



# City of Barberton

Community Development Block Grant  
**ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**  
**FY 2026 – DRAFT VERSION**



Building Better Neighborhoods

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## ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Attachment A: Citizen Comments and Public Notices:** *(Public comments from City Council meeting on June, 2026, will be included in the final version of the plan)*
- B. Attachment B: Grantee Unique Appendices** *(This attachment will be included in the final version of the plan)*
  - 1. Appendix 1: LMI Map**
  - 2. Appendix 2: FY 2026 Annual Action Plan Funding Allocation & Activities**
- C. Attachment C: SF-424s Applications, Certifications, and Assurances** *(This attachment will be included in the final version of the plan)*

## AP-05 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – 91.220(C), 91.220(B)

### 1. Introduction

The Fiscal Year 2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action establishes the city’s planned use of federal entitlement funds to address priority community development needs and advance the goals of the FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan. Consistent with HUD requirements, the Plan prioritizes activities that principally benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) residents, support public facility improvements, preserve housing, enhance neighborhood conditions, and expand access to essential services. Funding allocations are informed by community input, local data, and interdepartmental coordination to ensure resources are directed toward eligible, high-impact projects. The FY 2026 strategy strengthens compliance, promotes equitable investment, and advances measurable progress toward long-term community development objectives.

### 2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The FY 2026 Annual Action Plan advances the city’s FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan priorities by directing CDBG resources toward improving public facilities, preserving affordable housing, and supporting services for low- and moderate-income residents. Activities address needs identified in the housing needs assessment, housing market analysis, and strategic plan.

- **Public Facilities & Infrastructure** – Improve ADA accessibility, safety, and functionality of community facilities and neighborhood infrastructure in LMI areas. **OUTCOMES: Increased accessibility, enhanced safety, and expanded service capacity.**
- **Affordable Housing Preservation** – Provide rehabilitation, code corrections, and accessibility modifications for LMI homeowners and address deterioration in the aging housing stock. **OUTCOMES: Improved housing quality, reduced displacement risk, and preserved affordable units.**
- **Supportive Services** – Support youth, senior, disability, and economic-stability programs that benefit LMI households. **OUTCOMES: Increased program participation, improved service access, and strengthened household stability.**

Essential needs informing these objectives include aging housing conditions, cost-burdened households, limited accessible units, and ongoing risk of homelessness among vulnerable residents.

### 3. Evaluation of past performance

The City’s recent CDBG performance demonstrates consistent progress in improving public facilities, preserving affordable housing, and supporting services for low-and moderate-income residents. Completion of prior-year activities informed the selection of FY 2026 goals by highlighting which strategies produced the strongest community impact and where unmet needs remain.

- **Public Facility Improvements** – Past investments successfully increased ADA accessibility, enhanced safety, and expanded capacity at community parks and facilities serving youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities. These outcomes reinforced the need to continue addressing aging infrastructure in LMI neighborhoods.
- **Housing Rehabilitation** – Prior-year rehabilitation programs consistently met or exceeded performance targets, reducing code violations and improving habitability for LMI homeowners. Demand for assistance remained high, confirmed the ongoing need to preserve the city’s aging

housing stock.

- **Supportive Services** – Funded programs demonstrated strong participation and measurable benefits for youth, seniors, and vulnerable households. Continued economic instability and service gaps identified in prior years support ongoing investment in these activities.

Overall, past performance shows that CDBG-funded activities are effectively addressing priority needs identified. These results guided the city to maintain a focused approach in FY 2026, prioritizing projects with proven impact and strong alignment with long-term community development goals.

#### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

The city followed its adopted Citizen Participation Plan to develop the FY 2026 Annual Action Plan. A public notice announcing the hearing and a 30-day comment period, and the draft Action Plan was made available online and at public locations for review. A public hearing was held to gather input from residents and stakeholders, and the city consulted with local nonprofits, housing agencies, and service providers to identify priority needs. Comments received emphasized continued investment in public facilities, housing rehabilitation, and services for low- and moderate-income residents, and were incorporated in the final Plan where appropriate.

#### **5. Summary of public comments - TBD**

#### **6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them - TBD**

#### **7. Summary**

The FY 2026 Annual Action Plan focuses CDBG resources on improving public facilities, preserving affordable housing, and supporting services for low- and moderate-income residents. Planned activities include public facility and infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation for LMI homeowners, and supportive services for youth, seniors, and vulnerable households. Expected outcomes include increased accessibility and safety in community spaces, improving housing quality, reduced displacement risk, and expanded access to essential programs

## AP-10 CONSULTATION – 91.110, 91.220(B), 91.215(L)

The City of Barberton met with and gathered input from organizations that serve Barberton residents, including housing and homelessness providers, public health partners, senior and youth service agencies, and key city departments.

### Who we consulted:

- **Local nonprofits:** Shared information on housing stability, food access, and family services.
- **Continuum of Care:** Provided data on homelessness and service gaps.
- **City of Barberton departments:** Helped identify neighborhood and infrastructure needs.

### How input was collected:

- The city used meetings, email outreach, and public hearings to gather feedback. Draft materials were posted online at the City of Barberton’s website, [www.cityofbarberton.com/planning](http://www.cityofbarberton.com/planning), for public review, and residents were invited to comment throughout the process. Public hearings were held to offer opportunities for residents to share concerns and ideas, and stakeholder meetings which helped refine project priorities.

### What we heard – TBD

### How this informed the Plan:

Feedback directly shaped the projects selected for Program Year 2026. The city prioritized activities that improve housing quality, strengthen neighborhoods, and support vulnerable residents. With project alignment, the city is ensuring CDBG funds respond to documented community needs.

## AP-12 PARTICIPATION – 91.105, 91.200(C)

### Citizen Participation Process:

The city follows its HUD-approved Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), which outlines procedures for public notice, public comment, and community engagement. The City of Barberton encourages all residents, especially those in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, to take part in the CDBG planning process. Information is shared through the city’s website @ [www.cityofbarberton.com](http://www.cityofbarberton.com), social media, and public postings so residents know when meetings and comment periods are happening.

### Public Hearings and Community Input:

Barberton conducted at least two (2) public hearings during the program year; one during the planning phase (**Occurred at Planning Commission Meeting held on 06/17/26 @ 5:30pm**), and one prior to adoption of the 2026 Annual Action Plan (**Occurred at City Council Meeting held on 06/22/26 @ 6:00pm**). Public hearings were held at the **Barberton Municipal Building’s Council Chambers, located at 576 W. Park Ave. Barberton, OH 44203**. Both public hearings were held in an accessible location, and were scheduled at convenient times to encourage participation from all residents, including low- and moderate-income residents, persons with disabilities, seniors, and other underserved groups.

The city also accepted written comments throughout the public comment period and incorporated all feedback in the final plan.

**Outreach to Stakeholders:**

The city engaged a wide range of stakeholders, including neighborhood associations, nonprofit service providers, housing agencies, faith-based organizations, and economic development partners. Direct outreach was conducted through email notifications, website postings, and targeted communication to organizations serving low-income households and special-needs populations. Barberton also coordinated with Summit County agencies and regional partners to ensure alignment of priorities and reduce duplication of services.

**Public Review and Comment Period:**

A minimum 30-day public comment period, which occurred from **June 16, 2026 through July 16, 2026**, was provided for the 2026 Annual Action Plan. Draft documents were made available online at the city’s website @ [www.cityofbarberton.com/planning](http://www.cityofbarberton.com/planning), and in hard copy at the **City of Barberton’s Municipal Building, located at 576 W. Park Ave., Room 300, Barberton, OH 44203**. All comments received were reviewed, summarized, and included in the final submission to HUD, along with the city’s responses.

**Efforts to Broaden Participation:**

To broaden participation, Barberton used multiple communication channels, including digital outreach, community meetings and events, and direct engagement with neighborhood leaders. The city prioritized outreach to low- and moderate-income areas and encouraged participation from residents who may face barriers to involvement, such as limited transportation, limited English proficiency, or disability-related access needs.

## Expected Resources

### **AP-15 EXPECTED RESOURCES – 91.220(C) (1,2)**

#### **1. Introduction**

The City of Barberton anticipates utilizing a combination of federal CDBG entitlement funds, local resources, and leveraged county and state investments to implement the activities outlined in the FY 2026 Annual Action Plan. Expected resources include the city’s annual CDBG allocation, program income, and non-federal contributions that expand project capacity; most notably Summit County housing rehabilitation funds, which significantly enhances the reach of the Barberton Home Repair Program. By aligning federal, local, and partner resources, the city maximizes the impact of CDBG investments and supports coordinated efforts in neighborhood stabilization, housing preservation, public infrastructure, and economic development.

## Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available for FY 2026				Expected Amt Available Remainder of Con Plan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation:	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources:	Total \$:		
CDBG	public - federal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administration &amp; Planning</li> <li>Housing Rehabilitation</li> <li>Public Improvements</li> <li>Public Services</li> <li>Economic Development/ Façade Improvements</li> <li>Code Enforcement</li> </ul>	\$669,388.00	\$50,000.00		\$719,388.00	\$2,100,000.00	<p>FY 26 allocation of \$669,388 is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the FY25-29 Con Plan. Additionally, Program Income is expected to yield \$50,000, making total resources available of \$719,388 for FY 26. Based on prior years' allocation, the city anticipates to receive \$650,000 annually from 2027-2029, which totals at \$1,950,000, and Program Income to yield \$50,000 per year, which is approximately \$150,000, making the remainder of the Con Plan's total resources of \$2,100,000.00.</p>

Table 1 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

Federal CDBG funds will be used to leverage local, county, and private resources by filling critical funding gaps and enabling projects to meet full program demand. A primary example is the Barberton Home Repair Program, which is jointly funded by the City and Summit County’s housing rehabilitation resources. CDBG provides the core federal investment needed to make low-and moderate-income homes safe, accessible, and code-compliant, while Summit County contributes additional rehabilitation dollars, contractor capacity, and program administration support. This partnership allows the city to serve more households, address higher-cost repairs, and complete projects that would otherwise exceed the limits of a single funding source.

Although CDBG has no statutory match requirement, matching obligations associated with county and state housing programs are satisfied through:

- Local general fund and capital allocations that supplement repair costs.
- County rehabilitation funds that expand project scope and meet program-specific match thresholds.
- Documented private contributions and in-kind services from participating homeowners and nonprofit partners when applicable.

Through this coordinated approach, federal CDBG dollars leverage Summit County resources, local funds, and private contributions to maximize impact, extend program capacity, and ensure that critical housing and community development needs are met.

**If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan**

The City of Barberton partners with the Barberton Community Development Corporation (BCDC) and uses the Summit County Land Reutilization Program to acquire vacant and blighted properties for neighborhood stabilization, flood-control improvements, and economic development. These efforts reduce slum and blight, create green space, support stormwater projects, and prepare site for job-creating commercial investment. The city also leverages Summit County housing rehabilitation resources to expand the Barberton Home Repair Program, using CDBG funds as gap financing to complete more repairs and assist additional low-and moderate-income households.

**Discussion**

The City of Barberton will use its annual CDBG entitlement, program income, and leveraged county and local resources to carry out the FY 2026 Annual Action Plan. CDBG remains the primary funding source for housing, neighborhood stabilization, and public infrastructure activities. The city also leverages Summit County housing rehabilitation funds to expand the Barberton Home Repair Program, allowing CDBG to serve as gap financing that increases total project capacity and the number of low-and moderate-income households served. Additional support from BCDC and the Summit County Land Reutilization Program strengthens efforts to address blight, acquire strategic properties, and advance economic development. Together, these resources provide a coordinated funding base that maximizes the impact of federal investments across Barberton’s priority needs.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### **AP-20 ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b)**

The City of Barberton is not a HOME participating jurisdiction and therefore does not receive HOME funds to directly provide affordable housing as defined under HOME regulations. As a result, the city does not estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households to be served with HOME-assisted affordable housing units.

However, the city does support housing needs through CDBG-eligible activities, including the Barberton Home Repair Program, which primarily benefits low-and moderate-income homeowners. These activities improve housing conditions but do not meet the HOME definition of “affordable housing units” and therefore are not counted toward HOME 91.215(B) production estimates.

**Goals Summary Information**

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	<b>Administration &amp; Planning</b>	2026	2026	Program Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> <li>SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide Decent, Safe &amp; Affordable Housing</li> <li>Expand Economic Development Opportunity</li> <li>Support Non-Housing Community Development</li> <li>Public Health &amp; Safety - Eliminate Slum &amp; Blight</li> <li>Infrastructure Public Improvements</li> </ul>	<b>CDBG: \$100,000.00</b>	Other: 1 Other
2	<b>Acquisition &amp; Demolition</b>	2026	2026	Affordable Housing Public Health & Safety - Eliminate Slum & Blight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Health &amp; Safety - Eliminate Slum &amp; Blight</li> <li>Provide Decent, Safe &amp; Affordable Housing</li> </ul>	<b>CDBG: \$85,000.00</b>	Buildings Demolished: 6 Buildings

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	<b>Capital Infrastructure - Public Improvements</b>	2026	2026	Infrastructure Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure Public Improvements</li> <li>Support Non-Housing Community Development</li> </ul>	<b>CDBG: \$125,000.00</b>	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Households Assisted
4	<b>Code Enforcement - Eliminate Slum &amp; Blight</b>	2026	2026	Public Health & Safety - Eliminate Slum & Blight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> <li>SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide Decent, Safe &amp; Affordable Housing</li> <li>Public Health &amp; Safety - Eliminate Slum &amp; Blight</li> </ul>	<b>CDBG: \$64,388.00</b>	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 100 Household Housing Unit
5	<b>Economic Development &amp; Facade Improvements</b>	2026	2026	Economic Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand Economic Development Opportunity</li> <li>Infrastructure Public Improvements</li> <li>Eliminate Slum &amp; Blight</li> <li>Support Non-Housing Community Development</li> </ul>	<b>CDBG: \$150,000.00</b>	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 2 Business Jobs created/retained: 10 Jobs Businesses assisted: 2 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	<b>Housing Rehabilitation Program</b>	2026	2026	Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide Decent, Safe &amp; Affordable Housing</li> <li>Public Health &amp; Safety – Eliminate Slum &amp; Blight</li> </ul>	<b>CDBG:</b> <b>\$100,000.00</b>  Fund Source: EN26: \$50,000 RLF: \$50,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit
7	<b>Public Services</b>	2026	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> <li>SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Non-Housing Community Development</li> </ul>	<b>CDBG:</b> <b>\$95,000.00</b>	Public service activities for other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 900 Persons Assisted  Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Households Assisted

**Table 2 – Goals Summary**

**Goal Descriptions**

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION &amp; PLANNING</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	CDBG funds will support the city’s administration, oversight, and planning activities needed to implement the FY 2026 Annual Action Plan. These resources ensure compliance with federal requirements, maintain financial and programmatic accountability, and support community engagement and preparation of required HUD plans. Effective administration allows the city to manage CDBG investments efficiently and maximize benefits for low-and moderate-income residents.

2	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>ACQUISITION &amp; DEMOLITION</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	CDBG funds will be used to acquire and demolish vacant, abandoned, and blighted structures in low-and moderate-income neighborhoods to remove unsafe conditions and prepare site for future community uses.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE – PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	CDBG funds will support capital infrastructure and public improvement projects that address critical needs in low-and moderate-income neighborhoods. Eligible activities may include street, sidewalk, and parking lot repairs, ADA accessibility upgrades, stormwater and drainage improvements, and other public facilities that enhance safety, mobility, and neighborhood conditions. These investments help reduce infrastructure deficiencies, improve quality of life for residents, and support long-term community revitalization.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>CODE ENFORCEMENT – ELIMINATE SLUM &amp; BLIGHT</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	CDBG funds will support targeted code enforcement activities in deteriorating low-and moderate-income neighborhoods to address housing and property maintenance violations that contribute to blight. Eligible inspections and enforcement efforts will help identify unsafe or substandard conditions, encourage corrective action by property owners, and stabilize older residential areas at risk of decline. By focusing resources in designated CDBG-eligible areas, the city strengthens neighborhood conditions, protects public health and safety, and supports long-term revitalization efforts.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &amp; FACADE IMPROVEMENTS</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	CDBG funds will support economic development and commercial façade improvements that strengthen small businesses, enhance commercial corridors, and reduce blight in low-and moderate-income areas. Eligible activities may include exterior building repairs, accessibility upgrades, signage improvements, and other enhancements that improve the appearance, safety, and functionality of local storefronts. These investments help stabilize older business districts, attract reinvestment, and support long-term economic vitality for Barberton’s neighborhoods.

6	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	CDBG funds will support the rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes for underserved households to correct health, safety, and code deficiencies and improve long-term housing stability. The city partners with Summit County to leverage additional rehabilitation resources, allowing CDBG to serve as gap financing that expands project capacity and enables more substantial repairs such as lead abatement services, home weatherization activities, and minor home repairs. These investments preserve aging housing stock, prevent deterioration in vulnerable neighborhoods, and help residents remain safely housed.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>PUBLIC SERVICES</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	CDBG funds will support public service activities that meet critical needs of low-and moderate-income residents, including programs that address senior services, youth development, housing stability, food insecurity, and other essential community supports. These services help reduce barriers for vulnerable households, improve quality of life, and strengthen overall neighborhood well-being. By investing in targeted, community-based programs, the city ensures that residents have access to resources that promote stability, safety, and long-term self-sufficiency.

## Projects

### AP-35 PROJECTS – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

The City of Barberton will implement a coordinated set of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects in FY 2026 to address priority community needs, strengthen neighborhood conditions, and expand opportunities for underserved residents. Projects funded during this program year focus on improving housing stability, enhancing public infrastructure, supporting essential community services, and advancing strategic reinvestment in targeted areas of the city. Each activity is designed to align with the city’s FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan goals, leverage partnerships with Summit County and local organizations, and ensure that federal resources are used effectively to deliver measurable and impactful community benefits.

During the 2026 program year, emphasis will be placed on the following project categories:

- **ADMINISTRATION & PLANNING** – Administration and Planning funds support the core management and compliance functions required to operate Barberton’s CDBG program. Activities include, but are not limited to: financial oversight, subrecipient monitoring, procurement, environmental review, citizen participation, and preparation of required HUD reports and plans. These efforts ensure accurate tracking of expenditures, adherence to federal regulations, and alignment of annual projects with the city’s long-term community development goals.
- **ACQUISITION & DEMOLITION** – The city will conduct targeted acquisition and demolition of blighted, vacant, or unsafe structures to remove hazardous conditions and prevent further neighborhood decline. Eligible activities include environmental review, asbestos assessment and abatement, demolition, and site clearance in compliance with federal and local requirements. These efforts help stabilize impacted areas and prepare sites for future redevelopment opportunities identified in community plans.
- **CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS** – CDBG funds will support targeted capital and public infrastructure improvements in eligible neighborhoods, including street and sidewalk repairs, ADA accessibility upgrades, drainage enhancements, and other safety-related improvements. These investments help improve mobility, address documented deficiencies, and strengthen neighborhood conditions in low- and moderate-income areas.
- **CODE ENFORCEMENT** – The city will use CDBG funds to support targeted code enforcement activities in designated low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. Eligible activities include inspections, enforcement of property maintenance standards, issuance of violation notices, and follow-up actions necessary to address deteriorated or unsafe conditions. These activities help prevent blight, protect public health and safety, and stabilize older residential areas by encouraging timely repairs and improved property upkeep.
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & FAÇADE IMPROVEMENTS** – CDBG funds will support targeted economic development and commercial façade improvements in eligible business districts. Activities may include exterior repairs, accessibility upgrades, lighting and signage enhancements, and other improvements that address visible blight and strengthen small business viability. These investments help revitalize commercial corridors, encourage private reinvestment, and expand economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents.
- **HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM** – CDBG funds will support the rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes for low- and moderate-income households to correct health, safety, and code deficiencies. Eligible activities include emergency repairs, essential system replacements, accessibility modifications, and other improvements needed to maintain safe, stable housing. This program helps

preserve aging housing stock, prevent deterioration, and enable residents to remain safely housed in their homes.

- **PUBLIC SERVICES** – CDBG funds will support essential public service programs that meet the needs of low- and moderate-income residents, including activities that address food insecurity, senior services, youth development, housing stability, and other critical community supports. These services help reduce barriers for vulnerable households, improve quality of life, and promote long-term stability in eligible neighborhoods.

## PROJECTS

#	Project Name
1	PY 2026 CDBG Administration & Planning
2	PY 2026 Acquisition & Demolition
3	PY 2026 Capital Infrastructure - Public Improvements
4	PY 2026 Code Enforcement
5	PY 2026 Economic Development & Facade Improvements
6	PY 2026 Housing Rehabilitation Program
7	PY 2026 Public Services

Table 3 – Project Information

### **Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs**

The city focuses its CDBG funding allocation on the areas where it can make the greatest impact for our residents – safe housing, neighborhood improvements, blight removal, small business support, and essential community services. These priorities reflect what residents identified as the most urgent needs and align with the city’s long-term revitalization goals.

While these investments make a meaningful difference, the city faces several challenges in meeting all of our community needs. Limited funding, aging housing stock, rising construction costs, and the scale of neighborhood deterioration make it difficult to address every request for assistance. The city continues to work with local partners and pursue additional resources to leverage funds, expand services, and reach more households.

## AP-38 PROJECT SUMMARY

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>PY 2026 CDBG ADMINISTRATION &amp; PLANNING</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD LMA'S OF CITY ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT SOUTH BARBERTON
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Administration & Planning
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Decent, Safe & Affordable Housing Public Health & Safety - Eliminate Slum & Blight Infrastructure Public Improvements Expand Economic Development Opportunity Support Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	<b>CDBG: \$100,000.00</b>
	<b>Description</b>	Funds are allocated to ensure compliance with reporting and documentation requirements, support ongoing CDBG activities, and facilitate planning for future projects.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	These services will provide benefits to all neighborhoods, primarily low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.
	<b>Location Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> <li>• ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>• LMA's OF CITY</li> <li>• WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>• SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Activities include, but are not limited to: financial oversight, subrecipient monitoring, procurement, environmental review, citizen participation, and preparation of required HUD reports and plans. These efforts ensure accurate tracking of expenditures, adherence to federal regulations, and alignment of annual projects with the city's long-term community development goals.

<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>PY 2026 ACQUISITION &amp; DEMOLITION</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD LMA'S OF CITY ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY SOUTH BARBERTON
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Acquisition & Demolition
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Decent, Safe & Affordable Housing Public Health & Safety - Eliminate Slum & Blight
	<b>Funding</b>	<b>CDBG: \$85,000.00</b>
	<b>Description</b>	Remove vacant, blighted housing and commercial structures that are infeasible to rehabilitate, and which represent a threat to health and safety in order to preserve and protect values and improve living conditions. Acquisition of property for future low/mod housing or economic development.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Goal: Demolish (5) deteriorated and condemned structures.
	<b>Location Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>• LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>• ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>• SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Remove vacant, blighted housing and commercial structures that are infeasible to rehabilitate, and which represent a threat to health and safety in order to preserve and protect values and improve living conditions. Acquisition of property for future low/mod housing or economic development.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>PY 2026 CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE – PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD LMA'S OF CITY ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT SOUTH BARBERTON
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Capital Infrastructure - Public Improvements

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Infrastructure Public Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	<b>CDBG: \$125,000.00</b>
	<b>Description</b>	Public Improvements to enhance the quality of life and mobility for those living in underserved areas.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Enhance public facilities or infrastructure improvements completed within the 2026 Annual Action Plan will benefit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3,000 persons assisted</li> <li>• Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Households assisted</li> </ul>
	<b>Location Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> <li>• ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>• LMA's OF CITY</li> <li>• WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>• SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Rehabilitation or enhancement of community facilities serving low- and moderate-income residents, including ADA accessibility upgrades, safety improvements, and modernization of aging public infrastructure
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>PY 2026 CODE ENFORCEMENT</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD LMA'S OF CITY ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT SOUTH BARBERTON
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Code Enforcement - Eliminate Slum & Blight
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Decent, Safe & Affordable Housing Public Health & Safety - Eliminate Slum & Blight
	<b>Funding</b>	<b>CDBG: \$64,388.00</b>
	<b>Description</b>	Code Enforcement of property maintenance to eliminate slum and blight, and ensure the health and safety of our residents.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Housing Code Enforcement/ Foreclosed Property Care: 100 Housing Units
	<b>Location Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>• LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>• ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>• SOUTH BARBERTON</li> <li>• HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> </ul>
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Code Enforcement of property maintenance to eliminate slum and blight, and ensure the health and safety of our residents.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>PY 2026 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &amp; FACADE IMPROVEMENTS</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	LMA'S OF CITY ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Economic Development & Facade Improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Expand Economic Development Opportunity
	<b>Funding</b>	<b>CDBG: \$150,000.00</b>
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will support targeted economic development and commercial façade improvements in eligible business districts. Activities may include exterior repairs, accessibility upgrades, lighting and signage enhancements, and other improvements that address visible blight and strengthen small business viability. These investments help revitalize commercial corridors, encourage private reinvestment, and expand economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Commercial building rehabilitation & Facade Improvements: 2 businesses Jobs created that will benefit underserved individuals: 6 Jobs retained that will benefit underserved individuals: 4
	<b>Location Description</b>	HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT & ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Activities may include exterior repairs, accessibility upgrades, lighting and signage enhancements, and other improvements that address visible blight and strengthen small business viability. These investments help revitalize commercial corridors, encourage private reinvestment, and expand economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents.
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>PY 2026 HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD LMA'S OF CITY ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY SOUTH BARBERTON
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Housing Rehabilitation Program
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Decent, Safe & Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	<b>CDBG: \$100,000.00</b>
	<b>Description</b>	Housing rehabilitation program for underserved households to create and maintain decent, safe, and sanitary housing.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Homeowner Housing rehabilitation for qualified residents. Goal: 10 Housing units will benefit; however, the number is contingent on the amount of rehabilitation needed per housing unit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>• LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>• ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>• SOUTH BARBERTON</li> <li>• HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Summit County Department of Community & Economic Development will facilitate the program and leverage grant funds to ensure all repairs have been completed. The program will provide lead abatement services, home weatherization activities, and minor home repairs for qualified owner-occupied households.	
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>PY 2026 PUBLIC SERVICES</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD LMA'S OF CITY ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY SOUTH BARBERTON

<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Support Non-Housing Community Development
<b>Funding</b>	<b>CDBG: \$95,000.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Programs that advance the health and safety of our underserved residents by expanding essential community services.
<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2027
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Public service activities will benefit 350 underserved households.
<b>Location Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD</li> <li>• LMA'S OF CITY</li> <li>• ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY</li> <li>• SOUTH BARBERTON</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Programs to assist victims of violence or other trauma related events, meal delivery services to elderly or shut-ins, workforce education for Barberton graduates, fair housing education programs, and 211 info line for housing, food, and other pertinent life-sustaining resources.
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	<p>These services will provide benefits to all underserved individuals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 40 Households assisted</li> </ul> <p>Tenant-based rental assistance/rapid rehousing: 40 Households assisted</p>

## AP-50 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION – 91.220(f)

### Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

Barberton, located in Summit County of northeast Ohio, spans 9.24 square miles and had a population of 25,191 according to the 2020 American Community Survey. Located directly southwest of Akron, it is a suburb in the Akron metropolitan area. The City of Barberton offers a wide range of services and amenities to both residents and businesses.

CDBG funding in the City of Barberton will be directed primarily to neighborhoods with the highest concentrations of low- and moderate-income (LMI) households, as identified through HUD LMI maps, ACS data, and local housing and code-enforcement trends. These areas are predominately located in the central, eastern, and southern portions of the city, where aging housing stock, infrastructure needs, and reinvestment gaps are most significant.

Priority geographic areas include:

- **Central Barberton** – Older residential blocks surrounding the downtown core, including portions of Census Tracts 5411 and 5412, where LMI concentrations exceed HUD thresholds and where many homes require substantial rehabilitation.
- **East Barberton** – Neighborhoods east of Wooster Road with some of the city’s highest LMI rates, a large share of aging single-family homes, and ongoing needs related to infrastructure, sidewalks, and blight removal.
- **South Barberton** – Areas south of Snyder Avenue and along the Van Buren corridor, where LMI concentrations are present and where targeted investment supports neighborhood stabilization.
- **Downtown and Adjacent Commercial Corridors** – The downtown district and nearby commercial junction along Tuscarawas Avenue and Wooster Road, where façade improvements and small business supporting activities strengthen economic vitality and benefit surrounding LMI neighborhoods.

Within these areas, the city will prioritize housing rehabilitation, public facility improvements, façade improvements, and acquisition and demolition to address deteriorated housing, eliminate blight, and support equitable neighborhood reinvestment. While eligible projects may occur citywide, the majority of CDBG resources will be concentrated in these neighborhoods to maximize impact and ensure that funding benefits residents with the greatest needs.

### Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
WUNDERLICH NEIGHBORHOOD	
LMA'S OF CITY	
ALL LMA'S OF THE CITY	100%
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT	
SOUTH BARBERTON	

**Table 3 - Geographic Distribution**

## Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Barberton’s rationale for allocating CDBG investments geographically is rooted in the specific conditions, needs, and revitalization priorities of Barberton’s neighborhoods. By concentrating funds in these locations maximizes impact, supports long-term neighborhood stability, and ensures that limited resources benefit the residents who need them most.

- **Low-/Moderate-Income Concentration Areas:** Barberton directs CDBG resources to census tracts and block groups with the highest concentrations of low- and moderate-income households, including portions of the East and West Side, the Wooster Road North corridor, and neighborhoods surrounding the Downtown/Lake Anna core. These areas consistently meet HUD’s LMI thresholds and demonstrates the greatest eligibility for CDBG supported activities.
- **Aging Housing Stock and Deferred Maintenance:** Many of Barberton’s older neighborhoods – particularly those built prior to 1940 – show higher levels of housing deterioration, code violations, and neglected upkeep. Geographic targeting ensures that housing rehabilitation, emergency repairs, and accessibility improvements reach the areas where aging structures and limited household resources intersect most profoundly.
- **Infrastructure and Accessibility Needs:** Sidewalk gaps, ADA deficiencies, and aging public infrastructure are most prevalent in Barberton’s historic residential blocks and older commercial corridors. Concentrating CDBG investments in these locations allows the city to address safety, walkability, and accessibility concerns identified through local assessments and resident feedback.
- **Alignment with Community Input and Local Priorities:** Public engagement efforts, including neighborhood meetings, stakeholder consultations, and feedback from the Barberton Home Repair Program, consistently highlight specific geographic areas where residents identify housing quality, pedestrian safety, and neighborhood appearance as priority concerns. Geographic allocation reflects these locally expressed needs.
- **Efficient Use of Limited Federal Resources:** By focusing improvements within defined neighborhoods rather than dispersing funds citywide, Barberton achieves more visible, cumulative impact. This approach reduces project costs, supports compliance with HUD performance measures, and ensures that improvements are substantial enough to meaningfully benefit eligible residents.

## Discussion

Barberton focuses its CDBG investments in neighborhoods with the highest need, especially areas with more low-and moderate-income households. These include parts of the central, east, west, and south sides of the city, where many homes, sidewalks, and infrastructure systems are older and require reinvestment.

Directing funds to these neighborhoods helps improve safety, accessibility, and overall quality of life. While some programs, like emergency home repairs, are available citywide, most CDBG projects are concentrated where they will make the biggest impact for residents who benefit the most.

## Affordable Housing

### **AP-55 AFFORDABLE HOUSING – 91.220(g)**

#### **Introduction**

The city’s affordable housing strategy focuses on preserving existing housing inventory, improving housing quality for low- and moderate-income households, and reducing conditions that contribute to housing instability. These efforts align with the FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan’s priority to reinvest in aging neighborhoods and expand access to safe, decent, and affordable housing for residents most at risk of displacement.

CDBG resources will support activities that address documented needs identified in the housing needs assessment, including rehabilitation of older homes, correction of health and safety hazards, and accessibility improvements for seniors and persons with disabilities. By focusing on preservation rather than new construction, the city maximizes the impact of limited federal funds while stabilizing long-term affordability in established neighborhoods. The affordable housing goal also advances community resilience by improving energy efficiency, extending the useful life of existing units, and ensuring that vulnerable households can remain safely housed. These investments complement broader community development objectives and support the city’s long-term commitment to maintaining a diverse and sustainable housing supply.

The City of Barberton uses an open door, unsolicited application process to identify potential CDBG sub-recipients. Proposals are reviewed by planning staff for eligibility and alignment with the FY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, then evaluated by the Planning Department, Planning Commission, Board of Control, and other city administrators to determine funding decisions.

For this program year, the city is partnering with the Summit County Department of Community & Economic Development to expand housing assistance for underserved residents. Summit County programs, such as minor home repairs, lead assessment and abatement, and weatherization, allow both entitlement communities to leverage resources and increase the impact of federal funds.

Barberton residents who meet low-to-moderate income guidelines may qualify for CDBG-supported housing assistance, including rental assistance in emergency or crisis situations. CDBG funds can be used to provide emergency rental and utility assistance to households after a needs assessment has been conducted, identifying that the household is at risk of losing housing.

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported</b>	
Homeless	5
Non-Homeless	50
Special-Needs	5
Total	60

**Table 4 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	50
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	10
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	60

**Table 5 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

**Discussion**

Barberton continues to face affordable housing challenges due to an aging housing inventory, limited reinvestment capacity among low-and moderate-income households, and ongoing cost burdens. CDBG resources for this program year focus on preserving existing affordable units through rehabilitation, emergency repairs, and accessibility improvements that address health and safety concerns and help residents remain safely housed.

These activities respond directly to needs identified in the housing needs assessment, including deteriorated structures, outdated systems, and limited accessible housing options for seniors and persons with disabilities. To expand capacity, the city is partnering with the Summit County Department of Community & Economic Development, whose minor home repair, lead hazard control, and weatherization programs complement Barberton’s CDBG efforts and increase the number of households served.

Public housing and Housing Choice Voucher programs are administered by AMHA, and CDBG funds are not used to support AMHA operations. The city’s strategy remains focused on funds on stabilizing existing neighborhoods, improving housing quality, and ensuring that low-and moderate-income households have access to safe, decent, and affordable housing.

## AP-60 PUBLIC HOUSING – 91.220(h)

### **Introduction**

Public housing needs in the City of Barberton are primarily served through the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA), which owns and manages public housing units and administers Housing Choice Vouchers for eligible residents. While Barberton is not a public housing authority and does not operate its own public housing programs, the city coordinates with AMHA to understand local housing needs, support resident stability, and align community development investments with broader regional housing strategies.

CDBG funds are not used to support AMHA operations or rental assistance, but the city's community development activities help strengthen the overall housing environment for low- and moderate-income households, including AMHA residents. Examples of such activities include but are not limited to: housing rehabilitation programs, neighborhood improvements, and accessibility modifications. Through ongoing communication with AMHA and local service providers, the city works to identify barriers faced by public housing residents and to ensure that CDBG-funded activities complement regional efforts to expand access to safe, decent, and affordable housing.

### **Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing**

During this upcoming program year, the City of Barberton will continue to coordinate with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) to monitor public housing needs and support efforts that improve resident stability and housing quality. Although the city does not operate a public housing program and does not use CDBG funds to support AMHA operations, the city will maintain regular communication with AMHA to identify emerging issues, share neighborhood-level data, and align community development activities with regional housing priorities.

CDBG funded improvements, such as neighborhood infrastructure upgrades, accessibility enhancements, and housing rehabilitation in surrounding areas, will indirectly benefit AMHA residents by strengthening the physical and social environment of the neighborhoods where public housing is located. The city will also continue to collaborate with local service providers to identify barriers faced by low-income renters, including AMHA households, and ensure that supportive programs are accessible to residents who may need them.

These coordinated efforts help reinforce AMHA's work while advancing the city's broader goal of ensuring that all residents have access to safe, decent, and affordable housing.

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

The City of Barberton coordinates with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA), which owns and manages the public housing units serving Barberton residents. AMHA encourages resident participation through its Resident Advisory Board, resident meetings, and opportunities to review and comment on policies, capital improvements, and Annual Plan updates. To support pathways toward self-

sufficiency and homeownership, AMHA provides access to the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program, financial counseling, and referrals to HUD-approved homebuyer education providers. The city supplements these efforts by sharing information on CDBG-funded housing programs, including the Barberton Home Repair Program, which helps stabilize households preparing for future homeownership.

Through this coordination, Barberton ensures that public housing residents have access to engagement opportunities, supportive services, and resources that promote long-term housing stability and homeownership readiness.

**If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance**

n/a

**Discussion**

Barberton’s approach to public housing is grounded in collaboration, preservation, and resident empowerment. Through ongoing coordination with AMHA and strategic use of CDBG resources, the city works to ensure that public housing residents live in safe, well-maintained units and have access to the services and opportunities needed to achieve long-term stability.

## AP-65 HOMELESS AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS ACTIVITIES – 91.220(i)

### Introduction

While the City of Barberton does not directly operate shelters or housing programs, the city uses CDBG resources to strengthen partnerships, support local access to services, and align with regional systems that address homelessness and housing instability. Barberton participates in the Summit County Continuum of Care (CoC), which leads regional planning, system coordination, and prioritization of resources for homeless services. The CoC manages the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the Coordinated Entry process, ensuring that individuals are assessed consistently and connected to the most appropriate housing intervention. The city's CDBG investments are designed to complement these systems and support local access to services.

The City of Barberton's commitment to prioritizes these key areas of coordination to include:

- Homeless prevention for households at imminent risk
- Supportive services for seniors, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups
- Nonprofit partnerships that expand access to housing stability resources
- Fair Housing compliance to reduce barriers for protected classes

The City of Barberton also collaborates with the Summit County Developmental Disabilities (DD), who is based in Barberton and provides supportive services designed to help both adults and children with developmental disabilities thrive and reach their full potential. In addition, several public agencies offer housing and related services in the Barberton area, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Summit County Continuum of Care
- Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
- Akron-Summit Community Action Agency
- Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board
- Area Agency on Aging
- Community Support Services
- Habitat for Humanity
- Summit Housing Development
- Children Services Board
- Board of Mental and Developmental Disabilities
- Salvation Army Barberton Corps
- United Way 2-1-1

Many of these public agencies receive funding and coordinate services with counterparts at the state and federal level.

**Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

In 2026, Barberton will continue partnering with the Summit County Continuum of Care and other non-profit organizations to identify and assist residents experiencing homelessness, with a focus on unsheltered individuals. CoC outreach teams conduct regular engagement within Barberton, complete standardized assessments, and connect individuals to emergency shelter, behavioral health services, and housing resources.

The city will support homelessness prevention for Barberton households at risk of evictions or housing loss by linking residents to case management, rental assistance programs, and stabilization services. Barberton will also work with CoC partners to reduce the time residents remain homeless by streamlining referrals to rapid rehousing and supportive housing programs.

To promote long-term stability, the city will coordinate with regional providers offering mental health care, substance use treatment, employment supports, and follow-up case management. Barberton will continue active participation in the CoC to ensure data-driven planning, resource alignment, and consistent service delivery for residents experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

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

The City of Barberton supports residents experiencing homelessness by connecting them to the Summit County Continuum of Care, which operates the region's emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. Because the city does not run its own shelter, it relies on this coordinated system to ensure residents can access safe emergency beds, meals, crisis services, and short-term transitional housing when needed.

CDBG funds help reduce shelter demand by supporting homelessness prevention, housing stabilization, and referral services that keep people safely housed or help them return to housing quickly. This coordinated approach ensures Barberton residents receive timely support and a clear path toward long-term stability.

### **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**

The strategy focuses on coordinated entry, rapid rehousing, and targeted case management to shorten the time people remain homeless. The city will work with several community organizations to expand access to units through landlord engagement, housing navigation, and referrals to subsidized housing. To prevent returns to homelessness, providers will offer follow-up stabilization services, mediation, and connections to employment, benefits, and behavioral health supports. Priority attention is given to chronically homeless individuals, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth.

### **Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: 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); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.**

The city will work with the Summit County Continuum of Care (CoC), local nonprofits, and public systems to prevent homelessness among low-income individuals and families, with a focus on extremely low-income households, people discharged from publicly funded institutions, and those receiving services from housing, health, social service, and youth serving agencies.

Key strategies include:

- Housing stabilization assistance: eviction prevention, landlord mediation, budgeting support, and connection to rental or utility assistance to help households remain safely housed.
- Service coordination with agencies providing health care, employment, youth services, and social supports to identify at risk households early and connect them to case management and benefits enrollment.
- Target outreach to extremely low-income households experiencing housing instability, including those facing sudden income loss, unsafe living conditions, or family separation risks.

These actions help stabilize vulnerable households, reduce inflow into the homeless system, and support long term housing security.

## **Discussion**

Barberton works closely with the Summit County Continuum of Care and nonprofit organizations to support residents who are experiencing homelessness or facing housing instability. The city is committed to helping residents connect to countywide services and use CDBG funds to strengthen local programs that prevent homelessness and support vulnerable households.

Our focus includes:

- Helping residents at risk of homelessness through public service programs and referrals
- Improving local facilities that serve seniors, people with disabilities, and other special-needs groups
- Supporting accessibility upgrades in homes and public spaces
- Partnering with nonprofits that provide case management, transportation, and supportive services

These efforts help ensure Barberton residents have access to safe housing, essential services, and the resources needed to remain stable and independent.

## AP-75 BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING – 91.220(j)

### Introduction:

The City of Barberton continues to evaluate the local conditions, regulatory factors, and market dynamics that limit the availability of safe, decent, and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households. While Barberton maintains a generally affordable housing stock relative to the region, persistent challenges such as aging homes, rising rehabilitation costs, limited accessible units, and financial barriers for cost-burdened residents, create obstacles to long-term housing stability.

Analysis within the City of Barberton has identified several conditions that continue to limit access to safe, decent, and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households. Key barriers include:

- **Limited affordable homeownership options:** The supply of modestly priced single-family homes remain insufficient, making it difficult for low- to moderate-income first-time home buyers to transition from renting to owning.
- **Market prices exceeding LMI purchasing power:** Although many homes are listed below national averages, sale prices still surpass what many income-eligible households can reasonably afford.
- **High rehabilitation costs:** The expense of essential repairs and system upgrades places a significant burden on underserved households. Limited access to traditional financing further restricts the ability of low-income residents to maintain or improve aging homes.
- **Minimum lot size requirements:** larger lot standards increase land costs and reduce the feasibility of constructing small, more affordable units.
- **Regulatory and infrastructure related costs:** local ordinances and development standards related to stormwater management, sidewalks, and landscaping can add substantial costs to new construction, creating financial barriers to producing affordable housing.
- **Community resistance (NIMBYism):** Opposition to affordable housing development continues to influence site selection and delay projects, reflecting long-standing challenges associated with fair housing implementation.
- **Limited public transportation:** Inadequate transit options restrict where affordable housing can be effectively located and reduce access to employment, services, and amenities for residents.

To address these barriers, the city is expanding its targeted housing outreach to ensure that critical information reaches underserved populations. Strategies include using relevant media channels, sharing resources through local churches and community events, and tailoring outreach to specific demographic groups. Throughout the 2026 program year, Barberton remains committed to reducing obstacles, strengthening equitable access to housing opportunities, and mitigating the impacts of these barriers on low- and moderate-income residents.

**Actions it planned 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.**

The City of Barberton is taking steps to make it easier to build, preserve, and improve affordable housing. These efforts focus on updating local policies, reducing unnecessary costs, and supporting reinvestment in older neighborhoods. The following key elements are detailed below:

- Reviewing local zoning rules to allow a wider range of housing types and encourage reinvestment in existing neighborhoods.
- Improving the permitting and development process so projects move more efficiently and cost-effectively.
- Evaluating fees and charges to ensure they do not create unnecessary barriers for income-restricted housing.
- Supporting code-related repairs through CDBG funded rehabilitation programs that help low- and moderate-income homeowners stay safely housed.
- Preserving existing affordable homes by investing in rehabilitation and preventing deterioration that leads to vacancy or demolition.
- Working with regional partners to align policies and share strategies that expand affordable housing opportunities across the area.

These action help ensure that public policies support, rather than hinder, the availability of safe, stable, and affordable housing for Barberton residents.

#### **Discussion:**

The City of Barberton continues to face several challenges that make it difficult for residents, especially low- and moderate-income households, to find and maintain affordable housing. Many of these barriers stem from older housing stock, rising rehabilitation costs, and local policies that can unintentionally limit where and how new housing can be built.

The city's analysis shows that limited affordable single-family homes, high repair costs, and difficulty accessing financing remain major obstacles for first-time buyers and low-income homeowners. In some areas, zoning requirements, minimum lot sizes, and development-related costs can make it harder to build smaller, more affordable homes. Environmental conditions, such as brownfield sites, also restrict development opportunities and require resources that are increasingly difficult to secure. In addition, community resistance to new affordable housing and limited public transportation options reduce the number of viable locations for new units.

To address these issues, Barberton is working to update local policies, support rehabilitation of existing homes, and expand outreach to ensure residents understand available housing programs. Through CDBG funded repairs, targeted neighborhood investment, and ongoing coordination with local partners, the city aims to reduce these barriers and improve access to safe, stable, and affordable housing for all residents.

## **AP-85 OTHER ACTIONS – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

The City of Barberton uses its CDBG program to address community needs that extend beyond housing and infrastructure. The following section outlines the additional actions the city will take during the 2026 program year to support underserved residents, strengthen neighborhood conditions, and improve overall quality of life. These efforts focus on reducing poverty, expanding access to services, improving coordination among local partners, and addressing barriers that limit economic opportunity and housing stability. Through these actions, Barberton aims to ensure that federal resources are used effectively and equitably to benefit residents with the greatest needs.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

The City of Barberton recognizes that many residents continue to face challenges related to housing stability, access to services, and economic opportunity. Limited financial resources, aging housing stock, and gaps in supportive services create obstacles that excessively affect low- and moderate-income households. To address these needs, the city will take several coordinated actions during the 2026 program year.

- Expanding access to essential services by supporting public service programs that assist seniors, individuals with disabilities, low-income families, and residents experiencing housing insecurity.
- Investing in housing rehabilitation to help low- and moderate-income homeowners address health, safety, and accessibility issues that they cannot afford to repair on their own.
- Strengthening partnerships with local nonprofits, regional agencies, and service providers to coordinate resources and reduce service gaps.
- Improving outreach and program awareness so residents understand how to access available housing, repair, and supportive service programs.
- Targeting resources to high-need neighborhoods where aging homes, lower incomes, and limited access to services create persistent barriers.
- Supporting fair housing efforts to ensure residents are aware of their rights and have equal access to safe, affordable housing options.

Through these actions, Barberton aims to reduce barriers, strengthen community supports, and ensure that underserved residents have greater access to the resources they need to remain safe, stable, and self-sufficient.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

The City of Barberton will continue taking targeted actions to preserve existing affordable housing and support residents who face challenges maintaining safe and stable homes. Because much of Barberton's housing inventory is older and in need of repair, the city's primary focus is on rehabilitation, preservation, and preventing the loss of affordable units.

Key actions planned for the 2026 program year include:

- Supporting housing rehabilitation programs that help low-income homeowners address health, safety, and accessibility issues, allowing them to remain safely housed.
- Preventing deterioration and vacancy by investing CDBG funds in critical repairs that extend the life of existing affordable homes.
- Coordinating with local partners such as nonprofits, lenders, and housing agencies to expand resources for low- and moderate-income households.
- Promoting fair housing awareness to ensure residents understand their rights and have equal access to housing opportunities.
- Encouraging reinvestment in older neighborhoods through targeted improvements that stabilize property values and support long-term affordability.
- Providing guidance and technical assistance to homeowners navigating code requirements, financing challenges, or repair needs.

Through these actions, Barberton aims to preserve affordable housing, reduce displacement, and strengthen neighborhood stability, ensuring that residents have access to safe, decent, and affordable home.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

The City of Barberton will continue taking proactive steps to reduce lead-based paint hazards, particularly in older homes occupied by low- and moderate-income households. Because much of Barberton's housing inventory was built before 1978, identifying and addressing lead risks remains a key public health priority.

Planned actions for the 2026 program year include:

- Implementing HUD required lead-safe practices in all CDBG funded rehabilitation projects, including paint testing, risk assessments, and safe work methods.
- Providing lead hazard information to homeowners and tenants to ensure residents understand risks and available resources.
- Coordinating with Summit County Public Health on lead inspections, referrals, and follow-up for homes with identified hazards.
- Prioritizing units with young children for rehabilitation assistance when lead risks are present.
- Ensuring contractor compliance with EPA Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) certification requirements.
- Supporting remediation through CDBG rehabilitation by funding eligible repairs that eliminate deteriorated paint, address friction surfaces, and improve overall housing safety.

Through these actions, Barberton aims to reduce exposure to lead hazards, protect vulnerable households, and improve the safety of older homes across the community.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

The City of Barberton will continue implementing strategies that help low- and moderate-income households achieve greater economic stability and reduce the number of families living in poverty.

Because poverty is influenced by multiple factors, including limited access to services, aging housing, and barriers to employment, the city focuses on coordinated, practical actions that strengthen household stability and expand opportunity.

Planned actions for the 2026 program year include:

- Supporting essential public services that assist seniors, individuals with disabilities, low-income families, and residents facing housing insecurity.
- Investing in housing rehabilitation to reduce cost burdens, prevent displacement, and help families remain safely housed.
- Encouraging neighborhood revitalization to improve living conditions and support long-term economic stability.
- Strengthening partnerships with local agencies that provide job training, financial counseling, food assistance, and other supports that help families move toward self-sufficiency.
- Improving outreach and program awareness so residents understand how to access available services and resources.
- Promoting fair housing and equal access to ensure all residents can pursue stable housing and economic opportunity.

Through these coordinated efforts, Barberton aims to reduce economic hardship, strengthen family stability, and expand pathways out of poverty for residents with the greatest needs.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The City of Barberton will continue improving how local departments and community partners work together to deliver CDBG funded projects and services. Key actions include:

- **Stronger coordination** – City departments will work more closely to streamline planning, budgeting, and project delivery.
- **Staff development** – Staff will participate in HUD trainings and technical assistance to stay current on federal requirements.
- **Community partnerships** – The city will collaborate with nonprofits, service providers, and neighborhood groups to better identify needs and expand local capacity.
- **Clearer communication** – Barberton will provide updated guidance and maintain regular communication with subrecipients to support compliance and performance.
- **Monitoring and accountability** – The city will continue strengthening oversight to ensure programs meet goals and follow federal rules.

### **Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies**

The City of Barberton will continue working closely with public housing partners, private landlords, and local service agencies to ensure residents can easily access the help they need.

Planned efforts include:

- Regular partner check-ins: Ongoing communication with housing providers and service agencies to share updates and identify community needs.
- Stronger referral connections: Making it easier for residents to be connected to rental assistance, housing programs, and supportive services.
- Landlord engagement: Working with landlords to expand affordable housing options and promote fair housing practices.
- Shared outreach: Coordinating public information efforts so residents know what housing and support programs are available.
- Regional collaboration: Participating in countywide housing and service coordination to ensure Barberton residents benefit from broader regional resources.

**Discussion:**

The City of Barberton will take several steps this year to support residents beyond housing and infrastructure improvements. These efforts focus on improving access to services, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring residents know where to turn for help.

The city will work with local nonprofits, public agencies, and countywide partners to share information, coordinate referrals, and connect residents to programs such as emergency assistance, senior services, youth programs, and workforce resources. Fair housing education will continue through outreach to residents and landlords, along with referrals to appropriate agencies when concerns arise.

These actions help ensure that Barberton families can more easily access the services and support they need to remain stable and thrive.

## **PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

### **AP-90 PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)**

**Introduction:**

The City of Barberton is committed to ensuring that CDBG resources are managed responsibly and directed toward activities that deliver meaningful, measurable community benefit. All anticipated Program Year 2026 CDBG funds have been fully allocated to the projects identified in this Annual Action Plan. These activities are detailed in the Projects Table, which lists every project expected to be supported with available CDBG resources.

## Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

All activities to be supported with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the 2026 Program Year are listed in the Projects Table, which outlines the scope, national objectives, and anticipated outcomes for each funded project. In addition to the annual entitlement allocation, the city has identified program income that will be available for use during the year. These program income resources are incorporated into the applicable projects and will be fully expended in accordance with CDBG requirements.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	<b>\$50,000</b>
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	<b>70.00%</b>

### Discussion:

The City of Barberton uses its annual CDBG allocation in accordance with all federal program requirements and ensures that funds are directed toward activities that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income residents. During the 2026 Program Year, the city does not anticipate generating program income or carrying out activities that trigger special requirements such as float-funded projects or urgent need certifications. If program income is received, it will be used to support eligible community development activities consistent with the goals of the 2026 Annual Action Plan.

The city will continue to track expenditures, maintain compliance with national objectives, and ensure that all CDBG funded projects meet HUD's regulatory standards. These efforts help guarantee that resources are used responsibly, transparently, and in ways that provide meaningful benefit to Barberton residents and neighborhoods.