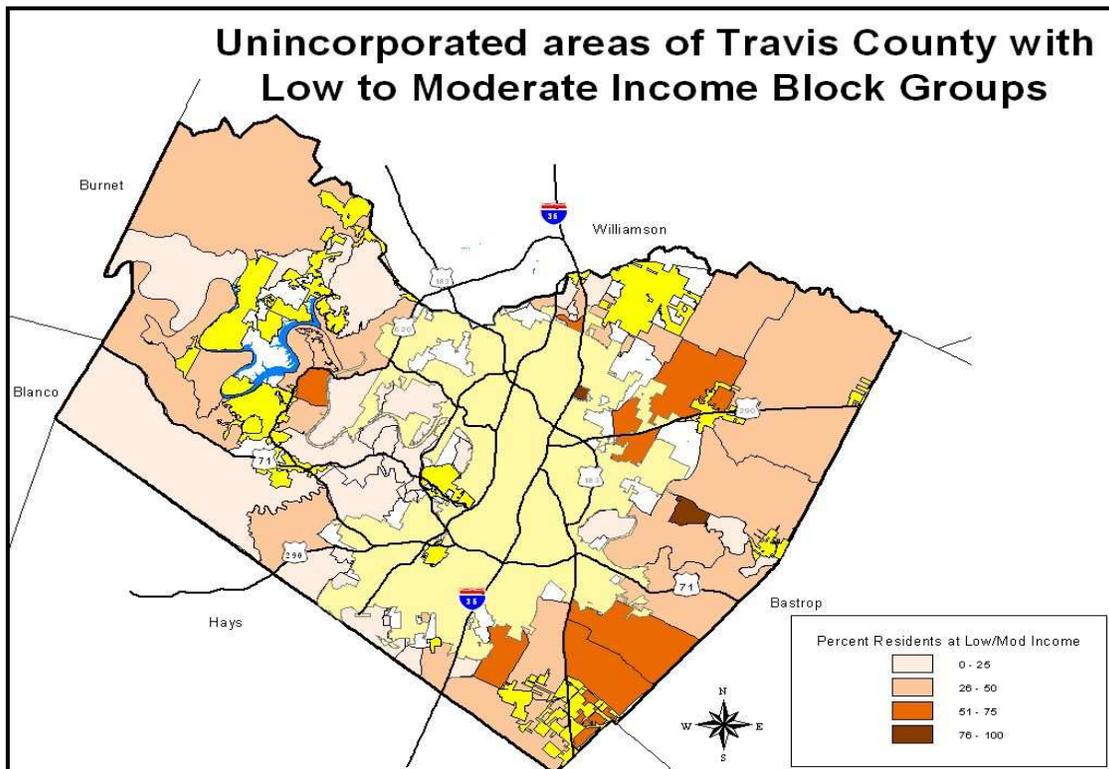
Project	Activities	Amount
Community Development		
1. Owner Housing: Production of new units	Land Acquisition – location to be determined at a later date. (Development of affordable housing by Habitat for Humanity.)	\$250,000
2. Street Improvements	Substandard Road Improvements to roads in Apache Shores including sections of Pima Trail, Crazyhorse Pass, and Whitebead Trail.	\$300,000 <u>\$305,000</u>
3. Water/Sewer Improvements	North Ridge Acres	\$200,000
Subtotal:		<u>\$750,000</u> <u>\$755,000</u>
Public Services		
4. Youth Services	Youth and Family Assessment Center Flex Fund – Internal Travis County HHS/VS Program	\$5,000
5. Public Services, Other	Family Support Services Social Work Services Expansion – Travis County HHS/VS Program	\$83,659

		Subtotal:	\$88,659 \$83,659
Administration and Planning	Travis County will absorb all costs for administration and planning		\$0
		Subtotal:	\$0
		Total award:	\$838,659

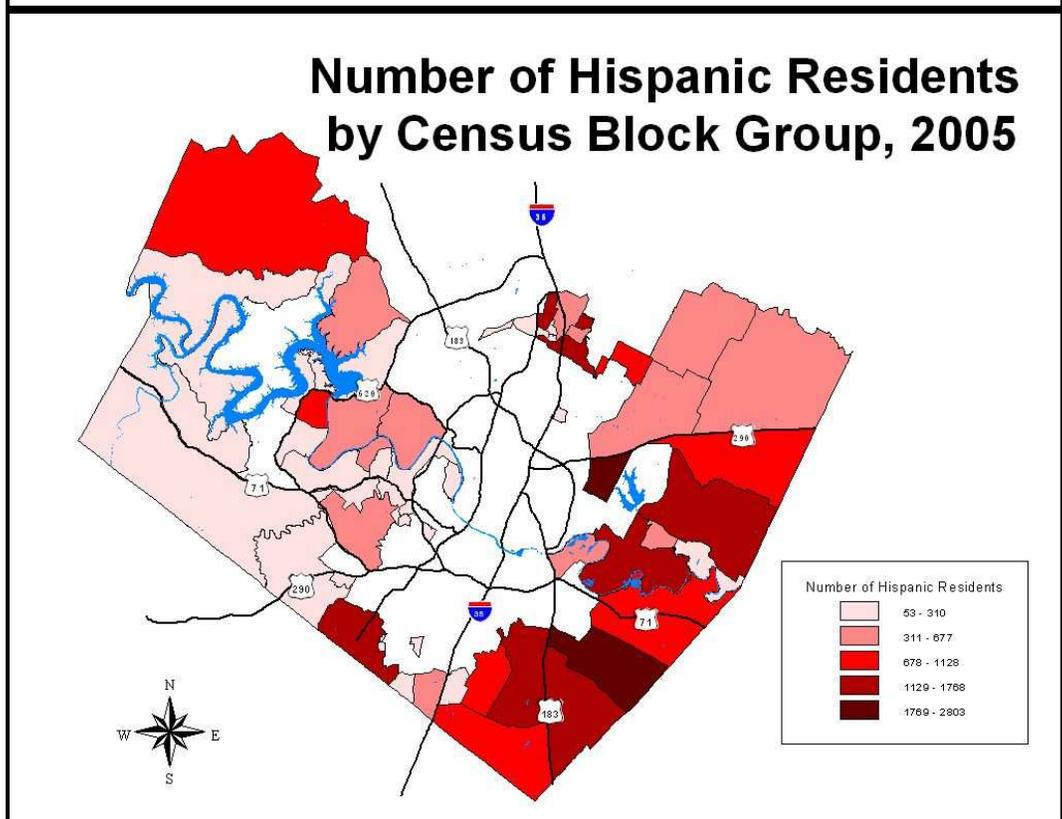
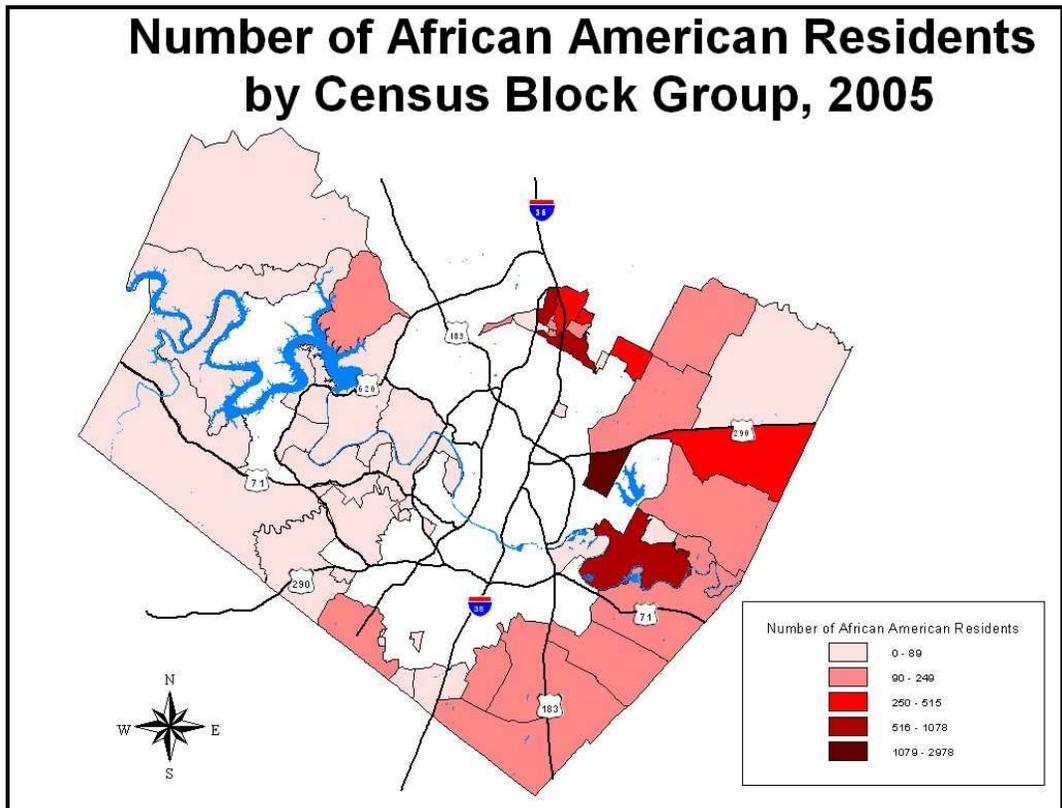
Geographic Areas of the Jurisdiction

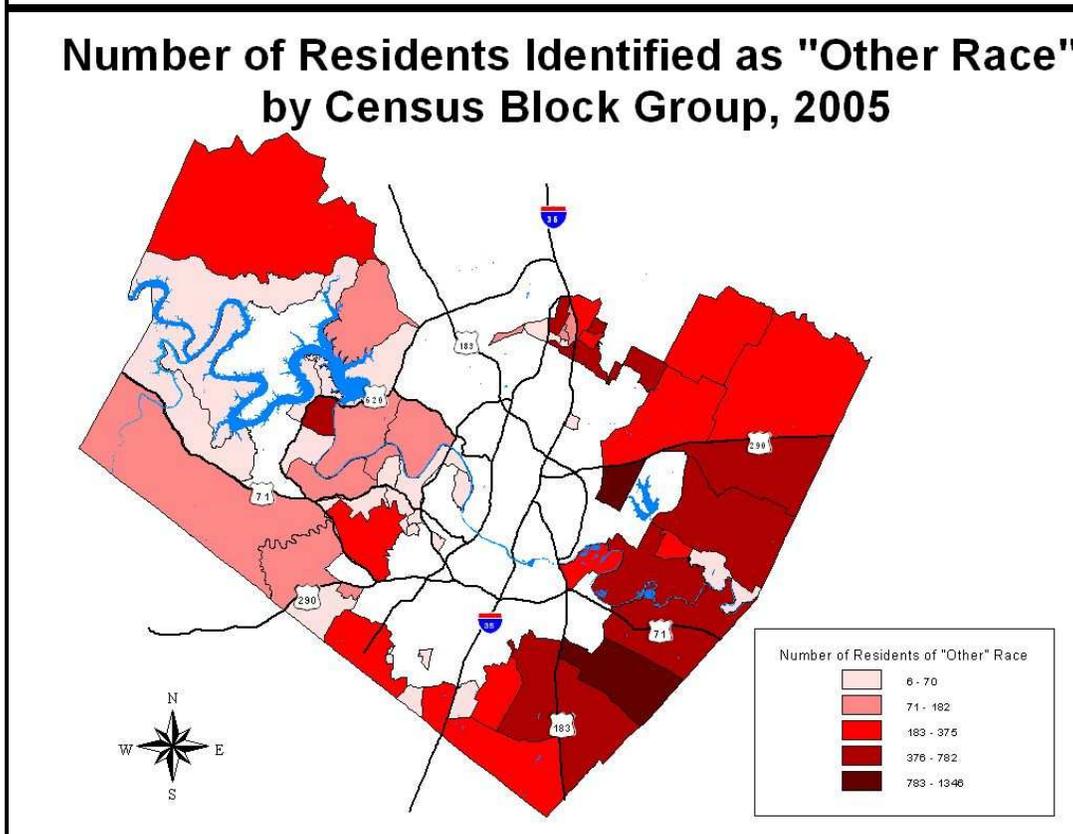
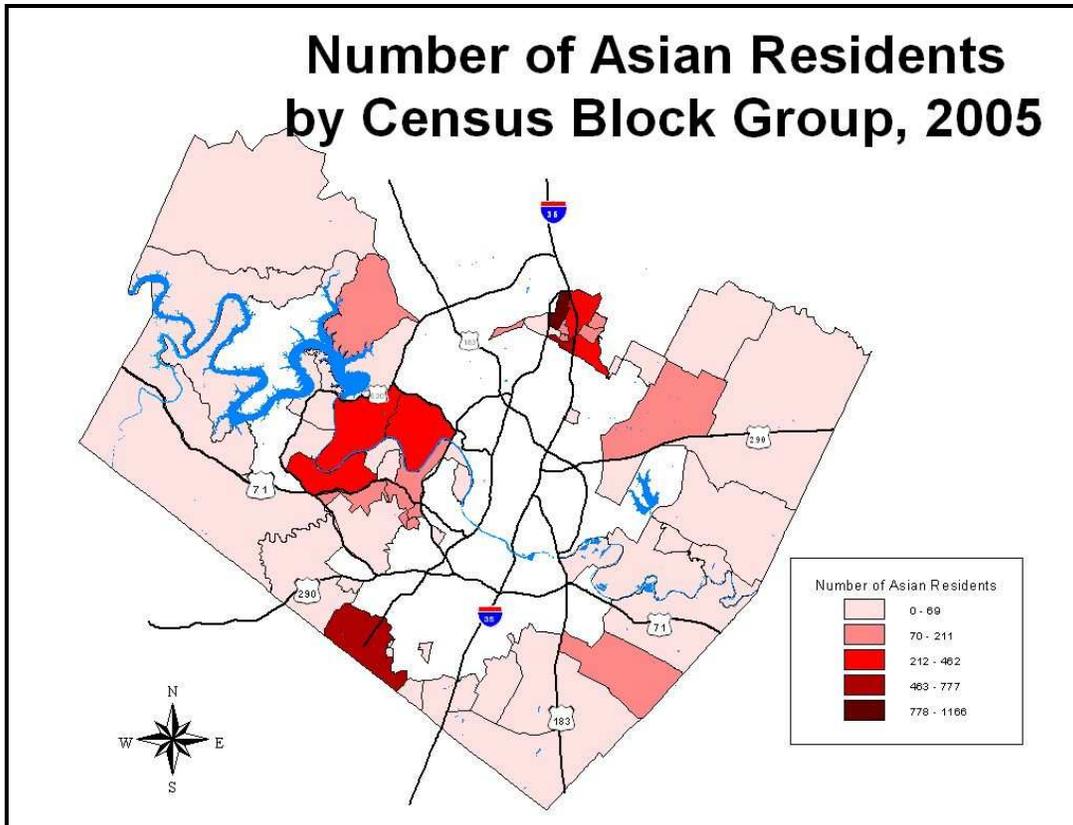
This Action Plan is submitted in accordance with 24 CFR 91.220 as part of the consolidated planning process required of entitlement jurisdictions under certain programs operated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Travis County is an “urban county Entitlement.”

Travis County’s jurisdiction for the funds allocated in this Action Plan includes the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The map below shows the unincorporated areas of Travis County (the areas not shaded in yellow) and the percentage of families at low- to moderate-income by census block group. Travis County does not target specific areas for funding. For specifics on geographical locations of specific projects for PY 2006, please see the project descriptions throughout the Action Plan as areas of services are determined per project. 100% of the allocation will benefit the unincorporated areas of Travis County, with a minimum of 70% of the dollars targeted toward low- to moderate-income families.



The following four maps show concentrations of racial and ethnic minorities in Travis County by census block group.





Meeting Underserved Needs

After considering the housing, community development and public service needs of Travis County's low- to moderate-income residents as identified in the Housing Needs Assessment, Market Analysis, and citizen engagement, Travis County Commissioners Court identified the following national goals as its focus for CDBG funds for the five year time period:

1. Decent Housing:

- Assisting low- and moderate-income persons obtain affordable housing

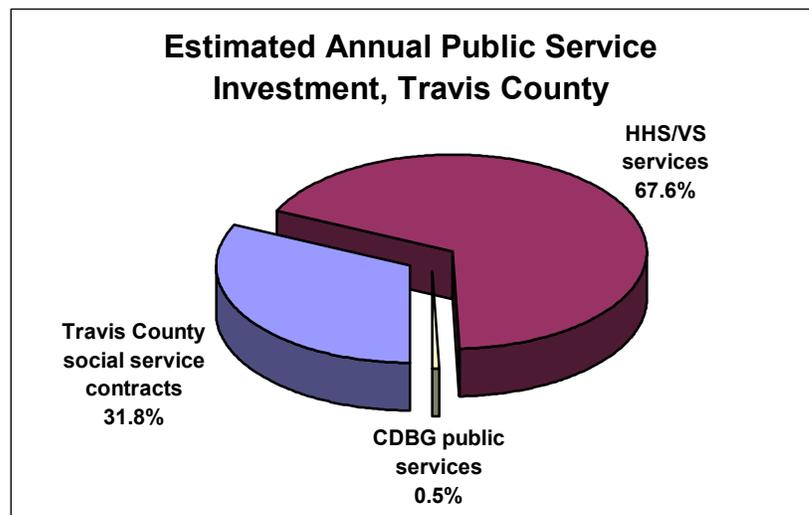
2. A Suitable Living Environment:

- Improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods and
- Increasing access to quality public and private facilities and services

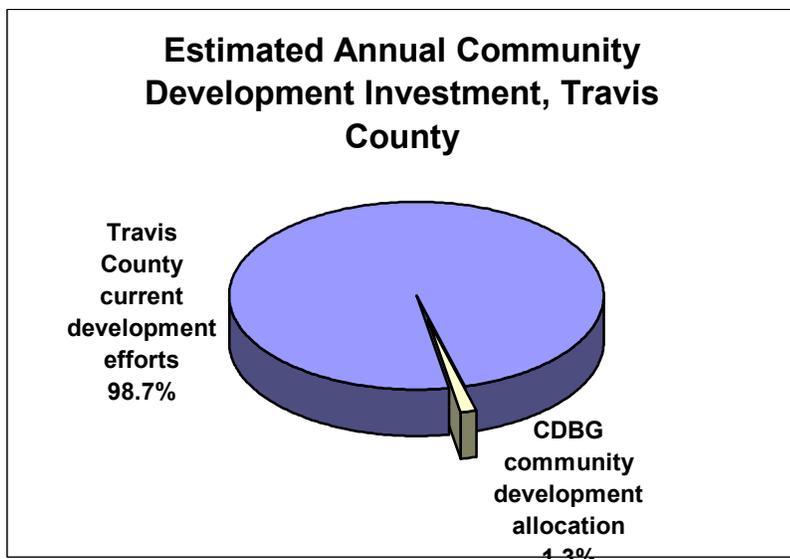
All three national goals are represented in the proposed projects for the amended PY 2006 Action Plan.

Resources Available

The Action Plan focuses on those activities funded through CDBG funds provided to Travis County by HUD on an annual basis. The County is expected to receive approximately \$838,659 for fiscal year 2006-07. At this time, the County does not receive HOME funds. In addition to these funds, the County has other funds that may be used to leverage CDBG money for housing, community development and public service projects.



Public Service Investment: The County currently contracts annually with over 40 non-profits in the form of social service contracts to the sum of approximately \$7,268,700. In addition, the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) provides direct public services annually in the amount of approximately \$15,442,265. The cap on public service dollars for CDBG is 15% of the County's allocation, or approximately \$125,798 annually. Therefore, CDBG public service dollars equal not more than 0.5% of the County's overall efforts in public services.



Community Development and Affordable Housing Investment: The County’s infrastructure department, Transportation and Natural Resources, conducts community development activities in the form of public park, bridge and drainage projects, storm water management, road maintenance, onsite sewage facilities, transportation planning, and various other projects, totaling approximately \$56,324,900 annually. Housing and Community Development activities using CDBG funds are anticipated to total at least

\$545,128 annually. Therefore, CDBG community development and housing funds equal approximately 1.3% of the County’s overall efforts in community development.

Priority Needs Analysis and Strategies

Priority Needs Determination

The priority needs for housing, homelessness, and non-housing community development efforts were determined using data presented in Section III (*Community Needs*) of Travis County’s Consolidated Plan, and through public hearings, surveys, consultation with County staff, and consultation with housing, community development, and public service providers serving low-to-moderate income residents of the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

Key factors affecting the determination of the action plan priorities included: 1) the types of target income households with greatest need for assistance; 2) those activities that will best address their needs; and 3) the limited amount of funding available to meet those needs.

Priority ranking indicates the following intent:

High Priority: Travis County plans to use funds made available for activities that address this unmet need during the period of time designated in the strategic plan.

Medium Priority: If funds are available, activities to address this unmet need may be funded by Travis County during the period of time designated in the strategic plan. Also, Travis County will take other actions to locate other sources of funds to address this identified unmet need.

Low Priority: The jurisdiction does not plan to use funds made available for activities to address this unmet need during the period of time designated in the strategic plan. The jurisdiction will consider certifications of consistency for other entities’ applications for Federal assistance.

Managing the Process and Institutional Structure

Travis County is located in Central Texas and is home of the State Capitol. Services provided by the County encompass a variety of mandated and non-mandated services. The Travis County Commissioners Court manages the business of the county and comprises four Commissioners and one County Judge.

Administering the Programs

Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) is the lead department responsible for the administration of the county's CDBG funding. This department has primary responsibility for assessing community need, developing the Consolidated Plan and yearly Action Plans, managing project activities in conjunction with other County departments and other community partners, administering the finances, monitoring and reporting. In addition, HHS/VS administers some CDBG funded public service project activities. HHS/VS reports to the Travis County Commissioners Court for oversight authority.

Other County departments involved in providing services and administering the funds might include Transportation and Natural Resources, Facilities Management, the County Attorney's Office, and the Planning and Budget Office. Contracts will be procured through the County's Purchasing Office, and the County Auditor will audit financial records of the County as well as any sub-recipients used to conduct funded activities. CDBG staff within HHS/VS will work closely with all Departments that are involved to ensure compliance with HUD regulations.

Travis County is a unique urban county. The population of unincorporated Travis County (not including the incorporated small cities, villages, etc.) is large enough to allow the County to be designated as an urban entitlement county. At this time, Travis County's jurisdiction does not include consortium member cities.

Administration and Planning Budget

Due to the reduced allocation, Travis County has chosen to absorb all of the administration and planning costs associated with CDBG. The full award will be used toward community development and public service projects.

Coordination and Collaboration

Effective implementation of the Consolidated Plan involves a variety of agencies. Coordination and collaboration within the Travis County government and between agencies helps to ensure that the needs in the community are addressed.

The citizens of Travis County were instrumental in developing this plan, which is a result of six months of activity by Travis County staff. County staff drew on authoritative sources to provide a quantitative analysis of community needs; conducted five public hearings at which more than 40 people testified; held multiple consultations with service providers from housing, elderly services, youth services, fair housing, Housing Authorities, and other government agencies. Upon presentation of the draft Consolidated Plan, additional comment was received at two public hearings and feedback was received during the public comment period. These comments were considered in the final preparation of the Plan. The substantial amendment process included one public hearing and a fifteen day comment period. Comments related to the amendments made to the Plan are included in Appendix B.

The County is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with federal, state, county, and local agencies, as well as with the private and non-profit sectors, to serve the needs of target income individuals and families in the community.

Travis County will partner with local Community Housing and Development Organizations (CHDOs), non-profits, and other community development and housing providers to explore options for community development and public service projects to best meet the community's need and leverage other federal, state, local and private funding.

In addition, Travis County will partner with the Travis County Housing Authority to explore options for affordable housing development and the development of public housing in the unincorporated areas of the county.

Citizen Participation

Summary of Citizen Participation Process

Travis County implements a citizen participation process based upon 24 Congressional Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 91.105 and the Citizen Participation Plan approved by Travis County Commissioners Court on April 11, 2006. Travis County's Consolidated Plan is developed through a collaborative process. Citizen Participation is a critical part in the development of the Consolidated Plan and FY 2007 Action Plan. The Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan that identifies needs and sets priorities, outcomes and objectives in the unincorporated areas of Travis County for a five-year period. In addition, each year the County must submit an annual Action Plan (AP) to HUD reporting how the year's funding allocation for CDBG will be used to achieve the goals outlined in the five-year Consolidated Plan. In the year that the Consolidated Plan is developed, the public hearings for input on the Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan will be held at the same time

August 2006 Submission

In order to elicit public input on the needs of those living in the unincorporated areas of Travis County for the development of the Plan and PY 2006 Action Plan (AP), Travis County HHS/VS held public hearings at several locations throughout the County in two different formats to acquire information.

Public hearings were held at two different times throughout the development of the Consolidated Plan and PY 2006 Action Plan.

Public hearings were held to gather information for the Needs Assessment, asking participants for input regarding their housing, community development and public service needs.

- Notices of the public hearing dates were put in newspapers of general circulation, announcements occurred during the televised Commissioners Court meetings were posted on the Travis County website (www.co.travis.tx.us) and the seven Travis County Community Centers posted notices in both English and Spanish.
- Public hearings were held on April 11 and May 2, 2006, at Travis County Commissioners' Court during the normally scheduled voting session.
- Public hearings were held on April 17, 20 22, 26 and 27, 2006, throughout the County in each of the four precincts.

After the development of the Consolidated Plan for public comment, public hearings were held to inform and enable the community to comment on the proposed uses of CDBG funds.

- Notices of the public hearing dates and locations of postings were put in newspapers of general circulation, announcements occurred during the televised Commissioners Court meetings, posted on the Travis County website (www.co.travis.tx.us) and the seven (7) Travis County Community Centers posted notices in both English and Spanish.
- Public hearings were held on July 11 and 18, 2006, at the Travis County Commissioners' Court during the normally scheduled voting session.
- Summaries of the Plan and PY2006 Action Plan (copies are available) and the full drafts (for review only) are available at the seven Travis County Community Centers as well as the Travis County website.

Travis County HHS/VS drafted the Consolidated Plan and presented it to the Travis County Commissioners Court on June 27, 2006. After presentation to Travis County Commissioners Court, the Plan was posted for written comment for thirty (30) days prior to approval by the Travis County Commissioners Court. The 30- day comment period commenced June 28, 2006, and ended July 27, 2006.

Comments on the Plan may be received in writing via email or postal mail to the Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service CDBG staff. The Plan was posted on the Travis County website (www.co.travis.tx.us) and Summaries of the Plan were available. Copies of the full document were available for review at the seven Travis County Community Centers.

November 2006 Submission

In October of 2006, Travis County began the process to amend its Consolidated Plan and Year One Action Plan. To expedite the amendment, HUD allowed Travis County to be temporarily out of compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP). HUD allowed for a 15-day public comment period rather than the 30-day comment period outlined in the CPP.

The public comment period for the amended Consolidated Plan commenced November 15, 2006, and ended November 29, 2006. In addition to posting the Plan for public comment, a public hearing was held in the Commissioners Courtroom on November 28, 2006. Detailed results of the public comments submitted in writing and collected during the public hearing can be found in Attachment B.

Comments on the Plan may be received in writing via email or postal mail to the Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service CDBG staff. The Plan was posted on the Travis County website (www.co.travis.tx.us) and Summaries of the Plan were available. Copies of the full document were available for review at the seven Travis County Community Centers.

August 2007 Submission

Staff assessed the progress of each project and made recommendations to the Travis County Commissioners Court to substantially amend the Year One (PY06) Action Plan. The substantial amendment process was instituted due to the deletion of the Youth and Family Assessment Center Flex Fund Expansion, a public service project.

Concurrent with the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan, staff assessed the original strategic direction in the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan. At the time of the November 2006 amendment, Travis County chose to re-evaluate the strategic direction later. In August of 2007, Travis County addressed the strategic direction as it relates to the reduced allocation.

The amendment to the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan's strategic direction and the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan occurred at the same time as the draft of the PY07 Action Plan. During the week of June 4, 2007, Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan. The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 30-day public comment period commenced June 20, 2007 and ended July 19, 2007. Two public hearings were held at the Travis County Commissioners Courtroom during the 30-day public comment period on June 26, 2007, and July 10, 2007, to receive testimony for all three actions. Details of the public comment may be reviewed in Appendix B.

Comments on the Plan may be received in writing via email or postal mail to the Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service CDBG staff. The Plan was posted on the Travis County website (www.co.travis.tx.us) and Summaries of the Plan were available. Copies of the full document were available for review at the seven Travis County Community Centers.

Service Provider Consultations

On May 10, 2006, 27 representatives from 22 agencies attended a facilitated forum. After receiving a presentation on Travis County's anticipated CDBG allocation, funding intent, eligible activities, and preliminary results from the provider survey, representatives were broken into two groups: Public Services and Housing/Community Planning. For details, see Section II of the Consolidated Plan.

Surveys

For the development of the five-year Consolidated Plan, surveys provided additional opportunity to assess citizens' perceptions of their needs.

A link to the web-based survey was sent via email to representatives of public agencies that serve residents in the unincorporated areas. The electronic survey was utilized to collect information from housing, community development, and public service providers in Travis County. The survey had a total of 48 respondents. See Section II of the Consolidated Plan for the detailed results of the provider survey.

Surveys were available at the public hearings and at each rural community center. In addition, several surveys were completed and submitted by mail. A total of 30 surveys were received. Resident surveys were available in both English and Spanish. See Section II of the Consolidated Plan for detailed results.

Summary of Citizen Comments on the Plan

All comments were accepted as they aligned with the intent and priorities of the five-year Consolidated Plan. Where comments requested information from another county department appropriate information coordination will occur. When comments noted a lack of specific need data, staff directed the citizen to the areas of the Plan that contained the need data requested.

A total of four public comments were received on the draft of the Consolidated Plan. Three written comments were received via email and one person testified during the public hearing held in Commissioners Court on July 11, 2006. No one testified during the public hearing on July 18, 2006.

A summary of comments and interests include:

- *Consider the location of bus routes and public services when identifying land for affordable owner housing and rental housing development.*
- *Consider and survey different areas for sewer, water and street improvements*
- *Provide information with other county buy out and park initiatives*
- *Increase services to the youth and elderly*
- *Include language on mental health issues and related housing needs*

A full list of public comments received on the Consolidated Plan is available in Appendix B.

Summary of Citizen Comments on the Substantial Amendment to the Plan

November 2006

All comments were accepted as they aligned with the intent and priorities of the five-year Consolidated Plan. Where some of the comments requested information from Travis County HHS/VS, CDBG staff provided information in writing.

A total of five public comments were received on the draft of the Consolidated Plan. One written comment was received via email and four people testified during the public hearing held in Commissioners Court on November 28, 2006.

A summary of comments and interests include:

- *Consider water/sewer infrastructure development to the residents of Plainview Estates in future years.*
- *Increase affordable housing efforts and continue to work with agencies that promote true affordability.*
- *Request staff reexamine what constitutes affordable housing.*

A full list of public comments received on the Consolidated Plan is available in Appendix B.

August 2007

All comments were accepted as they aligned with the intent and priorities of the five-year Consolidated Plan. A total of two public comments were received on the three actions proposed which includes the amendment to the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan's Strategic Direction, the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan and the draft of the PY07 Action Plan. Two written comments were received and no people testified during the public hearings held in Commissioners Court on June 26, 2007 and July 10, 2007.

A summary of comments and interests include:

- *Consider looking at programs which promote improved conditions for manufactured housing parks such as encouraging cooperative ownership and management.*
- *Provide housing solutions for extremely low income families with children.*
- *Provide supportive services for extremely low income families with children through case management.*

A full list of public comments received on the Consolidated Plan is available in Appendix B.

Summary of Efforts to Broaden Public Participation

The following efforts were used to broaden public participation:

- Travis County Commissioners Court is televised and close captioned on the public access channel and repeats several times throughout the week.
- The County website stayed current with documents and announcements of public hearings.
- Public notices were available in Spanish and published in Spanish language newspapers.
- List serves were used to garner interest from social service agencies and their clients
- Survey boards were used in the five Travis County rural Community Centers.
- In August 2007, public hearings at the Commissioners Court were held once in the morning and once in the evening in order to accommodate different work schedules in the community.

Written Explanation of Comments Not Accepted

All comments were accepted.

Written Explanation of the Substantial Amendment Comments Not Accepted

November 2006

All comments were accepted.

August 2007

All comments were accepted.

Project Prioritization

Travis County weighed all potential projects identified by citizens and relevant county staff. Staff worked to assess that potential projects met one of HUD's national objectives, were eligible activities, and would be feasible to complete in a timely manner. Projects that met these criteria were then weighed according to the following scoring matrix. Scores were provided to the Travis County Commissioners Court for consideration when making final decisions regarding what projects were to be included in the PY 2006 Action Plan.

SCORING CRITERIA

Criteria	Points
1. Addresses a high priority goal of the Strategic Plan (<i>See activity scoring range</i>)	400
2. Feasibility of project (ability to complete within 18 months)	200
3. Addresses demonstrated need	100
4. Impacts large number of households	100
5. Benefit To Low/Moderate-Income Persons	100
6. Addresses need for continued assessment for strategic allocation methods	100
7. Leverages/matched with funding from another source	50
8. Phased project (phased judiciously)	50
9. Builds capacity for increased future service provision	50

Scoring Methodologies

1. **Addresses a high priority goal of the Strategic Plan (see activity scoring range) – 400 points possible**

Projects addressing one of the three priority goals are awarded 400 points. Projects addressing one of the medium priority goals receive 50 points. Projects not addressing a high or medium priority goal receive zero points.

- 2. Feasibility of project (ability to complete within 18 months) – 200 points possible**
Projects assessed as ready to be implemented immediately receive the total possible 200 points. Projects needing 1 to 6 months assessment before implementation receive 100 points. Projects needing 6 to 12 months of assessment receive zero points. Projects needing more than 12 months of assessment receive negative 200 points. (*Note: Projects for which feasibility cannot be assessed will receive zero points.*)
- 3. Addresses demonstrated need -- 100 points possible**
Projects addressing a need that was identified through citizen engagement *and* research conducted for needs assessment receive 100 points. Projects addressing need identified through citizen engagement *or* research for needs assessment receive 50 points. Projects not addressing a need identified through either receive negative 100 points.
- 4. Projects impacting many households – 100 points possible**
Projects impacting over 200 households receive 100 points. Projects impacting between 100 and 200 households receive 50 points. Projects impacting 50 to 100 families receive 25 points. Projects impacting under 50 households receive zero points.
- 5. Benefits To Low/Moderate-Income Persons – 100 points possible**
Projects benefiting 100% low to moderate income persons or families receive 100 points. Projects benefiting 75 to 100% low to moderate income persons or families receive 75 points. Projects benefiting 50 to 75% low to moderate income persons or families receive 50 points. Projects benefiting under 50% low to moderate income persons or families receive negative 50 points. Projects eligible through area benefit that would impact less than 51% low to moderate income households will not be considered.
- 6. Addresses need for continued assessment for strategic allocation methods – 100 points possible**
Projects with the primary goal of assessing need and possible projects receive 100 points. Projects which are not primarily aimed at further assessment but will contribute to assessment efforts receive 50 points.
- 7. Leverages/matched with funding from another source – 50 points possible**
Projects which draw down other funding sources if implemented are given 50 points. Projects using other existing funds to complete the project (matching funds) are given 25 points. Projects using only CDBG funds receive zero points.
- 8. Phased project (phased judiciously) – 50 points possible**
Projects only taking one year receive 50 points. Phased projects with funding only allocated for 12 months of work, but for which 12 months of work would be sufficient for the project to have nearly full impact, also receive 50 points. Phased projects for which 12 months of work would leave an incomplete project with little to no impact receive negative 50 points.
- 9. Builds capacity for increased future service provision – 50 points possible**
Projects aiming to build capacity for future public, recreational, or housing services receive 50

points. Projects that have the potential to build capacity for services receive 25 points. Projects that do not build capacity receive zero points.

Monitoring

As the lead agency for development and implementation of the Consolidated Plan, the Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department implements standard policies and procedures for monitoring Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs. These monitoring activities ensure compliance with program regulations and compliance with financial requirements. Federal guidelines include: OMB A-110, OMB A-122, 24 CFR Part 570.603 (CDBG Labor Standards), 570.901-906 (CDBG) and the Davis Bacon Act and Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (CDBG).

HHS/VS provides contract administration for community development activities in conjunction with the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, including but not limited to contract negotiations, compliance monitoring, and payment and contract closeout.

Sub-Recipients

Sub-recipient agreements will be used to conduct public service activities. The sub-recipient agreement will be the foundation for programmatic monitoring. Sub-recipients will be monitored for programmatic compliance on-site in the following manner:

1. All invoices and reports will be routed via HHS/VS CDBG staff prior to final approval by financial services and the Auditor's Office.
2. All new sub-recipients will be monitored quarterly until no findings occur.
3. After two consecutive monitoring reports with no findings, semi-annual visits will occur.
4. Monitoring visits may occur on an annual basis if a sub-recipient has a long-standing record (three or more years) with no substantial findings.

Financial monitoring will be completed as necessary and as directed by sub-recipient fiscal performance and external monitoring needs of the Travis County Auditor's office. Programmatic and fiscal monitoring may not occur concurrently.

Contractors

Contractors may be used to provide some housing, community development and public services. Contractors submit periodic reimbursement requests which document and verify expenditures. The contract agreement will be used as the primary basis for monitoring. The following steps are an integral part of the monitoring process for each contract:

1. On-site reviews at an established periodic interval (prior to project commencement) will occur to ensure compliance with terms of the contract, HUD guidelines, state/local building and construction standards, and review of engineering plans and specifications.

2. If a contractor is found to be out of compliance, a notice is sent stating their contractual obligation and required action. Failure to comply may result in loss of current and/or future contracts as well as a hold on any payments.
3. All invoices and reports will be routed via HHS/VS CDBG staff prior to final approval by financial services and the Auditor’s Office.

Internal Travis County Departments

Internal Travis County projects will be monitored with Travis County HHS/VS CDBG staff sign off prior to invoices being paid, regular meetings with project management staff, and frequent checking of eligibility files, if applicable.

Project Files

Travis County HHS/VS staff will maintain files in order to document each project and its respective compliance with HUD and related regulations.

Lead-Based Paint

Tenure By Year Structure Built, Travis County TX	
Owner occupied	
Built 1970 to 1979	32,815
Built 1960 to 1969	16,498
Built 1950 to 1959	13,947
Built 1940 to 1949	6,963
Built 1939 or earlier	6,145
TOTAL	76,368
Renter occupied	
Built 1970 to 1979	39,147
Built 1960 to 1969	18,439
Built 1950 to 1959	9,672
Built 1940 to 1949	4,622
Built 1939 or earlier	4,637
TOTAL	76,517

Source: Census 2000

Only a small proportion of Travis County’s housing units are likely to contain lead-based paint. The vast majority of housing units were built after 1978. The adjacent chart provides an inventory of numbers of homes that may contain lead based paint.

Upon establishment of any programs for owner occupied rehabilitation and/or minor repairs, the County will develop procedures in that program year’s Action Plan in compliance with the Residential Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X) and subsequent changes in September, 1999. The procedures will include:

- Notification
- Identification
- Treatment (if necessary)

Housing

Travis County’s Consolidated Plan outlines the priority goals for 2006-2010. Below is a summary of the housing goals established for the five-year period.

Priority Housing Projects	
Rental Housing Goals	
Production of new units	High– <u>Medium</u>
Rental assistance	Medium
Acquisition of existing units	Medium
Rehabilitation of existing units	Medium
Owner Housing Goals	
Production of new units	High
Homebuyer assistance	High– <u>Medium</u>
Acquisition of existing units	Medium
Rehabilitation of existing units	High
Other: Other ways to promote affordable housing development (Infrastructure)	High

Projects to Further Housing Efforts

The project listed below for PY 2006 targets a high priority goal. The project intends to increase affordable, suitable housing stock in the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

Project 1. Owner Housing: Production of new units

Activity: Land Acquisition

Parcels or one large tract of land in unincorporated Travis County will be acquired to build affordable single-family housing for low-income families (25-50% Median Family Income). Single-family housing is defined as a one- to four-family residence.

Specific parcels or tracts of land will be identified at a later date. Public hearings will be held to inform the public of the location(s) prior to purchase of the land. During the selection process, priority will be given to tracts of land near public transportation.

Austin Habitat for Humanity, a local non-profit, will secure funding for the construction of homes on the acquired property. Approximately 25 10 units of housing will be created. The number of individuals impacted will vary depending upon the families selected for the housing units.

Funding Source: CDBG

Funding Provided: \$250,000

Program Delivery and Management: Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service, and Designated Sub-recipients

National Objective: LMH (570.201(a))

Matrix Code: 01

2006-2010 Strategic Plan Priority: **High**

Objective: Providing Decent Housing

Expected Project Outcome: Affordability

Expected Start Date/Completion Date: ~~January 1, 2007 to September 30, 2007~~ November 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Needs for Public Housing

Travis County will continue to support efforts of the Housing Authority of Travis County's (HATC) to provide homeownership and affordable housing opportunities to low-income residents. Travis County will partner with HATC to explore opportunities to extend these efforts during the unincorporated areas in the five-year period covered in this Strategic Plan.

HATC manages a total of 105 public housing units at three public housing sites in the incorporated areas of Travis County. Additionally, together with the Housing Authority of Austin, HATC administers three Shelter Plus Care projects in the Austin-Travis County area, which utilize integrated rental housing and flexible and intensive support services to promote community tenure and independence to the chronically homeless and disabled. These Public Housing and Shelter Plus sites are all located in incorporated areas of the county. In the unincorporated areas, HATC does administer the Section Eight Housing Choice Voucher Program to assist very low income, disabled and elderly families or individuals. HATC also operates a Lease-Purchase program, to provide homeownership opportunities for prospective homebuyers who can afford monthly mortgage payments, but do not have funds for a down payment and/or closing costs or the credit standing to qualify for a loan. However, at this time no publicly owned housing developments exist in the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

The major strategic goals of HATC's Five-Year Plan (FY 2005-2009) are as follows:

- Expand supply, improve quality, and increase available choices for assisted housing
- Provide an improved living environment
- Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of assisted households
- Ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing
- Improve physical conditions of all properties and create a safe workplace

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Travis County will invest via staff or dollars in PY2006 in opportunities to mitigate housing, land, fees and infrastructure costs via:

- Acquisition of land
- Collaboration with non-profits, businesses, agencies and coalitions
- Supporting initiatives throughout the County which increase affordable housing opportunities

County staff will work to ensure the development of county policies affecting building codes, zoning and growth that promote, to greatest extent possible, affordable housing development.

Homelessness

During the five-year time period covered in this plan ,Travis County does not intend to target the use of Community Development Block Grant funds toward homeless efforts . Travis County invests \$298,000 in general fund dollars in contracts with social service providers targeting the homeless in conjunction with the Austin/Travis County ESG grant administration and according to the Austin/Travis County Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.

See the *Anti-Poverty Strategy* section of this document for Travis County’s strategy to help low-income families avoid homelessness.

Non-Housing Community Development

Travis County’s Consolidated Plan outlines the priority goals for 2006-2010. Below is a summary of the goals established for Non- Housing Community Development for the five-year period.

Priority Non-Housing Community Development

Community Development Goals	
Goals	Priority
Water/Sewer Improvements	High
Street/Road Improvements	High
Sidewalks	Medium
Solid Waste Disposal Improvements	Medium
Flood Drain Improvements	Medium
Other: Erosion Abatement	Medium
Other: Litter Abatement	Medium
Other Public Facility Needs	Low

Projects to Further Community Development Efforts

The projects listed below for PY2006 target high priority goals. Both projects intend to increase suitable living environments in the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

Project2: Street Improvements

Activity: Substandard Roads in Apache Shores

Apache Shores is identified as a low to moderate income area. Many roads in the Apache Shores area do not meet Travis County standards, therefore, the substandard roads are not accepted into the Travis County road maintenance program.

The street improvement scope of work may include, but is not limited to: 1) design services; 2) land surveying services; 3) geo-technical services; 4) drainage design services; 4) utility location and relocation coordination services; 5) environmental review and related regulatory permits; 6) acquisition of right of way and easements; and 6) construction.

Three roads and one alternate road in the Apache Shores area have been identified for repairs. Road selection was based on identifying the current condition of the road (assessed by Travis County's Transportation and Natural Resources Department) and targeting residential streets with lower improvement values (assessed and reported by the Travis County Appraisal District). Roads identified for improvement are:

1. Pima Trail from Red Fox Road to Crazy Horse Pass
(Census Tract 1742; Blockgroup 1; Blocks 1068, 1066, 1065, and 1053).
2. Crazyhorse Pass from Pima Trail to Running Deer Trail
(Census Tract 1742; Blockgroup 1; Blocks 1054 and 1053).
3. Whitebead Trail from Red Fox Road to Running Deer Trail
(Census Tract 1742; Blockgroup 1; Blocks 1052 and 1053).
*Alternate: Crazy Horse Pass from Running Deer Trail to Whitebead Trail
(Census Tract 1742; Blockgroup 1; Blocks 1047 and 1050).*

The improvements impact 72 households as identified in the map indicating the area of benefit (~~Census tract: 1742 (3001742); Block: 1; Group 2-~~). Specific census data for each street is listed above in the roads identified section. The number of households in the area of benefit does not change in the case of improvements to the identified alternate road. The map can be found in Attachment D.

Funding Source: CDBG

Funding Provided: \$ ~~300,000~~ 305,000

Program Delivery and Management: Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County Health and Human Services and Veteran's Service, and Designated Contractors

National Objective: LM-AB (570.201 (c))

Matrix Code: 03K

2006-2010 Strategic Plan Priority: High

Objective: Creating Suitable Living Environments

Expected Project Outcome: Availability/Accessibility

Expected Start Date/Completion Date: ~~January 1, 2006 – June 30, 2008~~ July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2009

Project3: Water/Sewer Improvements

Activity: North Ridge Acres - Improved municipal water service for NRWSC

North Ridge Acres subdivision is located in both Williamson and Travis Counties near the intersection of FM 1325 and CR 172. 58 households in Travis County and 65 households in Williamson County will benefit from this project.

The project includes design, construction and administration of a complete replacement of the NRWSC's existing water distribution system. The goals of the project are: (1) design and construct a new water system that meets the requirements of the TCEQ and the City of Austin; (2) disconnection from the current water source (a City of Round Rock fire hydrant); (3) a permanent connection to the City of Austin's water system; and (4) conveyance of the NRWSC to the City of Austin which will provide service and billing for all NRWSC customers.

Design and construction of a new distribution system to convey potable water from the connection with the City's system to the NRWSC customers includes: distribution lines; fire hydrants; service laterals, valves, meters and service connections; pavement repairs; and demolition and removal of abandoned water storage facilities.

A primary door-to-door survey was conducted in November 2003 and June 2005. The survey indicates that at least 57% of the residents in the project area are Hispanic. The survey also indicates that 100% of the residents fall below the low- to moderate-income level.

The total project budget is \$1,872,000. Please see the leveraged funding section below for the breakdown of funding.

Funding Source: CDBG

Funding Provided: \$200,000

Leveraged Funding: Texas Water Development Board - \$1.3 million, Travis County - \$172,000 (In-Kind and General Fund), Williamson County - \$150,000 (CDBG), Office of Rural Community Affairs - \$250,000 (CDBG/Non-Border Colonia Grant)

In addition, the City of Austin has spent approximately \$200,000 to extend its major water line to the front of the Northridge Acres Subdivision and will expend additional funds to connect its water system to the newly constructed municipal water system in order to provide long-term water service to the community. Upon completion of the project, the City of Austin will accept all customers of the NRWSC as retail utility customers of the City and all customers will pay the City's applicable rates for water service.

Program Delivery and Management: Dan Smith, Executive Assistant, Office of the Travis County Judge, Mark Hall, TDWB, Gandolf Burris, Grant Development Services and Designated Contractors

National Objective: LM-AB (survey) (570.201 (c))

Matrix Code: 03J

2006-2010 Strategic Plan Priority: High

Objective: Creating Suitable Living Environments

Expected Project Outcome: Sustainability

Expected Start Date/Completion Date: July 15, 2006 to ~~September 30, 2007~~ December 30, 2007

Antipoverty Strategy/Public Services

Travis County does not yet have a formally adopted anti-poverty strategy. However, the Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Department is committed to developing a formal anti-poverty strategy over the time period covered by this Consolidated Plan. In addition, the Travis County Commissioners Court has allocated an anti-poverty reserve in its annual budget cycle for fiscal year 2007 which will initiate coordination of current efforts and implement additional programmatic efforts to address poverty in a comprehensive manner.

Many of the Consolidated Plan strategies directly assist individuals who are living in poverty. In addition, Travis County’s lead agency for administering these funds is the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department, whose mission is “to work in partnership with the community to promote full development of individual, family, neighborhood, and community potential.” The vision of HHS/VS is “optimizing self-sufficiency for families and individuals in safe and healthy communities.” Both the mission and vision of HHS/VS are essentially aimed at preventing and ameliorating conditions of poverty in Travis County.

In addition, Travis County participates in the assessments, plans, and activities of the Community Action Network, whose members have informally pursued anti-poverty strategies as part of their primary mission.

Travis County’s Consolidated Plan outlines the priority goals for 2006-2010. Below is a summary of the goals established for Public Services for the five-year period.

Priority Public Services

Public Service Goals	
Goals	Priority
Youth Services	High
Other Public Service Needs	High
Transportation Services	Medium
Employment Training	Medium
Health Services	Medium
Child Care Services	Medium
Senior Services	Medium
Substance Abuse Services	Medium
Lead Hazard Screening	Low
Crime Awareness	Low

The Travis County Community's Anti-Poverty Programs – Non- CDBG funding

- Providing assistance with emergency basic needs (including rent, utility and food assistance) in order to prevent homelessness.
- Advocating for and supporting public policy initiatives that create real solutions for adequate healthcare, childcare, living wages, education and disability assistance.

Projects to Further Anti-Poverty/Public Services Efforts

The projects listed below for PY 2006 target high priority goals. Both projects intend to increase access to quality public services in the unincorporated areas of Travis County.

Deletion of: Project4: Youth Services

Activity: Youth and Family Assessment Center (YFAC) Flex Fund Expansion

~~The YFAC program is an internal Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service expansion of existing services. Flex Funding through the YFAC program assists high risk children improve their school performance and avoid the juvenile justice system through traditional and non-traditional services. A small expansion of flex funds is requested for the first year; however, it is anticipated that the client population will grow over time as more outreach is done. Approximately 30 youth will be assisted.~~

~~The Family Support Services Division Social Work Services Expansion staff (mentioned below) will outreach, assess and manage the flex fund expansion dollars.~~

~~Funding Source: CDBG~~

~~Funding Provided: \$5,000~~

~~Leveraged Funding: \$5,000—General Fund~~

~~Program Delivery and Management: Travis County Health and Human Services and Veteran's Service~~

~~National Objective: LMC (570.201(e))~~

~~Matrix Code: 05D~~

~~Objective: Creating Suitable Living Environments~~

~~Expected Project Outcome: Availability/Accessibility~~ 2006-2010 Strategic Plan Priority: **High**

~~Expected Start Date/Completion Date: January 15, 2007 to September 30, 2007~~

Approval of the deletion of this project has occurred. The services to 30 youth will still be provided, but through the Travis County General Fund. The \$5,000 originally issued to fund this project will increase the budget to the Apache Shores Street Improvement project.

Project5: Public Services, Other

Activity: HHS/VS Family Support Services Division Social Work Services Expansion

This program is an internal Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service expansion of existing services. The program will expand current social work services by two Social Workers in order to increase capacity to provide case management, information and referral, non-clinical counseling, crisis intervention and outreach in the unincorporated areas. The social workers will be located at the Community Centers in Del Valle and Manor.

The expansion of the social work staff within Family Support Services would reduce the barriers encountered by county residents in unincorporated areas receiving needed social, financial and health services. This furthers the goal of HHS/VS to make its services available to all residents in need of them. The expansion increases the capacity of social work services to serve a minimum of 100 families.

Funding Source: CDBG

Funding Provided: \$83,659

Leveraged Funding: ~~\$31,341 General Fund~~

Program Delivery and Management: Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

National Objective: LMC (570.201(e))

Matrix Code: 05

2006-2010 Strategic Plan Priority: High

Objective: Creating Suitable Living Environments

Expected Project Outcome: Availability/Accessibility

Expected Start Date/Completion Date: ~~January 15, 2007 – September 30, 2007~~ July 15, 2007 – December 31, 2007



Travis County

Appendix A:

Citizen Engagement Detailed Results

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



ATTACHMENT A
NOTES FROM PUBLIC HEARINGS, SPRING 2006

SUMMARY

A total of seven public hearings were to gather information from residents on their community development, housing, and public service needs for the development of the original 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan. At each hearing, participants received information on the anticipated CDBG allocation, eligible activities, and project planning process and were given time to comment on their needs. The hearings were held according to the schedule below:

	Locations of Hearings	Dates/Times of Hearings
Community-wide hearing	Travis County Commissioners Court, Granger Building	Tuesday, April 11 th , 2006 9:00am
Precinct 1	TNR Satellite 1 (9301 Johnnie Morris Road)	Monday, April 17 th , 2006, 7:00pm
Precinct 2	Travis County Community Center, Pflugerville	Saturday, April 22 nd , 2006, 10:00 am
Precinct 3	West Rural Community Center, Oakhill	Wednesday, April 26 th , 2006, 7:00pm
Precinct 3	Northwest Rural Community Center, Jonestown	Thursday, April 27 th , 2006, 7:00pm
Precinct 4	South Rural Community Center, Del Valle	Thursday, April 20 th , 2006, 7:00pm
Community-wide hearing	Travis County Commissioners Court, Granger Building	Tuesday, May 2 nd , 2006, 9:00am

Two community-wide hearings were held in Commissioner’s Court on April 11th and May 2nd. At these hearings, comments were taken in the traditional hearing format. At the first hearing on April 11th, two representatives from non-profit social service providers attended and testified on behalf of the clients they served. At the second and final public hearing on May 2nd, one resident attended and testified on his own behalf.

The notes from these two hearings are as follows:

<i>Public Comments</i>
April 11th:
Accessibility is a big issue in providing services to elderly/disabled
Lack of recreational activities for elderly/disabled

Lack of services for victims of domestic violence and rape in rural area
Need for long term transitional housing for victims
Need for life skills services for victims
May 2nd:
Roads difficult to access, 150-200 yards need completion. In addition, there is a low water crossing. (Address of home: 20300 Trapper's Trail)
Emergency vehicles have great difficulty accessing the house
Loss of life (child) two years ago, due to inability of emergency vehicles to access the house.

Five public hearings were held at public facilities in rural areas, one in Precincts 1, 2, and 4 and two in precinct 3 due to its size. At these hearings, comments were received after the information was presented. After each resident commented on their needs, facilitated decision-making was used to determine priorities. All participants were given several minutes to comment on their needs, which were listed on large pieces of paper on the wall. After the lists were completed, each participant was given three sets of three dot stickers to place on the paper next to the potential project ideas they felt were most important. Three dots went in public services, three in community development, and three in housing. One of the public hearings in Precinct 3 had only one participant. Therefore no prioritization was done on the needs identified by that resident.

A summary of these public hearings are as follows:

Precinct 1: Twenty-nine residents attended, two of which were representatives of non-profit agencies speaking on behalf of their clients. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- Most of the testimony dealt with a lack of access to running water. Residents in economically disenfranchised areas had wells that were running dry, and no infrastructure to access the area water utility.
- Residents also discussed strong need for waste water systems, fire hydrants, clean up of dumping and code enforcement, erosion abatement and flood control.
- Regarding housing needs, the primary need expressed was for home repair and more access to affordable housing.
- Regarding public services, legal advocacy, an additional community center, and youth services lead in priority needs.

(No residents attended the public hearing in Precinct 2.)

Precinct 3: Six residents attended, three of which were representatives of Travis County Departments. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- The primary concerns expressed were a need for waste water systems, road repairs, and a small business loan.
- Regarding housing needs, the primary needs were home repair and more affordable housing, especially rental housing.

- In the area of public services, needs expressed were services for elderly/homebound (meals and healthcare), training for emergency workers, and legal advocacy.

Precinct 4: Twelve residents attended, two of which were representatives of non-profit agencies speaking on behalf of their clients. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- Primary needs in regards to neighborhood development included a need for a multi-use facility in the area’s County Park, road improvements, utility infrastructure, water/waste water systems, and small business loans.
- In the area of housing, residents expressed need for home repair and down payment assistance.
- Regarding public services, the primary needs were for youth services, transportation, home buyer education, and senior services.

Precinct	Community Development	Priority Votes
1	Water systems (8" main) (Hornsby Bend and Littig)	27
1	Fire Hydrants (one per three houses) (Hornsby Bend and Littig)	21
1	Sewer systems (get rid of septic) (Hornsby Bend and Littig)	19
1	Multi-purpose center-park, recreation (Littig)	11
1	Code enforcement-illegal dumping (Littig)	9
1	Erosion (soil) abatement (Littig)	8
1	Flood Plain/Building, Roads up over low water crossings	5
1	Culverts-many homes for drainage/entrance (Littig)	4
1	Roads- acquisition, maintenance, and repair	2
1	Technology Infrastructure (web, cable, fiber optics)	2
1	North of Pflugerville- community recreational facility and library	1
1	Storm drains	0
3	Home Health Agency-job creation (\$35,000 to start)	N/A
3	Septic repair and replacement	N/A
3	Roads- Mountain Trail has only one lane	N/A
3	Roads (Deer Creek Ranch), (Apache Shores)	6
3	Water/wastewater (including septic systems repair/replace)	5
3	Assist water supply corporations to become compliant with TCEQ	4
	Line replacement (water) 6" for fire hydrants (safety) Deer Creek Ranch	1
3	Street lights (safety)	0
4	Multi-use facility at the park-job training, YMCA-youth activities, homebuyer’s education, literacy (S.E. Metro park)	10
4	Roads- conditions of and add lanes to increase safety (Ross Rd)	8
4	Electrical lines Infrastructure (stop lights/growth)	6
4	Water lines- areas don’t have access (elderly & disabled)	5
4	Business lending (women owned, minority, microsystems, etc.)	4

4	Septic systems- Repair and replacement	3
4	Litter abatement	2
4	Entrepreneurship/ Business development	2
4	Expand facilities for Seniors	1
4	Soil Erosion (Garfield along river where banks turn)	0
Precinct	Housing	Priority Votes
1	Home repair/rehab and accessibility for seniors	20
1	Community Low-Income housing	15
1	Drainage of rain water	13
1	Create Senior assisted Living	5
3	Home repair/rehab (handicap accessible)	N/A
3	Create low-income rental property with owner occupied reconstruction	N/A
3	Home repair/rehab	13
3	Affordable low-income housing	0
4	Home Repair	24
4	Down-payment assistance	10
Precinct	Public Services	Priority Votes
1	Assistance or advocacy with issues regarding no water/quality of life	27
1	Additional Community Center between Del Valle and Manor	7
1	Youth services-education 2-6 year olds, low tech job skills, teens (Entertainment Technology Studio \$300,000. to create)	6
1	Attorney services (state/county govt. development, imminent domain-advocacy including roads	5
1	Community Center between Manor and Elgin (Littig)	4
1	English as a Second Language (ESL)	4
1	Transportation for seniors with disabilities	4
1	Community education about water/wells	3
1	Transitioning kids with disabilities to independent living	3
1	Mentoring	0
3	Home Health Services	N/A
3	Training for EMS- fire stations, ambulances	5
3	Meal delivery for the homebound	4
3	Legal advocacy, education for the communities to organize	4
3	ESL (English as a second language)	2

4	At-risk Youth services	11
4	Bus route expansion	9
4	Homeownership center- financial literacy, homebuyer education (assistance with payment for classes)	7
4	Senior centers redesign to attract/expand	4
4	YMCA- youth activities	4
4	Job training	4
4	Recreational services for seniors	2
4	Recreational facility for youth	2
4	Literacy	2
4	Drug/alcohol/abuse treatment	2
4	Keep Travis County Beautiful –Litter abatement project	2
4	Rural transportation- CARTS- window of service for elderly –limited	2
4	Technology center- web access- free for youth	0
4	Assistance for elderly/disabled to maintain property	0

Precinct	Specific Project Notes
1	Look into older subdivisions built before codes of water/roads.
1	Larger developments affecting water supply in older, smaller developments like Littig and Hornsby Bend between Manor and Elgin.
1	Check on roads to see if County owned, or if they could be acquired for repair/upkeep: Campbell Rd., Shiloh Rd., Clearview and Plainview.
1	Look into aquifer issues (Wilcox Aquifer?) for Littig and Hornsby Bend communities.
3	Deer Creek Ranch-near RR12 & Hamilton Post Rd.-8 miles of deteriorated roads
3	Street lights needed (Deer Creek Ranch)
3	Apache shores low income area in need of improvements to roads, sewers, water
4	Look at funding lowest income as a priority.
4	Bi-lingual (Spanish) need for financial literacy.
4	Need for water/meter hook-up for houses along Rodriguez Rd
4	Stop light needed for Ross Rd.
4	Ross Rd. and Pearce Lane –speed bumps

ATTACHMENT B
NOTES FROM PROVIDER CONSULTATION

On May 10, 2006 twenty-seven representatives from twenty-two agencies attended a facilitated forum. After receiving a presentation on Travis County’s anticipated CDBG allocation, funding intent, eligible activities, and preliminary results from the provider survey, representatives were broken into two groups: Public Services and Housing/Community Planning. Results listed below are drawn from notes taken from the two break-out groups and listed separately to detail the different perspectives of the providers. Questions were asked regarding the populations served by each provider, the services offered, the barriers for clients to obtain their services, gaps in existing services, information regarding all services available in their issue area, underserved populations, and primary sources of agency funding. Responses are listed below.

Agencies Attending:

Neighborhood Housing Services of Austin	Services for the Elderly
Travis County Housing Finance Corporation	Arc of the Capital Area
Texas Reach Out	Children's Wellness Clinic, University of Texas
Austin Tenants Council	Prevent Blindness Texas
Austin Habitat for Humanity	Capital IDEA
SafePlace	The Family Link
True Light	WorkSource (Work Force Development Board)
Foundation Communities	Palmer Drug Abuse Program
DA's Office, Re-entry Roundtable	Goodwill
Community Action Network	MHMR (Local Mental Health, MR Authority)
Capital Area Food Bank	City of Austin Housing

POPULATIONS SERVED

Public Services	Housing
Youth (low-median income)	Survivors of domestic violence / sexual assault
Victims of domestic violence / sexual assault	Ex-offenders
Unemployed / underemployed	First time home-buyers low-moderate income
Children	Low-income homebuyers
Disabled	Low-moderate renters, homeless
Adults	Low income tenants
Del Valle School District	Low income teen parents
Population with mental health / sexual abuse	
Renters	
Fair housing	
Ex-offenders	

Anyone in need of vision screening	
Elderly	

SERVICES OFFERED

Public Services	Housing
Crisis psych. Services	Down payment assistance
Counseling	Financial literacy
Drug / alcohol abuse counseling	Homeowner education including: repair / maintenance, good neighbor
In-home care	Affordable rental housing
Food assistance	Transitional housing & counseling for teen moms
Community health	Bond programs for low-interest loans
Utility / rent assistance	Issue tax-exempt bonds for multi-family
Fair housing	Down payment assistance for single family
Landlord / Tenant I & R	Home repair for existing owner
Respite	Infant center / care
Employment assistance, training, retention, placement, etc.	Legal referrals
Case management	After school technology center / job search
Social services	Mental health services
Juvenile services	Daycare
Advocacy	Legal disabilities services
Vision	Supportive housing for homeless
Detox	After school care
Rx & Meth. Maintenance	Adult education
Offender services	Tax center (EITC)
Monthly support services	Matched savings accounts > home purchased
	I & R on housing rights
	Mediation
	Counseling
	Develop new housing
	Shelter
	Transitional housing
	Case management services
	School
	Faith-based transitional housing
	Fair housing enforcement
	Employment training & placement
	Life skills

BARRIERS FOR CLIENTS TO OBTAIN SERVICES

Public Services	Housing
Transportation: limited availability, access for elderly / disabled; Cap Metro, Medicaid, STS have time requirements	Identifying those most in need
Lack of childcare	Distinguishing incorporated vs. unincorporated
Lack of awareness of services	Population with income below 30% can't afford & not enough funding
Language barrier	Outstanding utility debt
Challenge of establishing & maintaining eligibility	Debt / load credit
Distance & isolation	Qualifying the buyer
Lower sense of community	Market barriers- high cost of housing, land, infrastructure (lack of available lots with pre-existing infrastructure)
Limited resources & time	Lack of childcare / access to transportation
Stigma	Lack of inspectors / code enforcement
	Language barriers
	Discrimination

GAPS IN EXISTING SERVICES

Public Services	Housing
Transportation: geographical, schedule limited	Unmet need for qualified first time homebuyers
Lack of providers	No home repair programs
Higher cost in unincorporated areas	Lack of affordable housing for very low and low income (rent / own)
Lack of facilities	Information / referral services
Bad roads	Public education re: sources
Language barrier	Transportation
Distance & isolation	Because of process / cost of property a lack of availability in certain areas (i.e. pushing population east)
Lack of fair housing education enforcement	
Lower response to outreach	
Lack of after hours services	

INFO ON SERVICES AVAILABLE

Public Services	Housing
Legal services, but only in city	Transitional housing better in incorporated areas; close to services
Food - churches, food pantries	CDBG-funded services are available in city, but not in unincorporated areas (no available rental / repair enforcement)
Some homeless education via schools	Most services are available only in the city (particularly shelters) [create satellite offices?]
Employment training (limited)	
Some youth services	
Clinics – physical and mental health	
Sustainable food services	

Note: Austin Habitat is expanding to home repair and building in unincorporated Travis County

UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Public Services	Housing
ESL (all backgrounds)	Other than English speaking
Immigrants	Teen parents
Dropouts	Low to very low income
Homeless	Population with disabilities
Disabled-mental health & physical	Population with criminal history
Uninsured / underinsured	Elderly
Working poor	
Parents with substance abuse	
At risk youth	
Victims	
Offenders	

AGENCY FUNDING SOURCES

Public Services	Housing
City, state, county, federal	Churches
Private funds	Federal \$
Fees for services	Individuals
Fund raising	Local government
Volunteers	Volunteers
Universities	Corporation
Business ventures	Rent
Public support / donations	Grants (foundation)
	Fees
	Banks
	City

	Fundraisers; individual state; local
	Foundations

ATTACHMENT C
NOTES FROM PROVIDER SURVEY

Section II: An electronic survey was utilized to collect information from housing, community development, and public service providers in Travis County. The survey had a total of 48 respondents from the following agencies:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Austin Travis County MHMR Center (2) | 26. Austin Travis County MHMR Center |
| 2. Austin/Travis Co. Health & Human Services | 27. Capital IDEA |
| 3. Adult Probation | 28. Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, Inc. |
| 4. Services For The Elderly, Inc. (2) | 29. Austin Public Library |
| 5. Santa Barbara Catholic Church | 30. Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, Inc. (3) |
| 6. Housing Authority of Texas | 31. Neighborhood Housing Services |
| 7. Austin Tenants' Council | 32. East Austin Economic Development Corporation |
| 8. Family Eldercare | 33. Austin Tenants' Council |
| 9. Palmer Drug Abuse Program | 34. Academic Research Associates |
| 10. Austin Interfaith | 35. City of Austin |
| 11. Austin Tenants Council (2) | 36. Goodwill Industries |
| 12. Prevent Blindness Texas | 37. HTMLaddict.com |
| 13. Lisa's H.O.P.E. Chest | 38. Breast Cancer Resource Center |
| 14. Advocates for Human Potential | 39. Diocese of Austin |
| 15. BCL of Texas | 40. Del-Valle ISD |
| 16. Foundation Communities (2) | 41. UT School of Nursing Children's Wellness Center |
| 17. Texas Reach Out Inc. | 42. Heart House |
| 18. Skillpoint Alliance | 43. Capital Area Food Bank |
| 19. WorkSource | 44. Jewish Family Service |
| 20. Texas Low Income Housing | 45. Services for the Elderly, Inc. |
| 21. Faith in Action Caregivers - Northeast Austin | 46. Foundation Communities |
| 22. SafePlace | 47. Network for Life of Austin, Inc. |
| 23. Communities in Schools | 48. St. Louis King of France Catholic Church |
| 24. The Arc of the Capital Area | |
| 25. Capital IDEA (2) | |

Survey questions and responses are detailed on the following page:

1 Does your agency serve any of the following populations? Check all that apply:

	Response Total
Children	25
Elderly	26
Homeless	30
Immigrants	27
People needing substance abuse treatment	18
People with disabilities	28
People with HIV/AIDS	23
People with limited English proficiency	28
Victims	16
Women	32
Youth	26
None of the above	1
Total Respondents	44
(skipped this question)	4

2 For your clients living in unincorporated areas please describe their income levels to the best of your knowledge. Rank order the following according to which income levels are the most common (i.e. assign a "1" to the income level that describes the most clients and assign a "4" to the income level that describes the fewest clients). Each ranking can only be used once.

	1	2	3	4	Response Average
Extremely low income (30% or below median family income)	20	12	1	6	1.82
Very low income (30-50% median family income)	13	19	6	0	1.82
Low income (50-80% median family income)	6	5	23	1	2.54
Moderate income (80% or above median family income)	3	1	4	27	3.57
Total Respondents	43				
(skipped this question)	5				

3 For your clients living in unincorporated areas please describe their housing situations to the best of your knowledge. Rank order the following according to which types of housing are the most common (i.e. assign a "1" to the housing type that describes the most clients and assign a "5" to the housing type that describes the fewest clients). Each ranking can only be used once.

	1	2	3	4	5	Response Average
Homeless	8	4	5	4	15	3.39
Homeowner	4	5	8	7	13	3.54
Mobile Home	4	11	9	10	2	2.86
Rental	23	10	6	1	0	1.63
Temporary Housing	1	11	8	12	2	3.09
Total Respondents	43					
(skipped this question)	5					

4 Does your agency provide any of the following community development services in Travis County? Check all that apply:

	Response Total
Small/minority business development	3
Job creation	8
Park improvements (buildings, recreation)	2
Community facilities (constructing buildings)	4
Infrastructure (roads and drainage systems)	2
Neighborhood/commercial improvements	5
Improved accessibility for disabled	6
None of the above	24
Total Respondents	41
(skipped this question)	7

5 To the best of your knowledge how important are the following community development needs to your agency's low-income clients living in unincorporated areas? Please rank no more than three (3) needs as "Very Important."

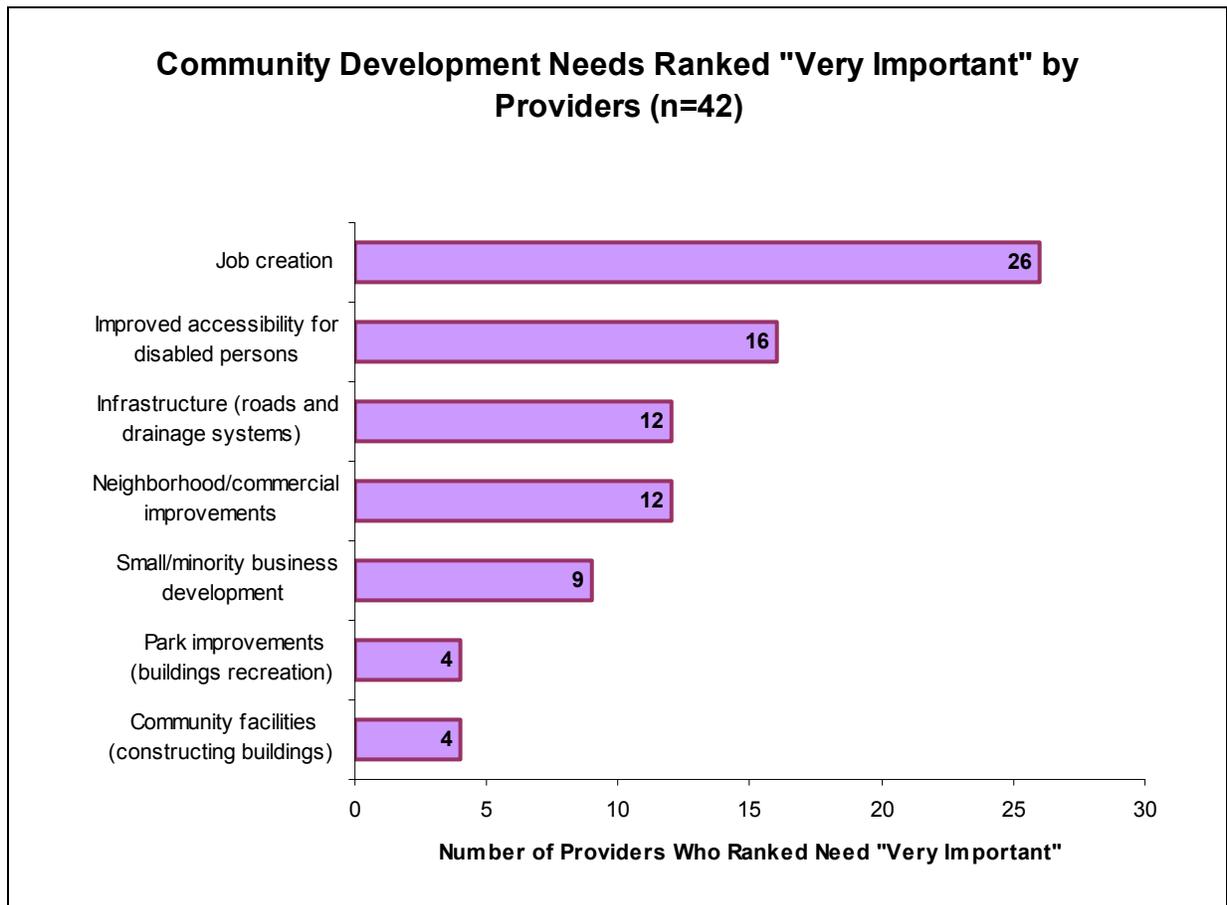
	Very important	Somewhat important	Neutral	Less important	Not important at all	Not applicable /Not sure	Response Average
Small/minority business development	9	13	7	1	1	4	2.1
Job creation	26	9	1	0	0	3	1.31
Park improvements (buildings recreation)	4	11	6	7	0	6	2.57

ANALYSIS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

- ❖ **Highest needs identified** (marked as somewhat or very important) are:
 - 1) Job Creation (35 of 42 respondents)
 - 2) Improved accessibility for disabled persons (30 of 42)
 - 3) Neighborhood improvements (23 of 42)
 - 4) Small/Minority business development (22 of 42)
 - 5) Community Facilities (21 of 42)

- ❖ **Least important identified needs** (marked as less important or not important at all) were park improvements and roads and drainage systems.

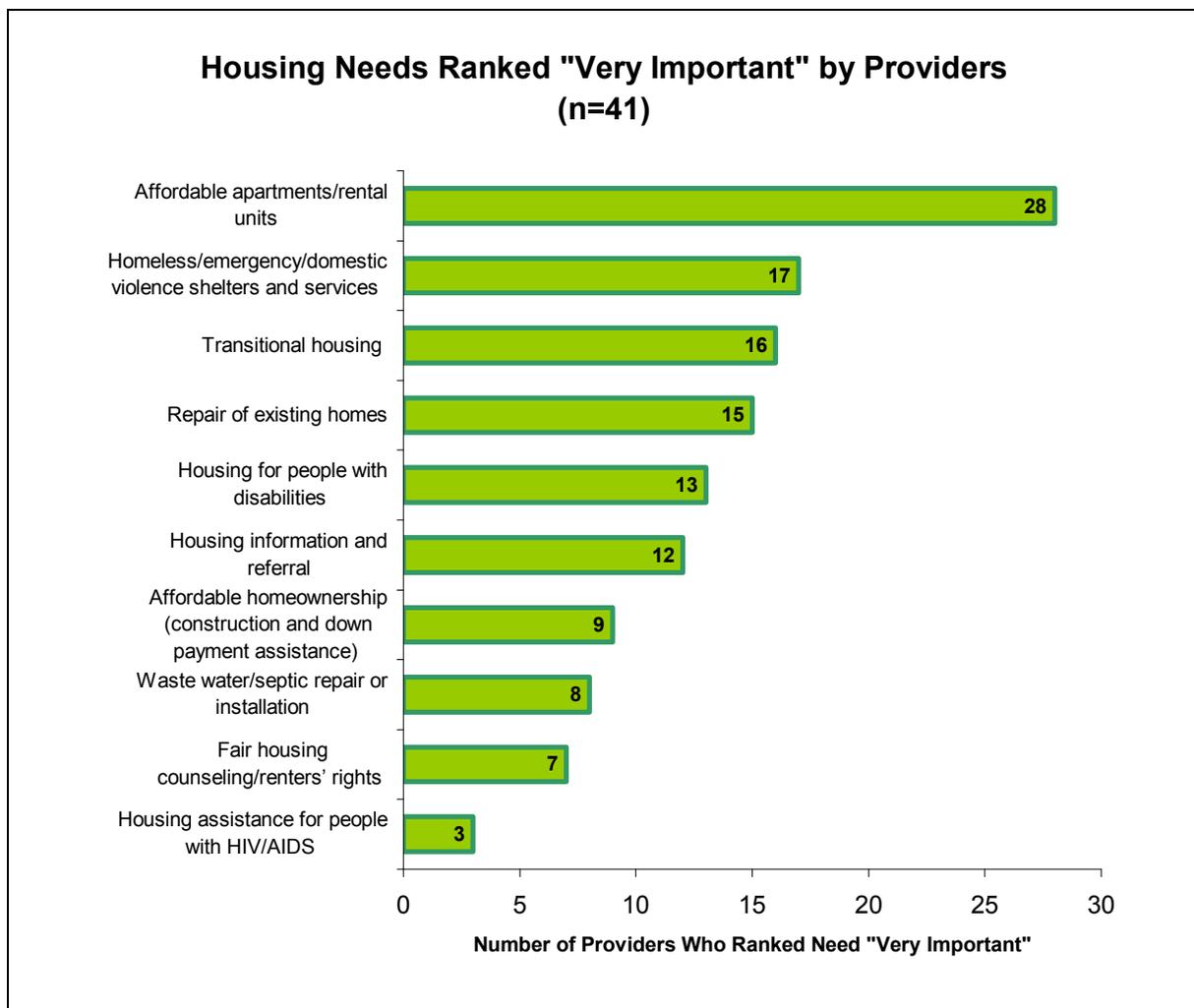


HOUSING NEEDS

- ❖ Majority of clients served by providers are renters. (Marked as 1 or 2 priority by 33 of 41 respondents.)

- ❖ **Highest needs identified** are:
 - 1) Affordable rental units (33 of 41 respondents)
 - 2) Housing information and referral (32 of 41)
 - 3) Affordable homeownership (29 of 41)
 - 4) Repair of existing homes (28 of 41)
 - 5) Transitional Housing (27 of 41) and housing for people with disabilities (27 of 41)

- ❖ **Least important identified needs** (marked as less important or not important at all) were wastewater/septic repair and housing assistance for people with HIV/AIDS.

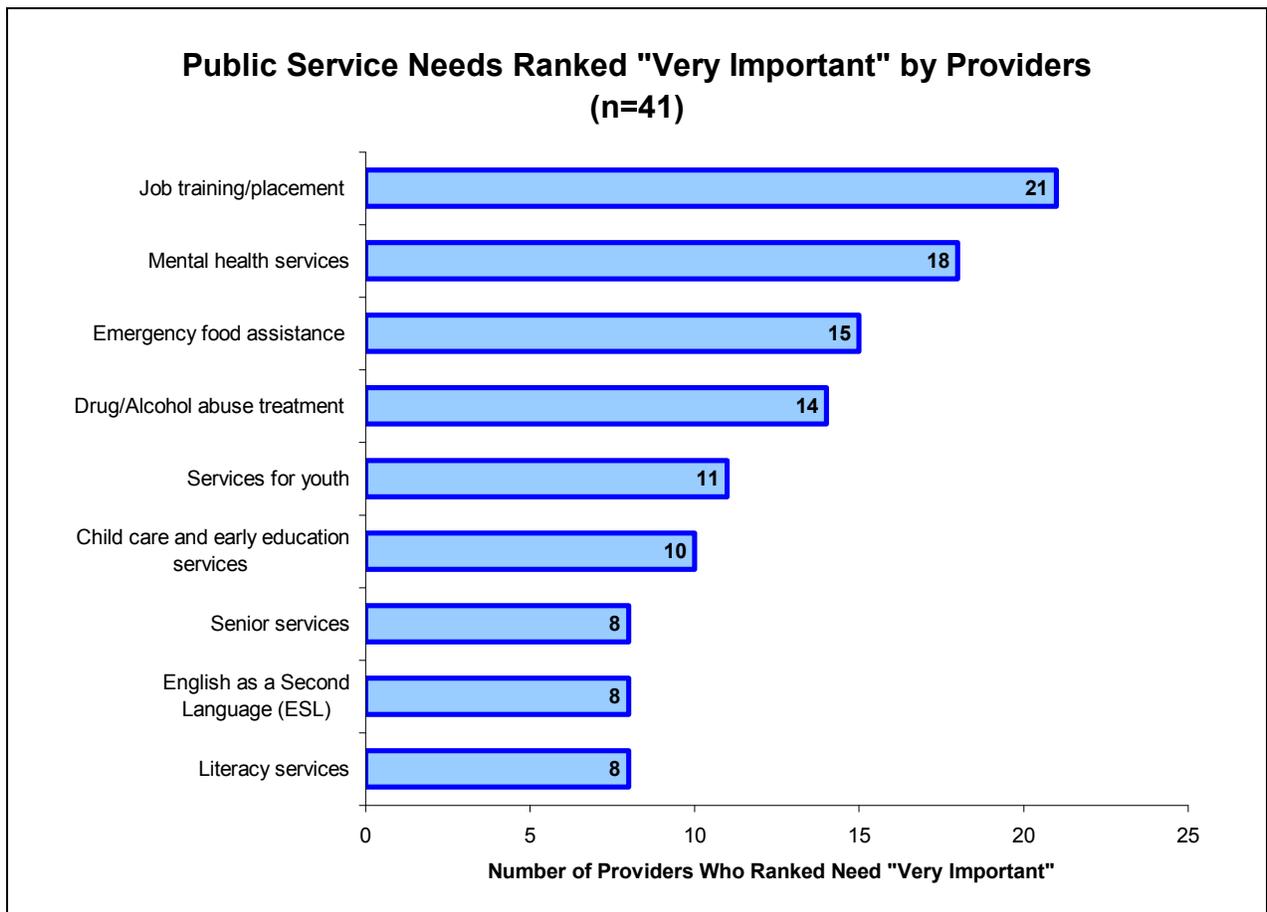


PUBLIC SERVICE NEEDS

❖ **Highest needs identified** are:

- 1) Job training and placement (32 of 41 respondents)
- 2) Childcare and early education (30 of 41)
- 3) Mental Health Services (29 of 41)
- 4) Drug/Alcohol abuse treatment (27 of 41)
- 5) Emergency food assistance (26 of 41)

❖ **Least important identified needs** (marked as less important or not important at all) were senior services and English as a second language services.



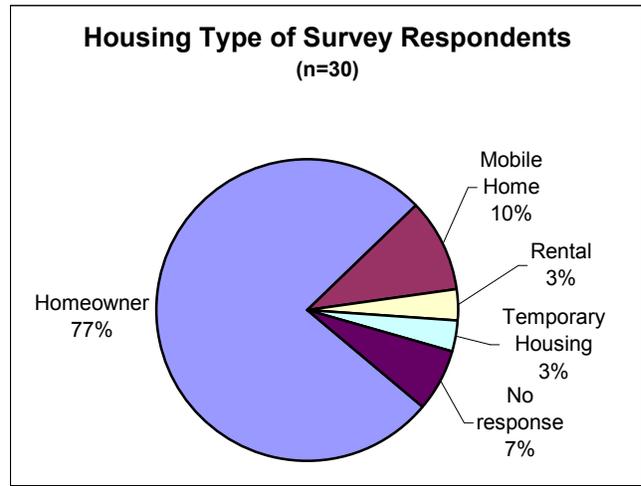
ATTACHMENT D RESIDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Surveys were available at the public hearings and at each rural community center. In addition, several surveys were completed and submitted by mail. A total of thirty surveys were received.

CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS:

Survey respondents' household sizes ranged from 1 person to 8 people, with an average household size of 3.2 people. The monthly housing costs of survey respondents ranged from \$0 to \$1,900, with an average monthly cost of \$505.25. The majority of survey respondents were homeowners, as illustrated by the figure at right.

Of the thirty respondents, 66% said they had never experienced difficulty getting a home loan or renting an apartment, and 34% said they *had* experienced difficulty getting a home loan or renting an apartment. Of those who *had* experienced difficulty, 30% felt it was based on their race, and 10% felt it was based on their sex.

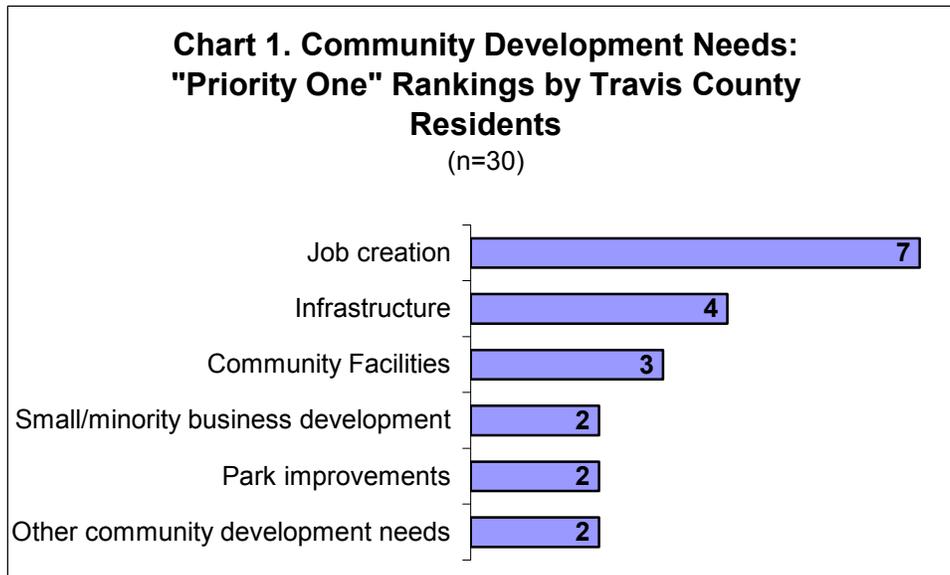


COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

Seven items were included in the list of community development needs, with a blank space for "other need" if respondents wished to specify an additional concern. Respondents ranked needs on a scale of 1 to 5, and also selected their top three priorities from the list. Table 1 shows the average rankings of each need, and Chart 1 shows the needs selected as the highest priority.

Table 1: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
Need	Average Ranking*
Infrastructure	1.400
Job creation	1.467
Improved accessibility for disabled	1.467
Park improvements	1.533
Community facilities	1.633
Neighborhood/commercial improvements	1.633
Small/minority business development	1.733
Other community development need	2.133

*Note: 1 = Highest ranking, 3 = neutral, 5 = lowest ranking

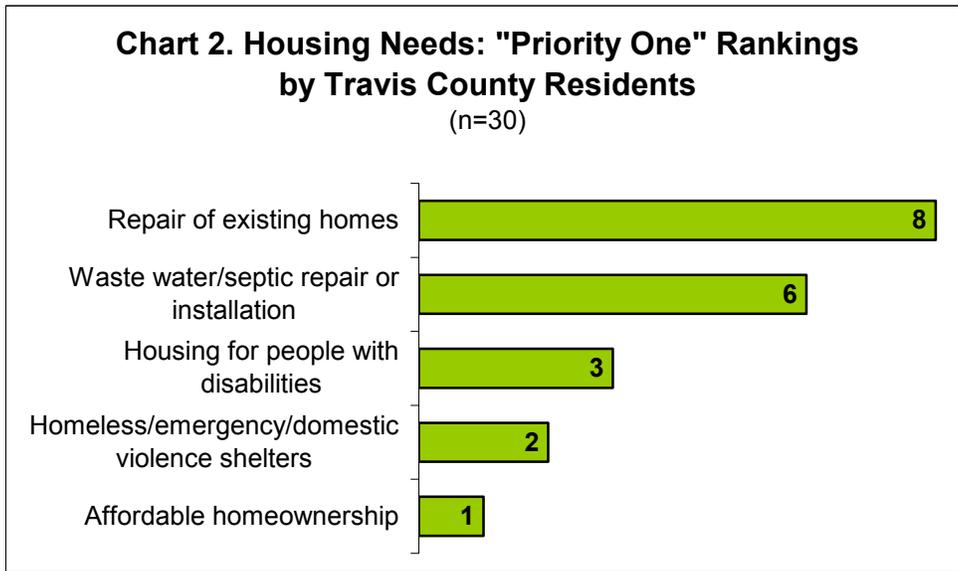


HOUSING NEEDS

Ten items were included in the list of housing needs, with a blank space for "other need" if respondents wished to specify an additional concern. Respondents ranked needs on a scale of 1 to 5, and also selected their top three priorities from the list. Table 2 shows the average rankings of each need, and Chart 2 shows the needs selected as the highest priority.

Table 2: HOUSING	
Need	Average Ranking*
Repair of existing homes	1.200
Waste water/septic repair or installation	1.267
Affordable homeownership	1.633
Housing for people with disabilities	1.633
Homeless/emergency/domestic violence shelters and services	1.700
Fair housing counseling/renters' rights	1.733
Affordable apartments/rental units	1.867
Housing information and referral	2.033
Housing assistance for people with HIV/AIDS	2.133
Transitional housing	2.267
Other housing need	2.267

**Note: 1 = Highest ranking, 3 = neutral, 5 = lowest ranking*

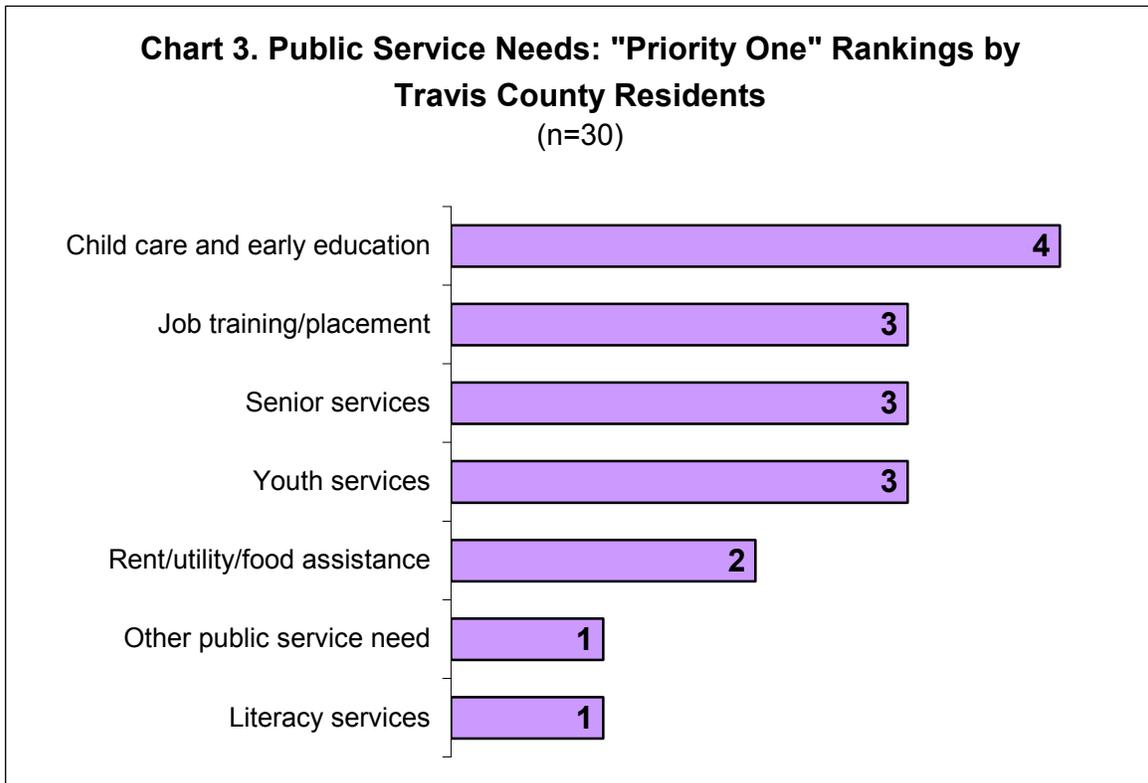


PUBLIC SERVICE NEEDS

Nine items were included in the list of housing needs, with a blank space for "other need" if respondents wished to specify an additional concern. Respondents ranked needs on a scale of 1 to 5, and also selected their top three priorities from the list. Table 3 shows the average rankings of each need, and Chart 3 shows the needs selected as the highest priority.

Table 3: PUBLIC SERVICES	
Need	Average Ranking*
Senior services	1.400
Job training/placement	1.433
Services for youth	1.600
Rent/utility/food assistance	1.633
Child care and early education services	1.667
Drug/alcohol abuse treatment	1.800
Mental health services	1.800
Literacy services	2.000
English as a second language	2.033
Other public service need	2.333

*Note: 1 = Highest ranking, 3 = neutral, 5 = lowest ranking



Notes:

- 1) *Some survey respondents did not complete the survey as directed. Several respondents assigned X marks to priority needs rather than numerical ranking. In these instances, the highest priority ranking was assigned to the needs marked with an X. All others were assigned a neutral value.*
- 2) *Some respondents did not complete the priority needs sections of the surveys. For this reason, although there are 30 surveys in the sample, priority needs may not add up to 30.*

ATTACHMENT E

PUBLIC HEARING NARROWING OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTION RESULTS

A total of six public hearings were held to gather information from residents on their community development, housing, and public service needs for the development of the Program Year 2007 Action Plan as well as to inform the narrowing of the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan’s strategic direction. Included in the detail below are the items related specifically to the narrowing of the strategic direction. The remainder of the first round of public hearing results for the development of the PY07 Action Plan are located in Appendix A of the PY07 Action Plan.

At each hearing, participants received information on the anticipated CDBG allocation, eligible activities, and project planning process and were given time to comment on their needs. The hearings were held according to the schedule below:

	Locations of Hearings	Dates/Times of Hearings
Community-wide hearing	Travis County Commissioners Court, Granger Building	Tuesday, Feb. 20 th , 9:00am
Precinct 1	TNR Satellite 1 (9301 Johnnie Morris Road)	Wednesday, Feb. 21 st , 7:00pm
Precinct 2	Travis County Community Center, Pflugerville	Tuesday, Feb. 27 th , 7:00pm
Precinct 3	West Rural Community Center, Oakhill	Thursday, Feb. 22 nd , 7:00pm
Precinct 4	South Rural Community Center, Del Valle	Monday, Feb. 26 th , 7:00pm
Community-wide hearing	Travis County Commissioners Court, Granger Building	Tuesday, March 6 th , 9:00am

Two community-wide hearings were held in Commissioner’s Court on February 20th and March 6th. At these hearings, comments were taken in the traditional hearing format. At the first hearing on February 20th, two testified on their own behalf. At the second and final public hearing on May 2nd, no residents testified, however, two written comments were provided to be included in the information gathering process.

The notes from these two hearings are as follows:

<i>Public Comments</i>
Feb 20th:
Current situation in Northridge Acres is a big health risk
People in Northridge Acres are paying too much for water or have no water.
It has taken too long to adequately address the quality of life issue.
Physical health problems are resulting from the current water the community has to use.
The Northridge Acres community should be considered a disaster area.
Requests that the county 1) implement and complete the water project more quickly, 2) use next year's CDBG dollars to address wastewater issues not currently in the project, 3) use the entire CDBG allocation for their wastewater project next year, and 4) use CDBG to fully address one issue at a time instead of spreading it too thinly on multiple projects.
Thanked the County for their support thus far.
Prioritize water/wastewater projects with all future CDBG dollars because water is the most basic necessity.
March 6th:
No one testified

Four public hearings were held at public facilities in rural areas, one in Precincts 1,2, 3 and 4. At these hearings, the public hearings included three structured activities to engage public feedback. Comments were received after the information was presented. First, residents used facilitated decision-making to inform the narrowing of the strategic direction. Second, comments about specific projects or comments were gathered. Finally, residents used facilitated decision-making to inform the development of an anti-poverty strategy.

Summaries of the results of the public hearings located in the communities are as follows:

Precinct 1: Twenty-two residents attended. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- Most of the testimony dealt with a lack of access to running water. Residents in economically disenfranchised areas had wells that were running dry, and no infrastructure to access the area water utility.
- Residents also discussed a need for street improvements, flood drain improvements and better traffic control in at a collision prone intersection.

Precinct 2: Two residents attended. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- The primary concerns expressed were a need for wastewater as well as moving the process forward more quickly for the current water project.

- Regarding housing needs, no issues were identified.
- Regarding public services, no issues were identified.

Precinct 3: Two residents attended. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- The primary concerns expressed were a need for water and wastewater systems, road repairs, flood drain improvements, and installation of streetlights.
- Regarding housing needs, the primary need was more affordable rental housing.
- In the area of public services, needs expressed were services for the elderly and youth.

Precinct 4: Three residents attended. The primary concerns for residents were expressed as follows:

- Primary needs in regards to neighborhood development included a need for road improvements, water/waste water systems, and flood drain improvements.
- In the area of housing, residents expressed need for home repair and infrastructure dollars to support the PY06 land acquisition project.
- Regarding public services, the primary needs were for youth services, transportation, and senior services.

Activity 1: Facilitate Strategic Plan Prioritization

Staff explained the reduction in funding and the need to narrow the original priorities. Staff provided a list of the Court-approved high priorities on large pieces of paper on the wall. All participants received five dots to identify their interests to inform the narrowing of the strategic direction. The five dots could be used individually for five different priorities or together to demonstrate emphasis on one or more of the priorities.

Section III: Non-Housing Community Development				
High Priority Category	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4
Water/Sewer Improvements	104	15	1	1
Street/Road Improvements	0	0	3	5
Sidewalks	0	0	0	0
Solid Waste Disposal Improvements (Sanitary Sewer)	0	0	1	1
Flood Drain Improvements	1	0	3	1
Erosion Abatement	0	0	0	0
Litter Abatement/Clearance	0	0	0	0
Other Public Facility Needs	0	0	0	0

Section IV: Housing Activities				
Production of new rental units	0	0	0	0
Production of new owner units	0	0	0	0
Homebuyer Assistance	0	0	0	0
Rehabilitation of existing units	0	0	0	3
Other ways to promote affordable housing development (Infrastructure, such as water/waste water projects)	0	0	0	0
Section V: Public Services				
Senior Services	0	0	1	1
Youth Services	0	0	1	2
Employment Training	0	0	0	0
Other Public Service Needs	0	0	0	0

**Note: An error in handing out the dots may have occurred or not all people signed in at the hearings, as more dots exist than people on the sign in sheet.*



Travis County

Appendix B:

Public Comments

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



Public Comments

Public Comments on the Consolidated Plan, August 2006

All comments were accepted as they aligned with the intent and priorities of the five-year Consolidated Plan. Where some of the comments requested information from another county department appropriate information coordination will occur. When comments noted a lack of specific need data, staff directed the citizen to the areas of the Plan that contained the need data requested.

A total of four public comments were received on the draft of the Consolidated Plan. Three written comments were received via email and one person testified during the public hearing held in Commissioners Court on July 11, 2006. No one testified during the public hearing on July 18, 2006.

Written Comments

Via email on 6/27/2006 11:30 AM

Christy and Meg,

With the short amount of time, it seems as though you've come up with a comprehensive plan. Here is my one comment for inclusion:

1) As land is acquired for the Habitat for Humanity and Family Eldercare Project, please make sure that public transportation is either already available at the site or coordinate with the local transportation authority to ensure that transportation is available to the residents.

Sam Woollard
Community Action Network

Via email on 06/30/06 4:38 PM

Hello Christy Moffett,

I have read over the Summary of 2006-2007 Projects. I was wondering if the street improvements project might include the Kennedy Ridge area off of FM 969? I am a public health nurse and make home visits in that neighborhood. The streets are a hazard to drive due to big gullies, rocks, and impassable when it rains. Also, I see that the water/sewer improvement project is slated for North Ridge Acres. Kennedy Ridge is in great need of improvement to assist families to afford to hook up to water lines that were only installed in the neighborhood a few years ago.

In the planning project for 2006-2007 please consider surveying the Timber Creek subdivision in Del Valle. This neighborhood has been targeted by Travis Co. for buy out due to the flood plain however the residents there have not heard from Travis Co. in more than 2 years. They are in "limbo" about the County's plan to buy them out. And if they are bought out, whether they will be reimbursed the true

value of their property. Also, this area has been targeted as a park in the Travis Co. Natural Resource Dept.'s master plan. Yet the residents know nothing about this master plan. Finally they are very concerned about the environmental impact of TX Hwy. 130 that is being built literally in their back yards! Again, they met with TX Dept. of Transportation and the Corps of Engineers in the last couple of years and their questions were not answered.

I have been meeting weekly this month with the residents of Timber Creek. If you or a designee could come out to meet with them now during this public comment period that would be very helpful to guide them in who they could talk to about their concerns about the County's plan for their neighborhood.

If you cannot help us get some of these issues included in the CDBG plan for 2006-2011, please direct us to who might help.

With appreciation,
Linda Murphy, RN
UT School of Nursing
Children's Wellness Center

Via email on 7/27/2006 7:32 PM

Hello Ms. Moffett,

Please see my attached comments. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Susan Stone
Executive Coordinator
Mayor's Mental Health Task Force Monitoring Committee

Attachment:

As Executive Coordinator of the Mayor's Mental Health Task Force Monitoring Committee, I am writing to reflect that the Travis County Consolidated Plan 2006-2010 embraces many of the goals in our Committee's focus areas for 2006. In fact, all of the Housing Activities and Public Services listed in the High Priority Activities section of the draft plan are consistent with our community's overall goal of building a national model of a mentally healthy community. For quality of life on a number of different levels, individuals with mental illness and mental retardation desire a broad array of housing options to meet their current and ongoing needs.

I did note, however, that there was no mention of individuals with mental illness or mental retardation in the Summary of Community Need. The literature is increasingly showing that safe, affordable and accessible housing is a critical factor in successful community integration for individuals with mental health needs. Our Committee is in the process of developing a comprehensive housing plan for individuals in Travis County with mental health needs. This plan will document the availability of housing for individuals with mental illness, gaps in availability and priorities for future housing

development for this population. While our housing analysis will not be complete in time for inclusion in this version of the Consolidated Plan, we would be happy to draft a short paragraph about this population for inclusion in the Summary of Community Need.

Susan Stone, J.D., M.D.
Executive Coordinator
Mayor's Mental Health Task Force Monitoring Committee

Oral Testimony During Public Hearings

Received during public hearing on July 11, 2006*

My name is Linda Murphy, I'm a public health nurse. I work at the Children's Wellness Center in Del Valle. I'm a resident of Travis County, but I work in an area of Travis County since 1997, and I just appreciate the opportunity to the court to be able to give comment, not so much on behalf of myself personally, but as a public health nurse my job is outreach. And I've been able to go through the provider part of giving comments on the consolidated plan, and they've done an outstanding job and I just wanted to witness the process as it goes along and encourage residents in the del valle area of the county to come and give comment because many of the dollars I believe -- I consider that area a priority of course because I work out there, but we'd just like to offer that we'd come and givenness witness as -- give witness as the process goes on through the next five years. It sound like a lot of the monies will be used for planning in the area of Del Valle more than actually providing sewer improvements, water improvements, housing and services to the elderly and youth. Being a part of a clinic that's primary care, we do serve children and their families and we certainly see a big need for services for youth in that area. So I guess my point is just I would like to give public testimony that I want to help with this process as much as possible and that I'll do my best to get residents out to give you public comment because I believe that in this process so far, perhaps not many of them have given comment. And I don't want to speak for them, and I will do my best to get them to come and speak to you. So thank you.

*The source of this transcript is the closed captioned text version of the Travis County Commissioners Court. The comments were taken from the Travis County web site prior to the minutes being approved. Slight changes may occur once the certified minutes are available, though the integrity and intent of the comment will not change.

Public Comments on the Substantial Amendments to the Plan

November 2006

All comments were accepted as they aligned with the intent and priorities of the five-year Consolidated Plan. Where some of the comments requested information from Travis County HHS/VS, CDBG staff provided it in writing.

A total of five public comments were received on the draft of the Consolidated Plan. One written comment was received via email and four people testified during the public hearing held in Commissioners Court on November 28, 2006.

Written Comments

Via email on 11/29/2006 11:25 AM

Dear Meg Poag and Christy Moffett,

The residents of Plainview Estates in eastern Travis County would like to request that the provision of water to their community be considered in the following years to receive CDBG funding. The community consists of 39 households fully dependent on well water, which, due to recent development in the surrounding area, is no longer a reliable source of water in this community. Some residents have been without water for over 5 years, some have just run out of water, and some live with unpredictable wells.

Plainview Estates lies within the CCN of Hornsby Bend Utility Company and the residents live along the roads of Plain View Drive and Clear View Drive. A feasibility study was completed earlier this year by Murfee Engineering Company, Inc that concluded the provision of water service would cost about \$250,000. We have recently met with Hornsby Bend Utility Company, which agreed to absorb some of the costs, such as the Impact Fee and tie-ins along a part of Plain View Drive. We are aware that Plainview Estates is within a census tract ineligible to receive CDBG money and that an economic survey is necessary to obtain a waiver for the grant money. In order to minimize administrative costs, the residents of Plainview Estates and the University of Texas Environmental Law Clinic are willing complete these surveys ourselves.

We recognize that it is difficult to prioritize the funding for CBDG now that the available funds have been significantly reduced. We have researched similar communities with the same problem, but many of the resources that were available earlier, such as ORCA grants, are no longer available to us now. We ask you to please consider Plainview Estates in the coming years , because this situation meets a timely need, fits within the objectives of the CDBG program, and is quite unbelievable that people in this day must live without water.

Thank you very much,
Robin Lynch
UT Environmental Law Clinic
and
Residents of Plainview Estates

Oral Testimony During Public Hearings

Received during public hearing on November 28, 2006*

My name is Connie Gonzalez. A Travis County resident living in the community as a member of Santa Guadalupe Catholic Church and a leader of Austin Interfaith. Plainview Estates is a part of the Hornsby Bend community. It consists of 40 families who have lived here for five generations. Every morning for the last six years, I wake up to the fact that I do not have running water in my home. And I have to decide where it is that I am going to go take a shower for that morning. Sometimes I have to drive at least 15 miles to my sister's house to do that. Also, a five gallon bucket has become my best friend. That's to carry water from my neighbor's house to flush my toilets and wash my dishes every day. As a community we have suffered the lack of water for more than six years. And as a community we are acting to respond to it through conversations with our local churches, other local churches, Austin Colony homeowners association and Hornsby Bend Utility Company. We are aware of the Community Development Block Grant and the reduction. This is playing in our disadvantage, but we want to be able to work with our County Commissioner -- for our families, our children and our grandchildren to have water in our homes again.

[Question from the Commissioners Court as to the location of Plainview Estates]

Plainview Estates is adjacent to Austin's colony off of Hunters Bend Road. FM 969 at Hunters Bend Road. Austin Colony is on the right-hand side, and we are on the left-hand side of that. It's 71 acres. And like I said we have like 40 families living there that have been living there for many generations.

Received during public hearing on November 28, 2006*

Lupe Sedillo came with Connie Gonzales and gave no additional comment, but expressed her agreement with Ms. Gonzales' statement.

Received during public hearing on November 28, 2006*

Ruben Flores came with Connie Gonzales and gave no additional comment, but expressed his agreement with Ms. Gonzales' statement.

Received during public hearing on November 28, 2006*

Yes, sir. Good morning, Judge, Commissioners, Gus Pena again speaking. On the issue of not -- not for anybody. It is -- it is very, very sad. Again the relationship to poverty, not having running water for areas that do pay taxes. Remember Kenneth Schnieder, I didn't know him before, all of these many years he advocated for North Ridge Acres. I do believe that Commissioner Davis you will take the lead in this, you will help them out any way you can. Dan also did a good job. We need to acknowledge people that help out, you know. They have been very helpful in this issue. I'm not here to talk about that, but to support them in trying to get running water for the family. This is the United States of America. I just don't believe that.

Anyway I guess my concern is this, as mentioned to not only the city council boss or the school board because they have a lot of tie ins, the definition of affordable housing. This is not too much funding to purchase land because, you know, land is very expensive. And what the definition is of affordability, when I say we, we had a delegation go to visit HUD in Washington. The definition of affordability that we came back with from HUD is not what the community wanted to hear. If it's in excess of \$100,000, it's not affordable for a lot of people here in Austin, Travis County.

My question to you is this, I would like that question answered from Sherri's office. Excuse me is what is the definition of affordable housing? We have heard many, many definitions and we would like a clear cut -- on this issue also with San Antonio HUD. Also, we have been pushing for transitional housing for homeless veterans, their family, other people that need housing also to reenter, you know, society. But if I could get that, you know, I would appreciate it very much. Let's not lag on this issue. This issue has been going on many years. I have been dealing with this type of issue for many years, city side, county side, also at the legislature. If you can do that for me I would appreciate it. I appreciate the output they gave us.

[Comment from the Commissioners Court regarding Habitat for Humanity as the recipient of the land and their philosophy on affordable housing]

Oh, absolutely. I do agree that Habitat for Humanity promotes affordable housing. I'm glad that you defined that because it's not defined as a backup or in any backup that you have or on the agenda, people need to know when you speak about affordability that you are going to be working with entities. I agree Habitat for Humanity, also Mark Rodgers and their group are doing a lot of good over there in the Guadalupe Area. But yeah, still the affordability definition that comes about HUD. Because a lot of this funding is from HUD, the government, you know. Being a former IRS Investigator, we know about the specific parameters. That's why I asked for the definition. Thank you for explaining that's very good for the people to know. Just to read the agenda it doesn't tell you anything. I mentioned the conviction of affordability. Thank you very much for that. I do have family living out there. I am not representing them. My mom asked to speak about this issue, you know her very well.

*The source of this transcript is the closed-captioned text version of the Travis County Commissioners Court. The comments were taken from the Travis County web site prior to the minutes being approved. Slight changes may occur once the certified minutes are available, though the integrity and intent of the comments will not change.

August 2007

All comments were accepted as they aligned with the intent and priorities of the five-year Consolidated Plan. A total of two public comments were received on the three actions proposed which includes the amendment to the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan's Strategic Direction, the substantial amendment to the PY06 Action Plan and the draft of the PY07 Action Plan. Two written comments were received and no people testified during the public hearings held in Commissioners Court on June 26, 2007 and July 10, 2007.

Written Comments

Via email on 6/29/07 at 2:57 pm

Hi, I read about the HUD grant in the Chronicle and I though I believe it's too late, I wanted to mention an interesting option for affordable rural housing in Travis County.

Texas has thousands of manufactured housing parks, though I'm not sure about their presence in Travis County. There's an interesting movement in northern New England, especially New Hampshire. Residents of manufactured housing parks are buying their parks and owning/managing them as cooperatives. This gives residents the benefits of both controlling their parks and sharing in the equity of the land.

New Hampshire currently has dozens of such cooperative parks, with over 4000 units. The phenomenon has spread to Maine and upstate New York, as well as Vermont. However, I haven't read about any such effort in the south.

This strategy is proving incredibly effective in raising quality of life and overall economic security for rural residents in those states; perhaps it's worth considering in Texas?

Again, I don't know about housing in the unincorporated portions of Travis County, so this might not be appropriate. I thought it was worth mentioning though.

This is the website for the New Hampshire Manufactured Housing Park program, with links to detailed documentation of their work:

<http://www.nhclf.org/programs/housing/mhpp/index.html>

Thanks for your time and have a great day.

-Donald Jackson

Received by mail July 9, 2007

Dear Ms. Moffett,

Foundation Communities would like to take this opportunity to provide comment on the Travis County Consolidated Plan for program years 2006-2010. As you know, Foundation Communities owns eleven affordable housing communities in Travis County that provide homes for families and individuals who would otherwise have difficulty finding quality housing. We also operate fie Learning Centers at our Austin communities, offering residents and neighbors on-site educational programs, after-school tutoring, money management and computer classes.

Since our mission is “to create housing where families succeed,” we felt it was of great import to offer remarks on the allocation of Federal resources to meet the housing and community development needs of Austin’s low and moderate income residents. We feel that a portion of this money should be divided up to support *housing solutions* and *supportive services* for extremely low income families with children.

Housing solutions for extremely low income families with children

Extremely low income families with children are Austin’s largest underserved group. Over 26,000 children in Travis County live in households with incomes less than \$1,000 per month. This is SIX times the number of seniors. The odds of being a child in poverty in Austin and getting housing assistance - vouchers or project based- is about 1 in 5.

In 2003, Foundation Communities created the Children’s HOME Initiative-our first program to target extremely low income families with children. We used grant funds to pay down the mortgage at two of our properties and permanently reduce rents on 38 units. We also employ two full-time case managers to help families set goals to increase their self-sufficiency. The Children’s HOME Initiative provides families with stable housing which is a key step in enabling families to make positive changes in other areas of their lives. Overall, 68% of families in the program maintain or improve housing stability and see their income increase by half within a year. While [no text continued here]

Supportive Services for extremely low income families with children

Case managers meet with adult participants at least monthly and often weekly or more to help them maintain stable housing, increase job skills, seek employment, obtain health insurance for themselves and their children, and reduce their debt.

In addition to lack of skilled job training and chronic health issues, many families participating in the program have mental health needs, most of which have gone unaddressed due to lack of education, funds for care, or motivation. Case managers in the Children’s HOME Initiative assist participant to identify and address mental health needs, making referrals for proper care. To promote success, case managers may even sit with participant while they make appointments and drive them to those appointments. Case managers continually look for new resources and programs that will benefit participants. For example, a recent grant from the Anne Casey Foundation will enable us to strengthen relationships with other workforce improvement organizations such as WorkSource, Skillpoint, and Capital Idea and help Children’s HOME Initiative participants access their services.

While the housing component of the Children’s HOME Initiative is what initially keeps a family from becoming homeless, it is the case management portion of the program that helps participants make lasting changes in their lives that will lead to self-sufficiency. These sorts of programs are imperative to meeting the County’s goals to provide decent housing and increase access to quality public and private facilities and services.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments in the Consolidated Plan. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 512/447-2026.

Sincerely,

Julian Huerta

Acting Executive Director, Foundation Communities

3036 South First, Ste 200

Austin, Tx 78704

Oral Testimony During Public Hearings

No testimony was given during the two public hearings on June 26, 2007 and July 10, 2007.

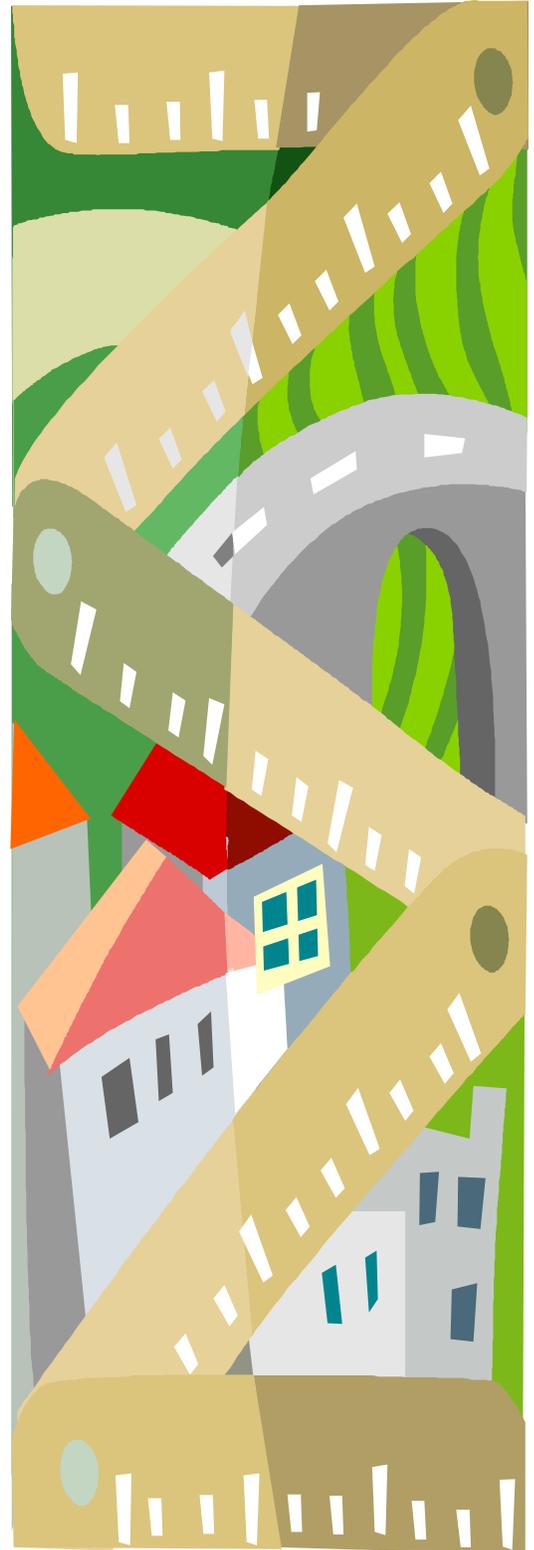


Travis County

Appendix C:

North Ridge Acres Water
Improvement Project

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007



Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

06/26/2006 12:11
Travis County

TCCJ 5128549535 → 88544115

NO. 404 005

SURVEY TABULATION FORM

APPLICANT: Travis County on behalf of the unincorporated community of Northridge Acres

(1) NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING PROJECT BENEFITS	<u>58</u>
(2) NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS CONTACTED	<u>58</u>
(3) NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS RESPONDING TO THE SURVEY	<u>53</u>
(4) SURVEY RESPONSE RATE = (3) DIVIDED BY (1) = <u>53 / 58</u> =	<u>91.38%</u>

BREAKDOWN OF SURVEY RESPONSES BY FAMILY SIZE					
(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
FAMILY SIZE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	NUMBER OF LOW/MOD RESPONSES	NUMBER OF NON LOW/MOD RESPONSES	NUMBER OF LOW/MOD PERSONS	NUMBER OF NON LOW/MOD PERSONS
1	11	11	0	11	0
2	15	15	0	30	0
3	8	8	0	24	0
4	7	7	0	28	0
5	8	8	0	40	0
6	3	3	0	18	0
7	1	1	0	7	0
8	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	53	53	0	158	0

(11) TOTAL PERSONS SURVEYED = TOTAL OF (9) + TOTAL OF (10) =	158 + 0	<u>158.00</u>
(12) LOW/MOD PERCENTAGE = TOTAL OF (9) DIVIDED BY (11)	158 / 158	<u>100.00%</u>
(13) SURVEY AVERAGE FAMILY SIZE = (11) DIVIDED BY TOTAL OF (6)	158 / 53	<u>2.98</u>
(14) NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS NOT SURVEYED = (1) MINUS (3) =	58 - 53	<u>5.00</u>
(15) NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES NOT SURVEYED = (13) X (14) =	2.98 x 5	<u>14.91</u>
(16) LOW/MOD BENEFICIARIES NOT SURVEYED = (12) X (15) =	100 x 14.91	<u>14.91</u>
(17) TOTAL BENEFICIARIES = (11) + (15) =	158 + 15	<u>173</u>
TOTAL LOW/MOD BENEFICIARIES = TOTAL OF (9) +	158 + 15	<u>173</u>

CERTIFICATION: I, THE CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL FOR THIS JURISDICTION, CERTIFIES THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT AND THE SURVEY LOCATIONS FORM IS CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND WAS REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACCOMPANYING INSTRUCTIONS.

SIGNATURE: Samuel T. Biscoe TITLE: Travis County Judge
 ADDRESS: Post Office Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767
 PHONE NUMBER: 512 / 854-9555 DATE: 6-21-05

Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

06/26/2006 12:11 TCCJ 5128549535 → 88544115

NO. 404 006

Travis County

TCDP SURVEY LOCATIONS FORM

PAGE # Page 1 of 1

TCDP SURVEY LOCATIONS FORM

APPLICANT: Travis County

NUMBER OF RESPONSES: 53

NUMBER OF NON-RESPONSES: 2

NUMBER OF VACANT HOMES: 3

<u>Street Names</u>	<u>Number Of Responses</u>	<u>Number Of Non-Responses</u>	<u>Number Of Vacant Homes</u>
<u>Hillside Drive</u>	<u>5</u>		
<u>Parkview Drive</u>	<u>7</u>		
<u>Northridge Road</u>	<u>1</u>		
<u>Summit Drive</u>	<u>12</u>		<u>1</u>
<u>Prairie Lane</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

TOTAL	53	2	3
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Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

06/26/2006

12:11

TCCJ 5128549535 → 88544115

NO. 404

007



P1. TOTAL POPULATION [1] - Universe: Total population
 Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data

NOTE: For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/spatial/notes/expsf1u.htm>.

	Block 1004, Block Group 1 (part), Census Tract 18.51 (part), Remainder of Austin CCD, Austin CCD, Travis County, Texas	Block 1005, Block Group 1 (part), Census Tract 18.51 (part), Remainder of Austin CCD, Austin CCD, Travis County, Texas	Block 1006, Block Group 1 (part), Census Tract 18.51 (part), Remainder of Austin CCD, Austin CCD, Travis County, Texas	Block 1007, Block Group 1 (part), Census Tract 18.51 (part), Remainder of Austin CCD, Austin CCD, Travis County, Texas	Block 1008, Block Group 1 (part), Census Tract 18.51 (part), Remainder of Austin CCD, Austin CCD, Travis County, Texas
Total	51	19	9	309	57

U.S. Census Bureau
 Census 2000

Standard Error/Variance documentation for this dataset:
[Accuracy of the Data: Census 2000 Summary File 1 \(SF 1\) 100-Percent Data \(PDF 44KB\)](#)

...&context=td&ds_name=DEC_2000_SF1_U&-CO... 4/22/20

Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

06/26/2006 12:11 TCCJ 5128549535 → 88544115

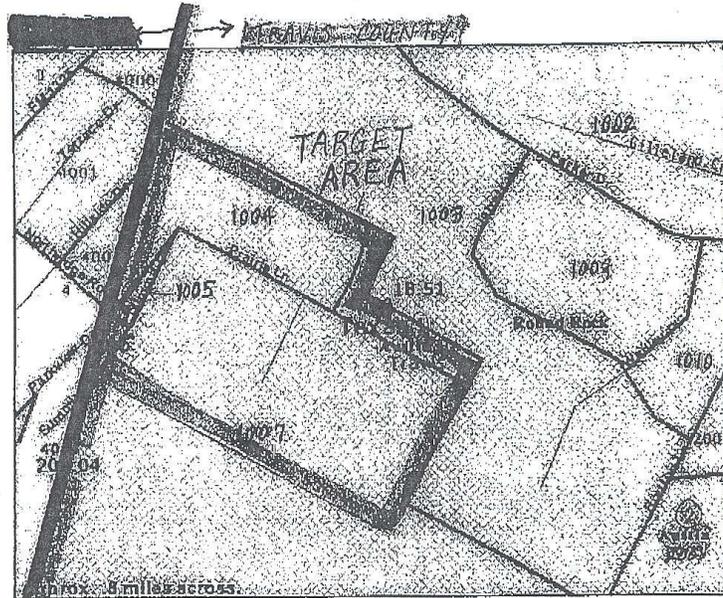
NO. 404 008
page 1 of 1

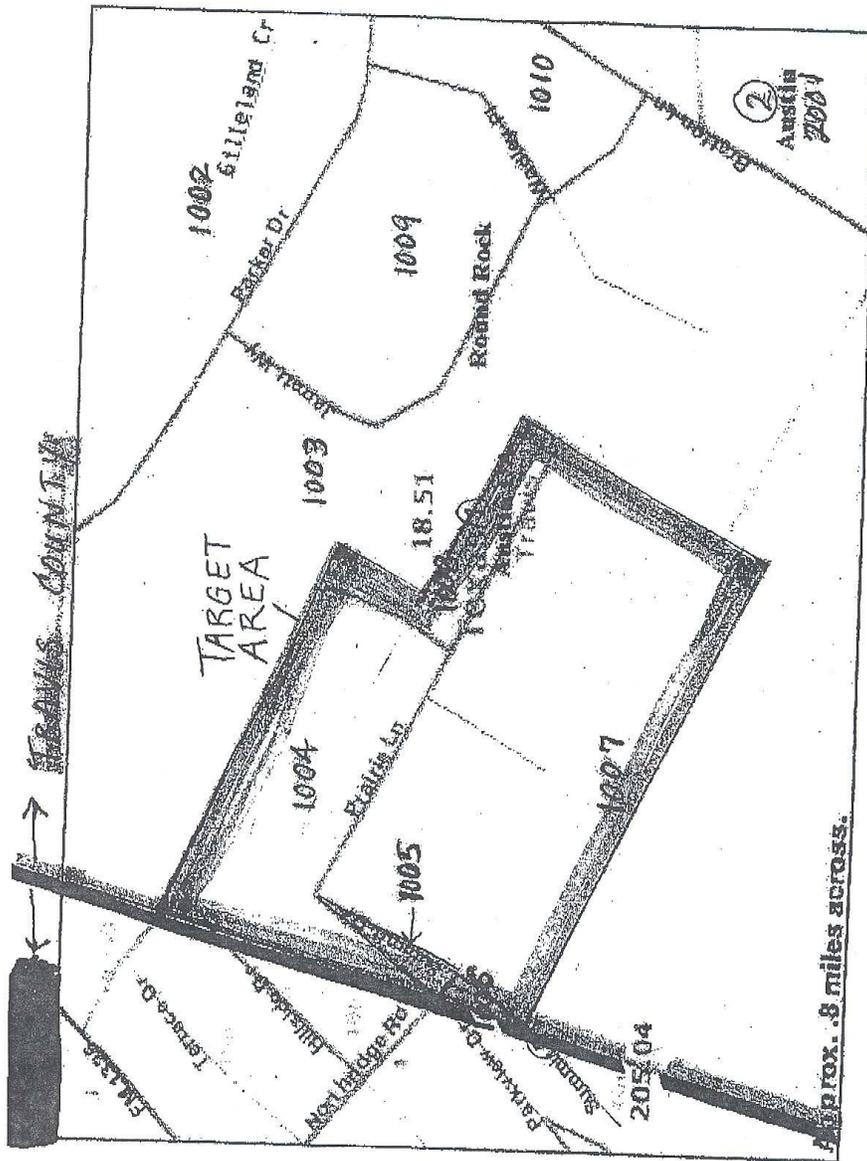
Reference Maps - American FactFinder

U.S. Census Bureau
American FactFinder

Legend

- Boundaries**
- State
 - '00 County
 - '00 Census Tract
 - '00 Block Group
 - '00 Block
 - '00 Place
 - '00 Urban Area
 - '00 Urban Area
- Features**
- Major Road
 - Street
 - Stream/Waterbody
 - Stream/Waterbody





- 1
- darles
- ite
- County
- County Tract
- Block Group
- Block
- Place
- Urban Area
- Urban Area
- RES
- ier Road
- est
- eam/Waterbody
- eam/Waterbody

Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

**2003 TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE
 with TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD SUPPLEMENT**

Interviewer's Name or Initials _____

City of: Northridge Acres Water Supply Corporation County: Travis/Williamson

Respondent's Street Address: _____

Respondent's Telephone Number: _____ None: _____

Contact Attempt: First Date: _____ Time: _____ AM PM
Second Date: _____ Time: _____ AM PM

Response: _____ Non-Response: _____ Vacant Unit: _____

- Including yourself, how many persons usually live in this unit? _____
- Including yourself, how many persons in your family usually live in this unit? _____
- Do any other families usually live in this unit? No Yes _____
 If Yes, please complete an additional QUESTIONNAIRE for each family that lives in this unit. (NOTE: Do not include yourself as a member of other family or families.)

4. Compare your family's 2002 annual adjusted gross income, or your family's 2003 monthly/weekly income calculated on an annual basis, to the income eligibility figures listed below for your County.

Family Size: _____ County: Travis/Williamson

Number of Persons in Family and Income Limit											
1	\$39,550	2	\$45,200	3	\$50,850	4	\$56,500	5	\$61,000	6	\$65,550
7	\$70,050	8	\$74,600	9	\$79,100	10	\$83,600	11	\$88,150	12	\$92,650

5. Was your family income higher or lower than the appropriate income limit for your family size? Higher Lower

6. Family Size (From Question 2) _____ Male: _____ Female: _____

Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino	White	Black/African American	Asian	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
Black/African American and White	Asian and White	American Indian/Alaskan Native and White	American Indian/Alaskan Native and Black/African American	Other or Multi-Racial		

- Do you get water from: - A public system (city water department, etc.) or private company? _____
 - An individual drilled or dug well? _____ - Some other source (a spring, creek, river, cistern, etc.)? _____
- Is this structure connected to a public sewer Yes, connected to public sewer system.
No, connected to septic tank or cesspool. _____ No, use other means. _____
- Do you have complete plumbing facilities in your living quarters (piped water, a flush toilet, and a bathtub or shower)?
 - Yes, for this household _____ - Yes, but also used by another household. _____
 only. _____
 - No, have some but not all plumbing facilities. _____ - No plumbing facilities in living quarters. _____
- If you answered "No, have some but not all plumbing facilities" to the above question, which plumbing _____

Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

facilities do you lack?

- Piped water from a public/private system or water well. _____

- A flush toilet _____

- A bathtub or shower _____

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD SUPPLEMENT

11. Do you own this residence? Yes _____ No _____
12. Would you support the construction of improvements to the existing water system?
Yes _____ No _____
13. If you answered "Yes" to the above, how much would you be willing to pay per month, as an average for your water service?
- Less than \$40/month _____ - \$40 to \$60/month _____
- \$60 to \$80/month _____ - Over \$80 _____
14. Would you support the construction of a sewer/wastewater system to serve your area and residence?
Yes _____ No _____
15. If you answered "Yes" to the above, how much would you be willing to pay per month, as an average for your sewer service?
- Less than \$40/month _____ - \$40 to \$60/month _____
- \$60 to \$80/month _____ - Over \$80 _____
16. Please indicate the combined annual household income for all persons in your household. \$ _____
\$0 up to \$10,000 _____
\$10,000 up to \$20,000 _____
\$20,000 up to \$30,000 _____
\$30,000 up to \$40,000 _____
\$40,000 up to \$50,000 _____
\$50,000 up to \$60,000 _____
\$60,000 up to \$70,000 _____
\$70,000 up to \$80,000 _____
\$80,000 up to \$90,000 _____
\$90,000 up to \$100,000 _____
\$100,000 up to \$110,000 _____
\$110,000 up to \$120,000 _____
\$120,000 up to \$130,000 _____
\$130,000 up to \$140,000 _____
\$140,000 up to \$150,000 _____
\$150,000 up to \$160,000 _____
\$160,000 up to \$170,000 _____
\$170,000 up to \$180,000 _____
\$180,000 up to \$190,000 _____
\$190,000 up to \$200,000 _____

If annual income is more than \$200,000, please estimate to the nearest \$100,000 \$ _____

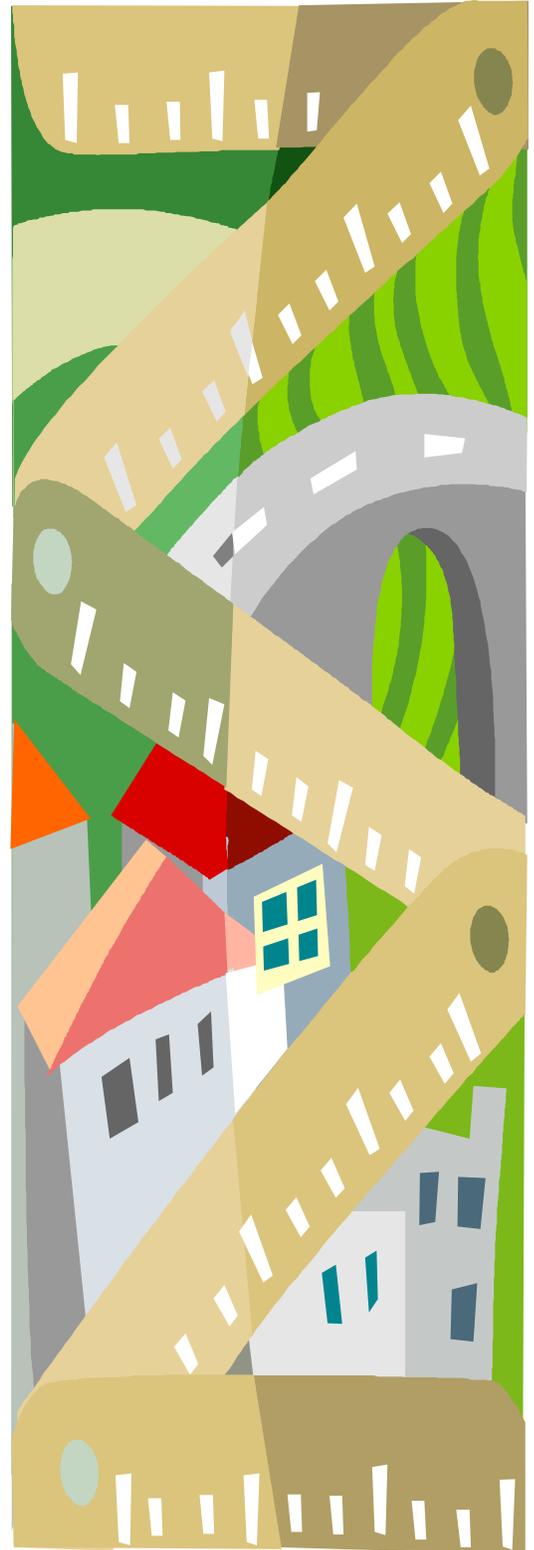


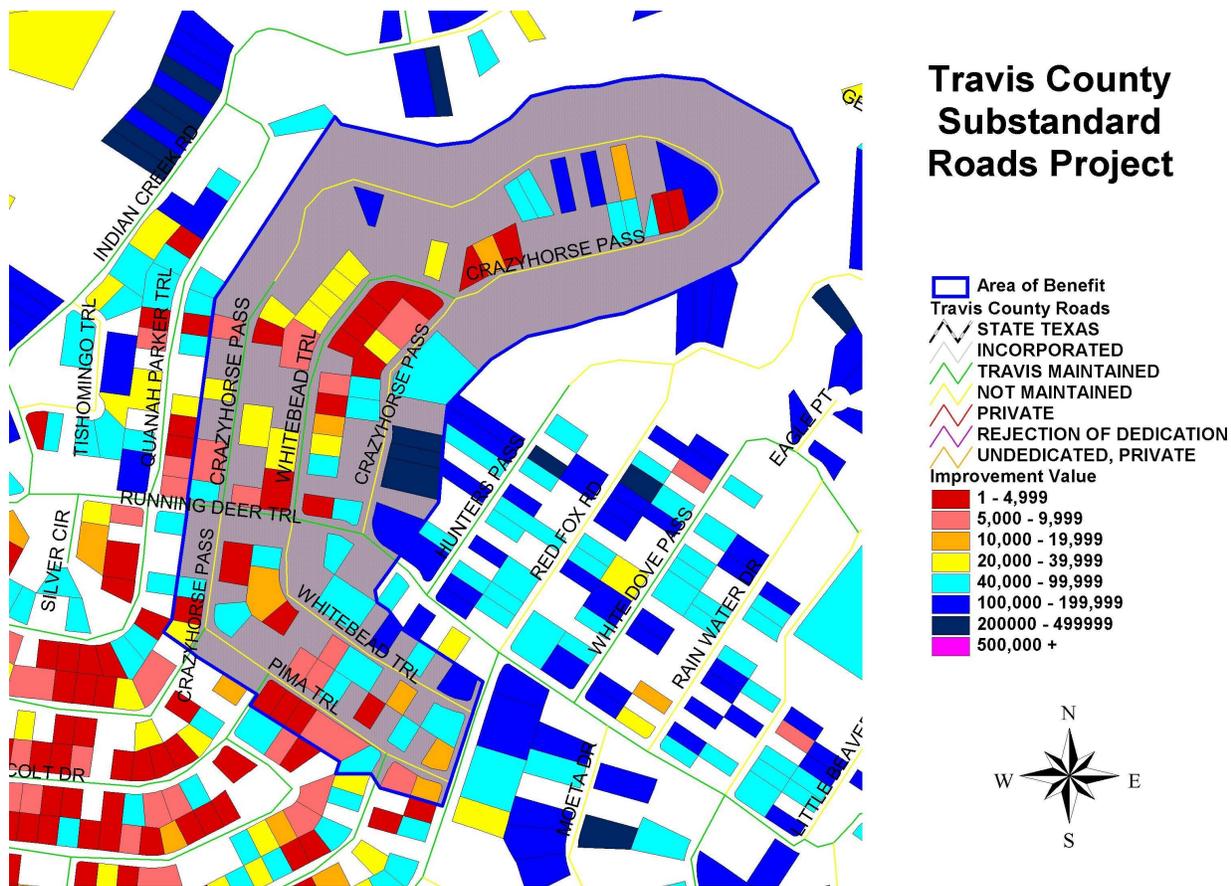
Travis County

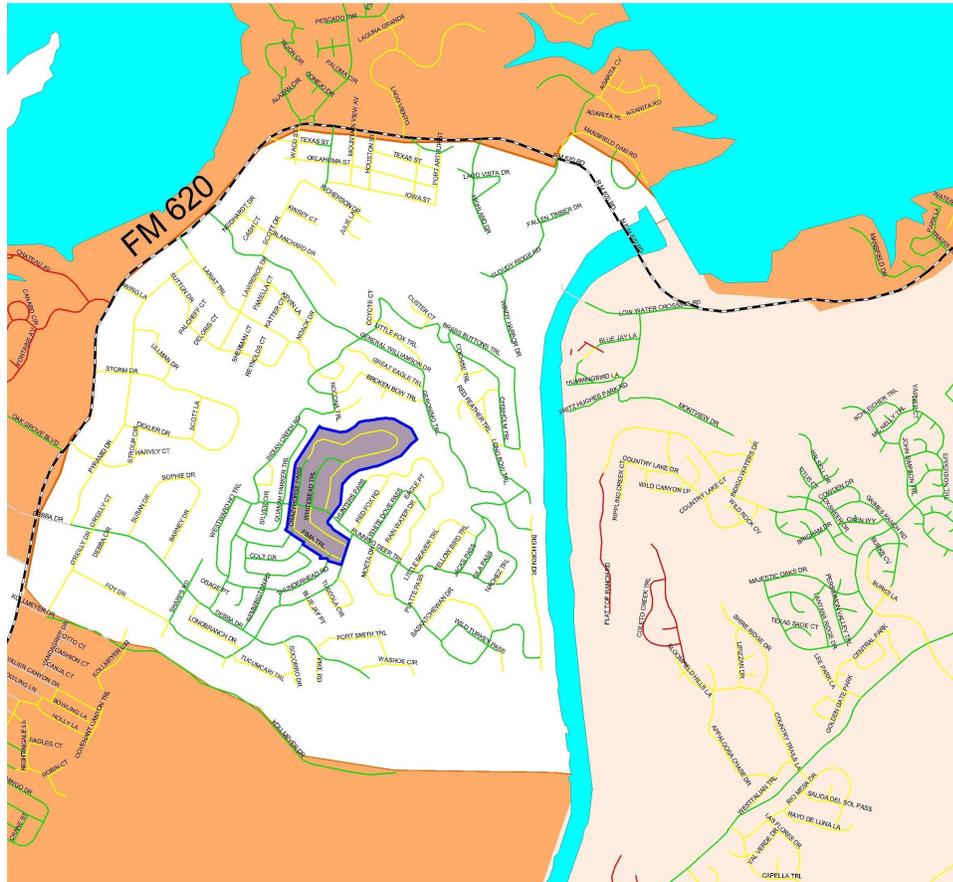
Appendix D:

Substandard Roads Project
Information

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007

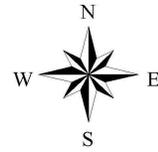




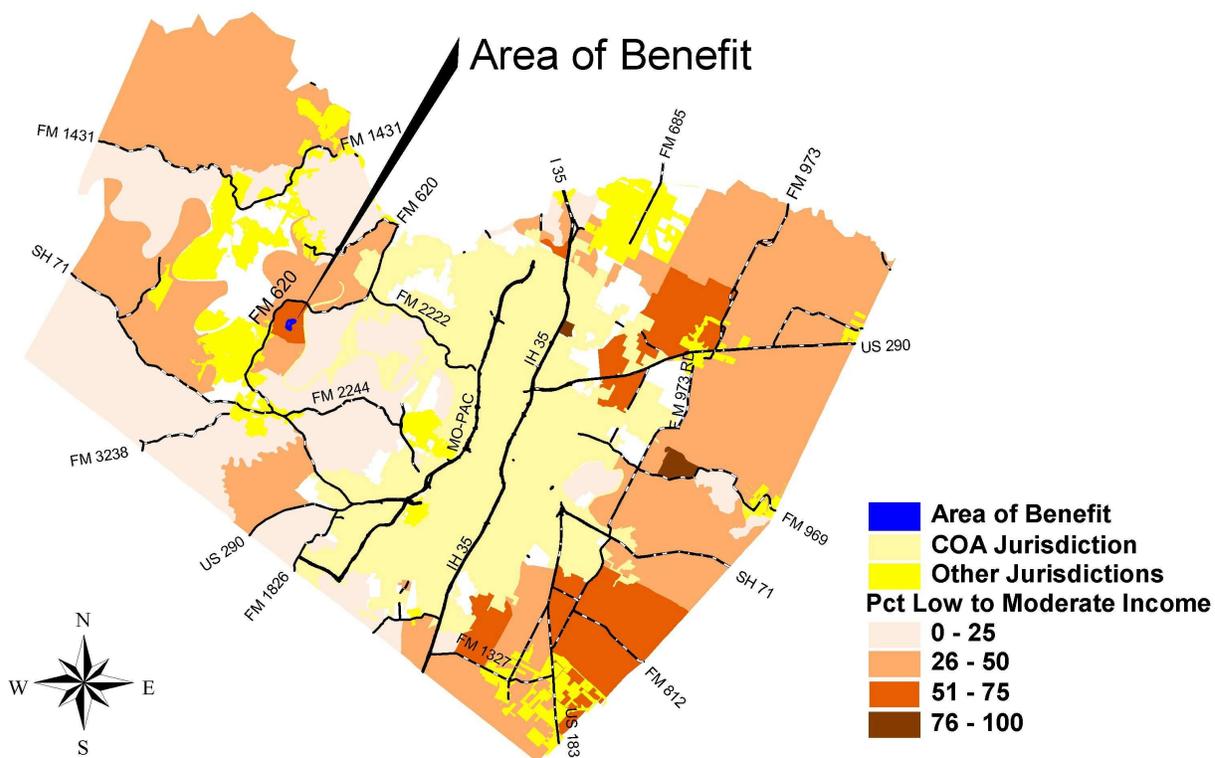


Travis County Substandard Roads Project

- Area of Benefit
- Travis County Roads
- STATE TEXAS
- INCORPORATED
- TRAVIS MAINTAINED
- NOT MAINTAINED
- PRIVATE
- REJECTION OF DEDICATION
- UNDEDICATED, PRIVATE
- Pct Low to Moderate Income
- 0 - 25
- 26 - 50
- 51 - 75
- 76 - 100



Travis County Substandard Roads Project





Travis County

Appendix E:

Certifications

2006-2010 Consolidated Plan,
Amended August 2007





CPMP Non-State Grantee Certifications

Many elements of this document may be completed electronically, however a signature must be manually applied and the document must be submitted in paper form to the Field Office.

<input type="checkbox"/> This certification does not apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This certification is applicable.

NON-STATE GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing -- The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing, which means it will conduct an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction, take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting that analysis and actions in this regard.

Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR 24; and it has in effect and is following a residential antidisplacement and relocation assistance plan required under section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG or HOME programs.

Drug Free Workplace -- It will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

1. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
2. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about –
 - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - b. The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - c. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - d. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
3. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph 1;
4. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph 1 that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will –
 - a. Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - b. Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
5. Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
6. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b), with respect to any employee who is so convicted –
 - a. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 - b. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
7. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Anti-Lobbying -- To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

8. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal

Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

9. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
10. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction -- The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds are consistent with the strategic plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

08/07/07

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Samuel T. Biscoe

Name

County Judge

Title

P.O. Box 1748

Address

Austin, Texas 78767

City/State/Zip

512/854-9555

Telephone Number

- This certification does not apply.
 This certification is applicable.

Specific CDBG Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated housing and community development plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate income. (See CFR 24 570.2 and CFR 24 part 570)

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan (or Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

11. Maximum Feasible Priority - With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it certifies that it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available);
12. Overall Benefit - The aggregate use of CDBG funds including section 108 guaranteed loans during program year(s) 2006, 2007, 2008, (a period specified by the grantee consisting of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years), shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period;
13. Special Assessments - It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

The jurisdiction will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108, unless CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of fee or assessment attributable to the capital costs of public improvements financed from other revenue sources. In this case, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds. Also, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

14. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
15. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction;

Compliance With Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d), the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 3601-3619), and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of part 35, subparts A, B, J, K and R, of title 24;

- This certification does not apply.
- This certification is applicable.

**OPTIONAL CERTIFICATION
CDBG**

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities, which are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone Number

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This certification does not apply. <input type="checkbox"/> This certification is applicable.
--

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If the participating jurisdiction intends to provide tenant-based rental assistance:

The use of HOME funds for tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of the participating jurisdiction's consolidated plan for expanding the supply, affordability, and availability of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- it is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR § 92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in § 92.214.

Appropriate Financial Assistance -- before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;

--

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

--

Name

--

Title

--

Address

--

City/State/Zip

--

Telephone Number

- This certification does not apply.**
 This certification is applicable.

HOPWA Certifications

The HOPWA grantee certifies that:

Activities -- Activities funded under the program will meet urgent needs that are not being met by available public and private sources.

Building -- Any building or structure assisted under that program shall be operated for the purpose specified in the plan:

1. For at least 10 years in the case of assistance involving new construction, substantial rehabilitation, or acquisition of a facility,
2. For at least 3 years in the case of assistance involving non-substantial rehabilitation or repair of a building or structure.

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone Number

- | |
|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This certification does not apply. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> This certification is applicable. |

ESG Certifications

I, _____, Chief Executive Officer of **Error! Not a valid link.**, certify that the local government will ensure the provision of the matching supplemental funds required by the regulation at 24 *CFR* 576.51. I have attached to this certification a description of the sources and amounts of such supplemental funds.

I further certify that the local government will comply with:

1. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.53 concerning the continued use of buildings for which Emergency Shelter Grants are used for rehabilitation or conversion of buildings for use as emergency shelters for the homeless; or when funds are used solely for operating costs or essential services.
2. The building standards requirement of 24 *CFR* 576.55.
3. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.56, concerning assurances on services and other assistance to the homeless.
4. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.57, other appropriate provisions of 24 *CFR* Part 576, and other applicable federal laws concerning nondiscrimination and equal opportunity.
5. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.59(b) concerning the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970.
6. The requirement of 24 *CFR* 576.59 concerning minimizing the displacement of persons as a result of a project assisted with these funds.
7. The requirements of 24 *CFR* Part 24 concerning the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988.
8. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.56(a) and 576.65(b) that grantees develop and implement procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted with ESG funds and that the address or location of any family violence shelter project will not be made public, except with written authorization of the person or persons responsible for the operation of such shelter.
9. The requirement that recipients involve themselves, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, homeless individuals and families in policymaking, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of these facilities as provided by 24 *CFR* 76.56.
10. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.57(e) dealing with the provisions of, and regulations and procedures applicable with respect to the environmental review responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related authorities as specified in 24 *CFR* Part 58.

11. The requirements of 24 *CFR* 576.21(a)(4) providing that the funding of homeless prevention activities for families that have received eviction notices or notices of termination of utility services will meet the requirements that: (A) the inability of the family to make the required payments must be the result of a sudden reduction in income; (B) the assistance must be necessary to avoid eviction of the family or termination of the services to the family; (C) there must be a reasonable prospect that the family will be able to resume payments within a reasonable period of time; and (D) the assistance must not supplant funding for preexisting homeless prevention activities from any other source.

12. The new requirement of the McKinney-Vento Act (42 *USC* 11362) to develop and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent such discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for such persons. I further understand that state and local governments are primarily responsible for the care of these individuals, and that ESG funds are not to be used to assist such persons in place of state and local resources.

13. HUD's standards for participation in a local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the collection and reporting of client-level information.

I further certify that the submission of a completed and approved Consolidated Plan with its certifications, which act as the application for an Emergency Shelter Grant, is authorized under state and/or local law, and that the local government possesses legal authority to carry out grant activities in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone Number

This certification does not apply.
 This certification is applicable.

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

Instructions Concerning Lobbying and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Drug-Free Workplace Certification

3. By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification.
4. The certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, HUD, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
5. Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.
6. Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio stations).
7. If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph three).
8. The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant: Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)
 Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here. The certification with regard to the drug-free workplace is required by 24 CFR part 21.

Place Name	Street	City	County	State	Zip
Palm Square Building	100 N. IH 35	Austin	Travis	TX	78701
Granger Building	314 W. 11th	Austin	Travis	TX	78701
Executive Office Building	411 W. 13th	Austin	Travis	TX	78701
East Rural Community Center	600 W. Carrie Manor	Manor	Travis	TX	78653
South Rural Community Center	3518 FM 973	Del Valle	Travis	TX	78617

9. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules: "Controlled substance" means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15); "Conviction" means a finding of guilt (including a plea of *nolo contendere*) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes; "Criminal drug statute" means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance; "Employee" means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including:
 - a. All "direct charge" employees;
 - b. all "indirect charge" employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and
 - c. temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).
 - d.

Note that by signing these certifications, certain documents must be completed, in use, and on file for verification. These documents include:

1. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

Travis County 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan, August 2007 Amendment

- 2. Citizen Participation Plan
- 3. Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan

08/07/07

Signature/Authorized Official Date

Samuel T. Biscoe

Name

County Judge

Title

P.O. Box 1748

Address

Austin, TX 78767

City/State/Zip

512/854-9555

Telephone Number