

DEPARTMENT SUMMARY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING

Mission Statement

To build strong communities physically, socially, and economically.

Department Description

The Department provides, or facilitates housing, homeless, social service, employment, neighborhood revitalization, and community outreach and education programs and services to the community. The department acts as a broker, bringing together residents, property owners, developers, community agencies and/or businesses to achieve the mission and to improve the quality of life for community as a whole.

The Department is comprised of four main Sections: 1) Neighborhood Services, including Code Enforcement, graffiti removal and community education and outreach; 2) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), including grant planning and administration for social services, neighborhood improvements and homeless programs; 3) Housing Division; including rental assistance, and development and preservation of affordable housing; and Workforce Development, including grant administration, employment and training programs and business services.

The Department has three Boards/Commissions to which it is accountable: 1) the Housing Authority of the City of Glendale; 2) the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee and 3) the Verdugo Workforce Investment Board (a consortium of Glendale, Burbank and La Canada Flintridge).

Relationship to City Strategic Goals

- Community Planning and Character

The Department, through Neighborhood Services, initiates a number of programs to instill pride in the community, including beautification recognition programs, an annual poster contest for youth, participation in the national Keep America Beautiful effort and neighborhood improvement efforts, including the annual graffiti removal and clean up day, adopt a block programs and neighborhood festivals.

- Community Services and Facilities

Through the federal grant programs, the Department provides planning, coordination and funding for social services, improvement of parks, libraries and community centers, handicapped accessibility projects, community involvement, job training and upgrading public improvements. The Verdugo Jobs Center and Neighborhood Services focus on excellent customer service, adaptable and responsive to changing needs of the labor market, economic conditions and community standards.

- Economic Vitality

The Department through the Workforce Development Division strives to provide policy direction, programs and services toward the development of a skilled labor force to promote the retention and expansion of local business as well as the creation and attraction of high wage/high growth employers. Programs include specialized grants for lay off aversion and

specific business downsizing as well as skill training in high demand growth industries such as health care, entertainment and "green" initiatives.

- Housing

The Department strives to provide housing opportunities for all segments of the community, including safe, decent, sanitary, affordable and special needs housing. The Department works directly with non-profit and private developers, non-profit agencies, multi family property owners and residents to achieve this goal. The Department provides education and counseling regarding tenant/landlord rights, homeownership, housing codes, community standards, and property management.

- Safe Community

Through its community development, homeless, housing and code enforcement programs, the Department works to ensure that houses, buildings and infrastructure are safe, and free of blight, and that citizens feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods and take personal responsibility.

Major Accomplishments

The Housing Choice Voucher Program continues to be designated as a "High Performer" by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the program continues to assist 2,900 residents with rental assistance. In FY 2008-2009, one new development project was completed, comprised of 43 units and three additional new development projects were approved for 126 additional units to be constructed. Since July 1, 2008, the Verdugo Jobs Center enrolled over 5,000 persons in employment programs, in addition to 450 youth in youth employment. Seven special grant projects were completed addressing needs of the mortgage finance industry, local entertainment companies and a lay from the Interstate Bakery closure. The Department, in partnership with three non-profit agencies completed construction on three community centers. Second hand smoke ordinance was adopted by City Council, an update to the Quality of Life Indicators document was initiated through the Healthier Communities Coalition and ground was broken for the neighborhood based community garden.

Changes from Prior Year

- Budget Changes

The Department's FY 2008-2009 revised budget is \$ 39,972,000. The FY 2009-2010 proposed budget is \$38,028,094. Generally, federal grant allocations for workforce development, community development, homeless and housing development and preservation will remain the same as the current levels, before the City begins to receive Economic Stimulus funding. For the most part, a reduction in the proposed budget correlates with a reduction in the Low-Mod Housing program income and carry over fund balance.

- Staffing Changes:

A Program Specialist position was eliminated in the Neighborhood Services Section.

- Organizational/Program Changes:

As a result of the citywide budget reduction, the Neighborhood Services Section eliminated the Court Referral Community Service Program, which reduces the number of community clean-up projects that can be performed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING - GENERAL FUND			
	Actual Expenditures 2007-08	Original Budget 2008-09	Proposed Budget 2009-10
Salaries & Benefits	1,963,349	2,925,867	2,898,454
Maintenance & Operations	384,052	445,485	433,950
Capital Outlay	37,989	6,800	-
Total Appropriations	2,385,390	3,378,152	3,332,404

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING - OTHER FUNDS			
	Actual Expenditures 2007-08	Original Budget 2008-09	Proposed Budget 2009-10
Salaries & Benefits	7,593,239	8,553,155	8,800,121
Maintenance & Operations	19,819,522	20,932,580	24,363,355
Capital Outlay	-	100,000	-
Projects	4,439,902	7,089,961	1,433,988
Unallocated	-	-	98,226
Total Appropriations	31,852,663	36,675,696	34,695,690

Future Outlook

The Department anticipates receiving additional funding in 2009 and 2010, as part of the federal government's Economic Stimulus Program, especially for homeless prevention services.

Under the federal government's mandate, these funds will need to be put to use quickly and under strict eligibility and accountability guidelines, which means that the Department will need to add positions to manage and oversee the funds and to expand programs starting in the current fiscal year and into next fiscal year. It is further anticipated that with the new federal administration, annual funding for most federal programs administered by the Department will be increased over current levels.

New affordable housing construction projects will be minimal because all available revenue from the Low Mod fund has been allocated to projects and debt service over the next five years, and only Federal HOME funds will be

available. Neighborhood Services will focus on implementation of the second hand smoke ordinance, developing strategies for administrative citation and proactive code enforcement of egregious code violators.

It is not anticipated that there will be much improvement in the economy, and there will continue to be pressure to assist the thousands of job seekers to avail themselves of VJC services and to assist businesses experiencing lay offs.

Future goals include to develop a chronic homeless emergency housing program; to successfully and creatively absorb and integrate the federal economic stimulus funding; to prepare a new five year (2010-2015) strategic plan for identifying and meeting the community development and housing needs of the community; and continue to further develop and expand the integrated service delivery model at the Verdugo Jobs Center.