

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Community Planning and Development

Region VIII, Denver
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Denver, Colorado 80202-4801

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December 19, 2022

Nicole Crutchfield, Director
Planning and Development Department
City of Fargo
200 3rd Street North
Fargo, North Dakota 58102

SUBJECT: Program Year 2021 Annual Community Assessment

Dear Ms. Crutchfield:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Region VIII, Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) assesses the performance of its grant recipients on an annual basis. This assessment is based on the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) submitted by you as a grant recipient, as well as information collected from other financial and performance reports, correspondence, and monitoring reports. This letter conveys the results of our evaluation for the 2021 program year.

Based on this analysis, we have determined that the City of Fargo has the continuing capacity to administer its CPD-funded programs. The activities undertaken are consistent with your HUD-approved Consolidated Plan, and the city continues to make progress in meeting its housing and community development goals.

Table 1 from the CR-05 Goals and Outcomes screen reports public facility and homelessness prevention accomplishments from 2021 projects. Two supplemental accomplishment reports were also submitted that were extremely detailed and helpful in analyzing accomplishments from the current and prior years. This included a substantive description of accomplishments achieved with CDBG-CV funding. Narratives of the status of open projects was also provided.

Please remember that accomplishments in Table 2 of the CR-05 screen should include all accomplishments achieved during the program years covered by the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. There seems to be inconsistency between what is reported in Table 2 and the "Assessment of Objectives and Accomplishments" supplemental report.

The below issues were identified in the CAPER.

CR-50

- The eCon Planning Suite requests a list of projects that were inspected on-site during the program year. Fargo provided a general summary of the results of the inspections but did not provide a list of what properties were inspected. Please ensure this list is provided in future CAPERs.

Public Service Cap

- The PR26 – CDBG Financial Summary Report reported the City of Fargo exceeded the 15% public service cap for the 2021 program year. It appears a manual entry by Fargo of unliquidated obligations pushed public services over the cap. The City of Fargo provided a “PR26 Explanation for the 2021 CAPER” that identified the unliquidated obligations.
 - The grantee is requested to review the information entered in IDIS and verify that it is in compliance with the program public serves cap requirements or submit a plan to address this issue. Please provide verification to this office within 30 days of the date of this letter.

In accordance with the Consolidated Plan regulations described at 24 CFR §91.525, if the city has comments regarding our conclusions, please submit them to this office within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If we do not receive comments within the 30-day time period, this letter will be considered final and can be made available to the public.

If there are any questions or there is a request for technical assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Clark, Senior CPD Representative, at elizabeth.clark@hud.gov.

Sincerely,



Noemi Ghirghi
Regional Director

ecc: Bruce Grubb, City Administrator
Tia Braseth, Planning Coordinator