

Town of Gilbert 5 Year Strategic Plan - Draft

This document includes Narrative Responses to specific questions that grantees of the Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership, Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS and Emergency

Shelter Grants Programs must respond to in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations.

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is optional, but encouraged. If you choose to complete it, please provide a brief overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that are proposed throughout the 5 year strategic planning period.

5 Year Strategic Plan Executive Summary:

The Town of Gilbert is a rapidly growing suburban community located in the southeast part of the Maricopa County metropolitan area.

Gilbert's Consolidated Plan for 2005-2010 was developed in consultation with the Maricopa HOME Consortium of Entitlement Communities, the Gilbert Town Council, Redevelopment Commission and Human Relations Commission, Gilbert Community Action Network, social service providers and other interested persons. The Gilbert 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan includes an analysis of needs, priorities, and obstacles and identifies strategies for addressing these issues and problems.

Key components of the plan include:

- Service area description
- Needs assessment
- Planning process and consultation
- Accountability and performance measurement
- Strategic goals

Key Strategic Objectives include:

- Preserve neighborhoods, health and safety through emergency home repair and minor rehabilitation assistance to qualified homeowners.
- Increase home ownership through down payment assistance and counseling services.
- Increase the supply of quality affordable rental housing by assisting nonprofit organizations to purchase and rehabilitate older rental developments.
- Support regional Continuum of Care efforts to serve the homeless including support for homeless shelters, transitional living programs and day treatment services for chronically homeless and seriously mentally ill individuals.
- Support expansion and renovation of the Gilbert Senior Center to increase access to nutrition and social activities that foster independent living.
- Provide funding assistance to nonprofit service providers assisting low and moderate income families, the homeless, the elderly, disabled persons, children in foster care, behavioral health clients and other special needs populations.

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Primary categories of need addressed in the plan are:

Housing

A complete description of area housing activities is included in the 2005/2009 Consolidated Plan for Maricopa HOME Consortium. Based on an analysis of the Gilbert housing market and needs, the following specific housing activities are planned to increase the number of quality affordable housing units in Gilbert.

- Single family owner occupied housing emergency repair and minor rehabilitation
- First time home buyer assistance
- Acquisition and /or rehabilitation of rental housing

Homelessness

The Town of Gilbert participates in the Maricopa Association of Governments Continuum of Care Task Force to address regional solutions to homelessness. Gilbert funds support:

- Shelter services
- Transitional housing
- Case management
- Emergency assistance
- Nutrition programs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Day treatment for chronically homeless, mentally ill persons

Community Development - Short term objectives include:

Public Facilities

- Expand Gilbert Senior Center
- Support regional facilities for homeless and special needs populations

Public Services

- Support regional food and shelter services
- Provide technical assistance to service providers

Accessibility through Barrier Removal

- Barrier removal through housing rehabilitation
- Education and technical assistance related to accessibility

Neighborhood Redevelopment and Revitalization

 Create strategies and fund activities to address problems in the downtown redevelopment area and other older neighborhoods in Gilbert

Other Activities

• Commit resources to projects designed to improve energy efficiency, reduce lead based paint hazards and other activities benefiting low and moderate income persons

Antipoverty Strategy

The Town of Gilbert supports programs to prevent or end homelessness and promote self sufficiency such as job training, counseling, programs for at-risk youth, home ownership assistance and counseling, emergency financial assistance and information and referral services.

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Special Needs

Non-homeless special needs populations with a high priority include seniors, disabled persons, victims of domestic violence, children and youth and low and moderate income households. Services to be provided include:

- Senior housing
- Nutrition programs
- Substance abuse treatment
- Homeless prevention
- Youth prevention programs
- Foster care support services
- Counseling and case management