

July 14 2025

Response to Public Hearing Inquiry

The first public hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan was held on April 14th at 10am in the Hearing Room at 369 S. High St. to receive public comment and questions related to the priority housing and community development needs in the county.

The Franklin County Administrator, Kenneth N. Wilson, and the Economic Development and Planning department were presented with the following question at the public hearing:

Question for you around the special needs and the population, are we still defining special needs or populations that potentially are marginalized considering some of the rollbacks around DEI and the definitions of those populations? Are we still standing in that 2024 definition, or should there be another consideration as we move forward with that in comments?

Franklin County response:

Federal Regulation, specifically <u>24 CFR Part 91</u>, governs the required elements of a Consolidated Plan. The consolidated plan serves the following functions:

- (1) A planning document for the jurisdiction, which builds on a participatory process among citizens, organizations, businesses, and other stakeholders;
- (2) A submission for federal funds under HUD's formula grant programs for jurisdictions;
- (3) A strategy to be followed in carrying out HUD programs; and
- (4) A management tool for assessing performance and tracking results. [24 CFR 91.1(b)]

Special needs populations are covered under <u>24 CFR 91.205</u> (d) other special needs. This section requires that the jurisdiction provide an estimate of non-homeless persons that require supportive housing, including:

- Elderly,
- Frail elderly,
- Persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental),

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- Persons with alcohol or other drug addiction,
- Persons with HIV/AIDS and their families,
- Public housing residents, and
- Any other category the jurisdiction may specify

The plan must also describe the supportive housing needs for any populations included. There are several sections of the regulation (24 CFR Part 91) which require consideration of these special needs populations in the needs assessment and market analysis.

Franklin County administration formally releases this response to the inquiry received at the public hearing. For additional inquiries regarding the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan, please contact the community development team at communitydevelopment@franklincountyohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Kenneth N. Wilson

Rannoth N. Wilson

Franklin County Administrator

Pursuant to Authority via Resolution No. 0635-24

Approval as to Form Shayla D. Favor, Franklin County Prosecutor

Brianna T. Morris

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

07/11/2025

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