

ORDINANCE NO.

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 64 - 2025

INTRODUCED BY

JULY 23, 2025

AN ORDINANCE

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of certain monies received by the City of Allentown under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1976, as amended; The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009; and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended; for the purpose of undertaking programs of housing and community development within the City.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That the Mayor is authorized to expend an estimated amount of Three Million Six Hundred Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars and Eight Cents (\$3,607,963.08) in Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) funds for the January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 grant year, for housing and community development programs pursuant to the approved Consolidated Plan, appropriate Federal Law and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.

SECTION TWO: That the Mayor is directed to establish and maintain any and all accounts and records as are necessary and to make such transfers as may be required to expend and account for said CDBG, HOME and ESG Funds in accordance with the approved Consolidated Plan, appropriate Federal law, and HUD regulations.

SECTION THREE: That this act of the Council of the City of Allentown is undertaken pursuant to Act 292 of 1976 in accordance with the opinion of the Pennsylvania Attorney General (Opinion 72-76) which holds that CDBG, HOME, and ESG Funds are General Municipal Funds for the purpose of Act 292 of 1976.

SECTION FOUR: That, in accordance with the Action Plan, the Council of the City of Allentown authorizes the appropriation of an estimated amount Three Million Six Hundred Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars and Eight Cents (\$3,607,963.08) in the following manner:

CODE ENFORCEMENT AND REHABILITATION (CDBG)

700-01-7111-5007-50046	Redevelopment Authority of the City of Allentown---	-----\$600,000
700-01-7111-5084-50046	Hazard Elimination -----	\$200,000
700-01-7111-5144-50046	Lead Remediation Program -----	\$125,000

TOTAL.....\$925,000

PUBLIC SERVICES (CDBG)

700-01-7113-5240-50040	River Crossing YMCA, Allentown Branch.....	\$11,696.70
700-01-7113-5011-50040	Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living.....	\$8,500
700-01-7113-5022-50040	Lehigh Conference of Churches – Daybreak	\$17,000
700-01-7113-5027-50040	Community Bike Works	\$25,500
700-01-7113-5185-50040	Community Bike Works – Food Pantry.....	\$17,000
700-01-7113-5041-50040	Alliance Hall of Allentown, Inc.....	\$10,000
700-01-7113-5090-50040	Valley Youth House – Synergy	\$25,500
700-01-7113-5230-50040	Casa Guadalupe.....	\$68,000
700-01-7113-5235-50040	Fine Feather	\$34,000
700-01-7113-5184-50040	Community Action Development Allentown.....	\$30,000
700-01-7113-5238-50040	Black Heritage Association of the Lehigh Valley.....	\$42,500
700-01-7113-5239-50040	Valley Wealth Alliance	\$66,555

TOTAL.....\$356,251.70

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION (CDBG)

700-01-7112-5103-50076	City of Allentown-ADA Curb Cuts	\$278,045.35
700-01-7112-5192-50046	City of Allentown – Aging in Place -----	\$50,000
700-01-7112-5193-50076	City of Allentown – Parks and Recreation -----	\$278,045.35

TOTAL.....\$ 606090.70

CDBG – ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

700-01-7110-5024-50040	Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley- HOCF	\$17,000
700-01-7110-0013-50002	Administration	\$480,335.60
700-01-7110-5095-50040	North Penn Legal Services-Fair Housing.....	\$17,000

TOTAL.....\$514,335.60

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME)

700-01-7117-5241-50040	Alliance for Building Communituies CHDO	\$500,000
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700-01-7117-5181-50040 Valley Housing Development Corporation.....	\$100,000
700-01-7117-5045-50040 Habitat for Humanity Home Repair.....	\$200,000
700-01-7117-5242-50040 Phoebe-Devitt Homes.....	\$100,000
700-01-7117-0013-50002 Administration	\$97,046.08

TOTAL.....	\$997,046.08
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EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS PROGRAM (ESG)

700-01-7118-5076-50040 Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley - Sixth Street Shelter	\$41,847.80
700-01-7118-5078-50040 The Salvation Army	\$41,847.80
700-01-7118-5079-50040 River Crossing YMCA, Warming Station	\$41,847.80
700-01-7118-0013-50002 Administration.....	\$15,692.92
700-01-7118-5183-50040 Lehigh Conference of Churches – Rapid Re-housing.....	\$18,002.68
700-01-7118-5243-50040 River Crossing YMCA – Rapid Re-housing.....	\$50,000.00

TOTAL.....	\$209,239
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SECTION FIVE: That this Ordinance will take effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION SIX: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

Legislative Template

- What department or bureau is this bill originating from?

The Consolidated Grants Program (CGP) legislation originates in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

The attached legislation, from the Department of Community and Economic Development serves as the template for the City of Allentown's application for federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) funds. Each piece of legislation serves a specific purpose, which when combined, contain all the recommended regulatory steps need to apply for these federal funds. These are the same types of legislation presented to City Council every year. However, the actual dollar amounts, list of activities and funds available are different every year.

- Summary and facts of the bill.

Summary: This legislation is required to establish expenditure accounts for the City budgeting system, in addition to listing all the activities/programs which will be funded for the 2025 Consolidated Grants Program year. It provides the basis for the creation of the Consolidated Plan Action Plan which is submitted to HUD as the application for the CDBG, HOME and ESG program funds which the City receives every year.

- Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:

- a. What are the goals the bill seeks to accomplish?

This ordinance provides the City with the second step needed to allow the City to apply for and then access an estimated \$3,607,963.08 in grant funds for the January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, program year

- b. What are the benefits of doing this?

All activities funded comply with the CDBG, HOME and ESG regulations as promulgated by HUD and allow the City to further its Community and Economic Development Initiatives. There are no drawbacks.

- c. How does this bill relate to the City's vision/mission/priorities?

This bill supports the submission of the City of the Allentown's Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, both of which provide a plan for the 2025 HUD allocation which promotes a safer and healthier city.

- Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:

a. Cost (initial and ongoing)

There is no financial impact on the City. This is a reimbursable HUD grant.

b. Benefits (initial and ongoing)

Allocating these funds will benefit all identified on-going projects. All activities funded comply with the CDBG, HOME and ESG regulations as promulgated by HUD and allow the City to further its Community and Economic Development Initiatives.

- Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:

- a.** If transferring funds, please make sure to give specific account names and numbers. If appropriating funds from a grant, please list the agency awarding the grant.

The funding sources for this ordinance are the federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

- Priority status – Are there any deadlines to be aware of?

This bill has a high priority status. Failure to submit the application to HUD by July 31, 2025 could result in the loss of this money.

- Why should Council unanimously support this bill?

The City has again followed the scoring process approved by Council and used in the past to develop this budget. In addition, funding decisions were made by complying with HUD's regulations, which require the City to address concerns/needs noted in its five-year Consolidated Plan.