



CITY OF ROME,  
NEW YORK

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT

# 2018 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT

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**ROME**  
NY  
*the copper city*

## CR05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

2018 marked a year of planning and progress related to community plans and implementation. The Community Needs Assessment, Brownfield Opportunity Area Studies, Woodhaven Redevelopment Plan, and the Downtown Revitalization Initiative all saw movement from planning documents to physical community projects and improvements in 2018.

**Private Developments:** An avalanche of large announcements related to community growth and neighborhood stabilization were announced or commenced within the program year. Projects include demolition and redevelopment of the former DeWitt-Clinton elementary school into 80 mid market/low to moderate income units within an environmental justice area, the construction of a new neighborhood convenience store (Byrne Dairy) located within the same neighborhood as the 80 unit project, announcement of a vacant downtown gravel parking lot to be redeveloped into a 68 unit affordable artist-focused housing project known as the Copper City Lofts, the redevelopment of a former hospital site into a 50,000 s/f Hannafords Super Market, the preservation and rehabilitation of a historical building located within the local Historic District into an end of life care facility known as the Abraham house, redevelopment of another downtown infill lot with an urgent care and dental facility, establishment of a downtown coffee house known as Copperccinos, infill development of a Stewarts Shop to serve an underserved neighborhood and commercial district, construction of a new 50,000 s/f advanced manufacturing building known as Cold Point, and the announcement of the YMCA to construct a new facility located within the Woodhaven district to support neighborhood stabilization and community growth.

**Brownfields:** Several large scale brownfields were either progressed or announced to be remediated and redeveloped including 109 Canal Street, the former Polka-Dot Laundry property on Erie Boulevard, 1333 East Dominick Street, and the former Rome Cable Complex.

**Infrastructure:** Coupling the private development project with public improvements and funding continues to be an important goal of the community. The community has progressed the design and construction of the Mohawk River and Canalway multiuse trails, connecting more neighborhoods and public services to each other through the offroad system. Targeted street and sidewalk reconstructions and improvements continued including construction of the West Dominick Street SMART Walk and pedestrian art plaza, design of the downtown public commons, design of urban trail respite areas, design of public waterfront improvements including the rewatering of the original section of the Erie Canal known as Clinton's Ditch, demolition of the Liberty/George parking garage to make way for urban redevelopment and public surface parking to support the downtown district, and the design of the new climate controlled downtown CENTRO Bus shelter with plenty other projects in the pipeline.

**Public Services:** Public Services were supported with funding to provide children and youth services to the community which begin to plant the seeds of personal growth and development, as well as socialization that some might not experience without these programs. Programs such as

Rome Alliance for Education, Rome Art & Community Center Artletics, YMCA Tean Center, Mohawk Valley Community Action Journey Home, and the YWCA Lucy’s House all played an important public service function in 2018.

**Real Property:** Real property investments including targeted demolitions to abandoned and derelict structures will also assist with community revitalization efforts and help to fend off blight conditions in targeted neighborhoods. These selective demolitions helped to stabilize property values and progress brownfield redevelopment within targeted areas.

**Economic Development:** The City has also continued collaborating with Mohawk Valley EDGE on addressing economic development funding needs and has been working on developing a business development fund for local businesses to take advantage of if they are creating jobs within the low to moderate income target range. The REACH Center, and the Neighborhood Centers façade improvements were finished in 2018 through the Commercial Façade Program which has been a continued success over the years to develop business assistance in our City’s main corridors.

**Staff stabilization:** The City of Rome CDBG staff team has now worked together consistently for the past 1-2 full program years, and the staff as a whole have been able to become more aware of the possibilities and outcomes that the CDBG program can create to strengthen a community.

**CDBG Policies and Procedures:** City staff has developed an updated set of CDBG policies and procedures which will serve as a roadmap for future staffers to utilize which will keep the program running effectively into the future.

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

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

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Blight Elimination	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Brownfield acres remediated	Acre	10	0	0.00%			

Blight Elimination	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	25	0	0.00%	5	0	0.00%
Housing and Commercial Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	50	0	0.00%			
Housing and Commercial Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	30	0	0.00%			
Housing and Commercial Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	0	0		2	0	0.00%
Housing and Commercial Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	0	0		2	0	0.00%
Housing and Commercial Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	4	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration		CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	700	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration		CDBG: \$	Brownfield acres remediated	Acre	30	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration		CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	25	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration		CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	50	0	0.00%			

Planning and Administration		CDBG: \$	Other	Other	0	0		32000	0	0.00%
Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	10000	0	0.00%	5000	0	0.00%
Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	900	0	0.00%			
Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	30	0	0.00%			
Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Brownfield acres remediated	Acre	20	0	0.00%			
Public Services	Non-Homeless Special Needs Public Services	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	18000	0	0.00%	300	0	0.00%
Public Services	Non-Homeless Special Needs Public Services	CDBG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	2000	0	0.00%			

**Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date**

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

With a substantial amendment completed in the 2017 program year, the City focused on Slum & Blight due to the lengthy demolition list from our Codes department and community feedback, coupled with a need to spend down the large project allocation amount transferred in order to meet the timeliness test requirements. This year the City has put an emphasis on Public Facilities as a result of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) award received, which is a \$10 million dollar grant from the state to make improvements to the City's downtown. CDBG Public Facilities funding was a great source of funds to leverage projects identified in the DRI to make good changes turn into substantial changes for our community. Projects for the DRI were identified through a plethora of public engagement meetings which allowed the City to continue to use community feedback as a foundation for implementation of projects.

While multiple activities utilized funding in 2018, the activities were not reported on and included in table 1 because they are still in progress. Several neighborhood pedestrian improvement projects were started and substantially completed. All public services funding, with the addition to prior years funding has been allocated to organizations and received contracts for programming. While trying to spend down current program years allocations, the City has done a great job in spending down prior program year funding. While not going over any project caps, the City continues to spend as much prior program year funding in conjunction with new funding to maximize the projects potentials and stay in compliance with HUDs timeliness test.

**CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted**

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

**91.520(a)**

	<b>CDBG</b>
White	0
Black or African American	0
Asian	0
American Indian or American Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>
Hispanic	0
Not Hispanic	0

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

**CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)**

**Identify the resources made available**

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,013,789	

**Table 3 - Resources Made Available**

**Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments**

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
BROWNFIELD OPPORTUNITY AREA	75		
CITY OF ROME, NEW YORK	100		
Main Streets Target Area	75		
Woodhaven Park Drive Estates	10		

**Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments**



## Leveraging

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

Federal funds were used to leverage local, state, private and other federal sources of funding to progress community development initiatives and implementation projects. Public service dollars were used to leverage local private funding for programs aimed to benefit low to moderate income residents including domestic violence shelters, youth education, and veteran's services. Public facility dollars were used to leverage New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, National Grid Urban Centers, Oneida County, and a private art donation funding to install new pedestrian accessibility and streetscape enhancements along West Dominick Street (SMART Walk). Also, a New York State Department of Transportation Alternative Transportation Grant was applied for which will be leveraged with CDBG funds to help revitalize the main corridor between the south Rome residential neighborhood and the downtown business district. If funded, the project will include reconstruction of longtime gaps in the pedestrian connections and ADA accessibility of the area. In addition, public facilities and economic development funding has and will continue to leverage a myriad of other funding sources (private, public, state, federal) to complete a new manufacturing complex within the downtown area including the public infrastructure to make the project a reality. This work is the first implementation project of the Erie Boulevard Brownfield Opportunity Area study, a state funded program through the Environmental protection Fund. CDBG funding is providing the supplemental gap funding to make these projects complete, and without the assistance of such funding, the project could not be implemented.

## CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

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

Table 5 – Number of Households

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

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

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

The City of Rome did not specify affordable housing goals through its 2018 Annual Action Plan, however it did set up a contract with The HomeOwnership Center for old funding that will be used for a Residential Façade Program. The City hopes you continue funding this program in years to come. The City of Rome does not construct nor manage any affordable housing projects. The City does however

encourage private developers and landlords to provide affordable housing units, but it is not required by City codes. The City has undergone a comprehensive review and rebuild of its zoning ordinances with help from an outside firm specializing in zoning updates. We are hopeful that these zoning updates will remove barriers and provide incentive for private development in the affordable housing space.

### Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

We do not expect these outcomes to impact future annual action plans as the City of Rome does not construct nor manage any affordable housing projects. The City encourages private developers and landlords to provide affordable housing units, but it is not required by City codes. The City has also gone through a complete zoning code update which aims to help reduce barriers that could prevent the development of affordable housing units.

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

<b>Number of Households Served</b>	<b>CDBG Actual</b>	<b>HOME Actual</b>
Extremely Low-income	0	0
Low-income	0	0
Moderate-income	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Table 7 – Number of Households Served**

**Narrative Information**

No Households were assisted in the 2018 Program Year

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

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

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

Reaching out to homeless persons and assessing their individual needs in CoC and in Rome in particular is done at multiple contact points including the Rome office of the Oneida County Department of Social Services, Rome Rescue Mission's Welcome Hall soup kitchen and Rome Rescue Mission's emergency housing programs for men and women, the Mohawk Valley Community Action's Rome office, the Salvation Army located in central Rome and the Loaves and Fishes community center in central Rome which specializes in connecting with and supporting homeless youth. Our CoC also has a Mobile Crisis Assessment Team (MCAT) that responds to crisis situations involving homeless persons with a mental health disability.

One-Year Goals: Increasing the number homeless persons and families who are identified, assessed and able to access supportive housing resources

Actions: The CoC initiated its Coordinated Entry System in June of 2017. All homeless persons and families are now assessed using the VI-SPDAT tool and given access to supportive housing units based their level of need. The City will aid in publicizing this system that facilitates outreach and assessment.

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

The continuum of care in Oneida County, NY was established in 2002. At that time, the City of Rome, located in the western region of the county, had only a 6 shelter beds for homeless women who were domestic violence victims. Over the past 10-plus years, local providers have developed and maintained additional emergency shelter beds for men and women and transitional housing units and beds for women or men with children located in Rome. Domestic violence victims in Rome who are homeless are served in our city by Lucy's House, a 6-bed emergency housing program managed by the YWCA of the Mohawk Valley and by the YWCA's Safe Horizons Program, which provides transitional housing in community-based apartments with support services for up to two years. The Rome Rescue Mission has also recently expanded their existing services of emergency housing for homeless men and women with children to include transitional housing units for families. The newest addition to address emergency sheltering needs came from MVCAA, which opened a 6-bed emergency shelter for youth under 18 in 2017. They are also able to serve transition aged youth from 18-24 with emergency motel vouchers.

The 2018 Point-in-Time census revealed a dramatic increase in the number of people in emergency housing in Rome. There were 20 total persons residing in emergency housing which included 15 single

adults (3 of which were in the DV shelter), 1 parenting T.A.Y. with 2 children, and 2 unaccompanied youth under 18 that were living in the newly opened youth shelter. Transitional housing remained relatively flat in 2018, with 7 total persons comprised of 1 single adult and 2 adult males that each had 2 children with them.

**One-year goal:** Increase both the emergency and transitional housing capacity of the CoC with regard to serving homeless persons and families in Rome.

**Action #1:** In April of 2017, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, a long-time CoC partner, opened the first emergency housing program for homeless youth under age 18 in the City of Rome. This new program- the only homeless youth shelter in a 3-county region- has 6 beds for homeless youth under age 18 and is now serving approximately 3 homeless youth on a typical day/night. The program is also able to serve transition aged youth (18-24 years old) through motel vouchers and providing gift cards for meals and food. The city's police department will work to identify and refer homeless youth to this new emergency housing program.

**Action #2:** Support the YWCA of the Mohawk Valley's work to increase the number of transitional housing units for DV victims from Rome. This agency is now in the process of developing this additional capacity using both NY State and federal funding streams.

**Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs**

Help and assistance for those who are the most likely to become homeless after discharge from publicly funded institutions and systems of care is provided through the Oneida County Department of Mental Health (for those discharged from mental health facilities), the Oneida County Department of Social Services (for youth aging out of foster care), and the Oneida County Prison Reentry Task Force (a program managed by the Oneida County Probation Department that provides reentry services including housing to persons discharged from NYS prisons). New this year, the NYS Division of Parole has funded a 90-day transition-from-prison program that serve Rome residents released from NYS prison, and the NYS Department of Mental Health recently announced they would provide funding for 17 additional units of permanent supportive housing for person with a mental health disability.

**Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were**

## **recently homeless from becoming homeless again**

One-Year Goal #1: Our jurisdiction's key one-year goal to increase the number and availability of both supportive and affordable housing units for homeless persons and families and for persons and families at imminent risk of homelessness in the City of Rome.

Action #1: We are working actively with a supportive housing developer to develop 30 new permanent supportive housing units and an additional 30 new affordable permanent housing units in south Rome (our City's poorest neighborhood) in a single new building on a former school site.

One-Year Goal #2: Helping homeless persons and families shorten the time they experience homelessness. This is a challenge in our jurisdiction where ESG funding is not available for rapid re-housing services for homeless civilians.

Action #2: Our CoC recently (May 2017) set up a new CoC-funded Rapid Rehousing Program that provides housing search and placement, security deposits, short term rental assistance, and case management for both single adults and families with children for homeless persons and families in Rome. There are two VA-funded SSVF programs serving Rome residents that provide prevention as well as rapid rehousing services for homeless veterans (who are eligible for VA Healthcare benefits) and their family members. Also, the Rome Housing Authority instituted a homeless preference for their public housing units and their Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8.) Programs. From 10/1/2014 to 3/31/2015 over 14% of all new household admissions to affordable permanent public housing and HCV units managed by Rome Housing Authority were homeless households.

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

### **Actions taken to address the needs of public housing**

The City of Rome expects to continue its close working relationship with the Rome Housing Authority to address the public housing needs of the City. The City will continue its support of the Rome Housing Authority as it moves forward with plans to rehabilitate their Colonial I & II complexes.

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

The Rome Housing Authority has a tenant advisory board for the Colonial I, Colonial II and Valentine Apartments. They meet with the tenants on a monthly basis for coffee hour, to discuss their concerns and get their input on upcoming projects. There are also two "tenant elect" commissioners who are elected to the Rome Housing Authority Board for a two year period. These commissioners, along with the five appointed by the Mayor oversee the Rome Housing Authority.

The Liberty Garden Apartments are no longer considered Public Housing however, they are covered under the Housing Choice Project Based Voucher Program for a period of 15 years. They are establishing a Family Self Sufficiency Program which will encourage the tenants to not only obtain schooling, and better jobs but will also supply them with the possibility of an escrow account that can be used to help purchase a home.

### **Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

The Rome Housing Authority has not been designated as a troubled entity.



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

**Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)**

The City of Rome, with the support of Camiros Ltd. and Bergmann Associates, Inc., has undergone a complete review and restructuring of its zoning code which has aimed to reduce barriers to industrial, commercial, and residential development. During 2016, the City began actively engaging with the Oneida County Government on ways to address taxes locally in Rome and throughout the county. This engagement is expected to continue throughout 2019. In addition, as a result of the Community Needs Assessment undertaken in 2016, the City of Rome will be establishing a committee to address taxation within the City.

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

In an effort to meet underserved needs in the community, the City of Rome, in partnership with the HUD Field Office, participated in a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) to determine the community's needs at all levels, but with particular attention to the low to moderate income population, or those populations affected by physical/mental health issues, homelessness, poverty, domestic violence issues and other special needs. The data collected through community roundtable sessions and public & targeted surveys, have resulted in a two-year action plan that have supplemented the 2018 Annual Action Plan and will continue to, for the 2019 Annual Action Plan as well. The City believes that the substantial undertaking of this CNA process will continue to generate a number of ways in which we can meet the needs of the underserved.

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

The City of Rome began serving on the steering committee for the new 'Lead-Free Mohawk Valley' initiative spearheaded by the Community Foundation last year; this \$1 million dollar, 3-year initiative is aiming to eliminate lead poisoning in Oneida and Herkimer Counties, with the goal being to eradicate childhood lead poisoning by 2030. After almost a full 2 years since the coalition has been formed, focus groups have been put in place within the coalition to formulate the best ways possible to get information out to the public as well as get projects out into the community to start the process of eliminating lead poisoning. This initiative has just also received a commitment of \$5million dollars over the next 10 years from the Community Foundation as of April of 2018.

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

Rome, NY has been a key partner in the Utica/Rome, Oneida and Madison Counties Continuum of Care (CoC NY-518) for over 10 years. This regional Continuum of Care – locally known as the Mohawk Valley

Housing and Homeless Coalition - has a comprehensive set of emergency and supportive housing resources available to residents of the City of Rome which is the second largest city in the two-county CoC.

Reaching out to homeless persons and assessing their individual needs in CoC and in Rome in particular is done at multiple contact points including the Rome office of the Oneida County Department of Social Services, Rome Rescue Mission's Welcome Hall soup kitchen and Rome Rescue Mission's emergency housing programs for men and women, the Mohawk Valley Community Action's Rome office, the Salvation Army located in central Rome and the Loaves and Fishes community center in central Rome which specializes in connecting with and supporting homeless youth.

Separately, a representative from the City has been actively participating in the Mohawk Valley Anti-Poverty initiative sponsored by Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente, Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi, the Community Foundation, and the United Way of Utica. This effort is in its nascent stage of development but is modeled after the Rochester-Monroe County Anti-Poverty Initiative which began in recent years. The aim of the initiative is to reduce poverty and eliminate homelessness in both rural and urban Oneida County.

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

The City of Rome's Department of Community and Economic Development (CED) is currently responsible for the administration of its CDBG program. CDBG projects are carried out by city staff, contractors, and other subrecipients. The City recently finished a CNA which included supplementing the efforts of CED through general fund contracts with Mohawk Valley Edge, a local economic development agency, and will continue to rely on other City Departments and private agencies to help carry out actions identified in the Consolidated and Annual Plans.

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

The City of Rome will continue to serve on the board of the Oneida-Madison County Continuum of Care and is encouraging the commitment of more Rome-based organizations to play an active role in the CoC, with Rome Hospital and the Community Recovery Center having committed to attend meetings beginning back in September 2016 with other organizations attending meetings occasionally. In 2016, the City took an active role as part of the steering committee for the Lead-Free Mohawk Valley Initiative, sponsored by the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida County and has continued as it has almost hit its 2 year mark. The City's active involvement in this effort will significantly increase CED's understanding of the lead hazard issue, and will hopefully allow for more work to be done within the City on increasing lead hazard awareness, and exercising lead abatement.

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

The City of Rome maintains a selection of fair housing information for the public from both the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the New York State Attorney General's Office. The City also routinely refers those citizens with further questions to CNY Fair Housing, a local area non-profit with whom the City funds through its Public Services allotment.

## **CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230**

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

The City of Rome maintains all project files, rules and procedures applicable to all CDBG projects. Relevant information is shared with subrecipients at the beginning of each award and throughout the process to final completion of annual programs and projects. On-site monitoring visits with subrecipients are completed annually. The monitoring policies and procedures have recently been updated, and continue to be updated annually in our City of Rome CDBG Policies and Procedures manual.

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

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

The City of Rome provides its citizens with the customary 15 day public review and comment period by making the CAPER available for public review at Jervis Public Library and Rome City Hall, as well as making the document available on the City's website, [www.romenewyork.com](http://www.romenewyork.com). Citizens are notified of the review period through the Rome Sentinel newspaper.

The public review period for the 2018 Program Year CAPER was held from June 10th, 2019 to June 24th, 2019. A public meeting was also held on June 18th, 2019 to answer or receive any comments on the 2018 CAPER.

## **CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)**

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

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

**[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.**