

CITY OF ROUND ROCK CDBG 2026-2027 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN COMMENTS RECIEVED

The following five (5) non-profits agencies and three (3) residents attended a spoke at the CDBG Needs Assessment Public Hearing regarding the CDBG 2026 Annual Action Plan on March 26, 2026:

1. Pamela Pordos, Home Repair Program Recipient: advocate for home repair program as it is a needed program.
2. Drive A Senior Social Service agency-Director Jill Skinner requesting continued support for senior transportation as this program allows seniors access to healthcare, grocery stores, pharmacies and most important human connection.
3. Delores Ivery, Home Repair Program Recipient: very grateful for home repair program assistance. Advocating for continued support of the program.
4. Ruby Hooks, Home Repair Recipient: so thankful for home repair assistance. Advocating for continued support of the program.
5. Sleep in Heavenly Peace social service agency: Greg Brill, Director. Requesting continued support for this program that provides bed for low-income children in Round Rock. Stating there is an increased need for their services.
6. Hope Alliance social service agency. Rick Brown, CEO, requesting continued support for the domestic violence shelter in Round Rock and stating that there is an increased need for victim services.
7. Sacred Heart Community Clinic social service agency. Chris Rivera, Director requesting continued funding and stating that there is an increased need for their health services for the low income and uninsured in Round Rock.
8. Streams in the Valley social service agency. Jennifer Hicks, counselor, requesting funding for their faith-based counseling program. Stating there is a need for their services in Round Rock.

The following six (6) non-profits responded to our email regarding the CDBG 2026 Needs Assessment Public Hearing Notice:

1. Texas Baptist Children's Home Ex. Director, Debbie Ripstein
2. CASA of Williamson County Ex. Director Marissa Austin
3. Round Rock Area Serving Center Ex. Director Lori Scott
4. Foundation Communities Erica Leos, Director of Prosper Programs
5. Opportunities for Williamson-Burnet Counties/Meals on Wheels Ex. Director Marco Cruz
6. Capital Idea Ex. Director Alyssa Palacios-Woods

Liz Alvarado

From: Liz Alvarado
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 3:24 PM
To: Liz Alvarado
Subject: FW: Impact of Capital IDEA Funding on Round Rock Residents

From: Alyssia Palacios-Woods <apalacioswoods@capitalidea.org>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 4:42 PM
To: Liz Alvarado <ealvarado@roundrocktexas.gov>; Nicole McQuade <nmcquade@roundrocktexas.gov>
Cc: Amy Silvey <ASilvey@capitalidea.org>
Subject: Impact of Capital IDEA Funding on Round Rock Residents

Liz: Thank you for sharing this with the Mayor and Council Members!

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Dear Mayor and Council Members:

I'm writing to share the significant impact City of Round Rock support has on residents participating in Capital IDEA's Workforce Development Program. Thanks to your investment, 80 Round Rock residents are currently enrolled in long-term career training that leads directly to living-wage employment. Since our first application in 2024, demand for Capital IDEA services in Round Rock has increased by 30%, as reflected in our increased student enrollment.

These students, 43% of whom are single parents, are preparing for high-demand careers such as healthcare and IT, fields critical to the region's workforce needs. Your funding removes barriers that often prevent low-income adults from completing their education, covering essential costs such as tuition, textbooks, transportation, childcare, and emergency assistance.

The return on your investment is clear: last year, Capital IDEA graduates entered the workforce earning an average starting wage over \$33 per hour, with 30% earning between \$35-\$65 per hour - a transformative increase from the average \$12 per hour these students were earning when they came to us. These wage gain outcomes strengthen families, reduce reliance on public assistance, and expand the pipeline of skilled workers for Round Rock employers.

Thank you for all you do to support Round Rock! We are grateful for your funding consideration and for the opportunity to continue supporting Round Rock residents on their path to economic stability.

Very respectfully,

Alyssia Palacios-Woods, CFRE
Executive Director

Liz Alvarado

From: Liz Alvarado
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 3:23 PM
To: Liz Alvarado
Subject: FW: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

From: Marco Cruz <macruz@owbc-tx.org>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 1:38 PM
To: Liz Alvarado <ealvarado@roundrocktexas.gov>
Subject: FW: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

Liz,

I apologize for the late response. It's been a fast week. Not sure if we can still provide some email testimonials, however, here is what I can provide.

Based out of the City of Round Rock Allen R. Baca Center, our Meals on Wheels program is a lifeline for older adults in the Round Rock community. Opportunities for Williamson County along with the dedication of 67 volunteers, provides far more than a meal — OWBC delivers connection and safety to those who need it most. Each day, OWBC delivers nutritious lunches to 131 homebound seniors. For many, this is more than a meal, it's a wellness check and often the only personal interaction the seniors receive all day. Our volunteers ensure that every delivery comes with a friendly face and a moment of conversation. We also serve 322 congregate clients who join us for a noontime meal at the Baca Center. These gatherings offer daily social interaction, weekly activities, and a welcoming environment. This program helps older adults stay active, engaged, and connected. We understand how important pets are to our clients. When possible (donated funds) we offer pet assistance and connect clients with additional resources for pet care. Keeping seniors and their beloved companions together is an essential part of our mission.

Although most of the Funding for the meals is provided through the US Federal Grants through the US Department of Agriculture, the grant does not cover the entire cost. OWBC is grateful for the partnership and funding provided by the City of Round Rock Community Development Block Grant along with Local Foundations and Donations that cover the remaining costs. These additional funds are essential to ensure any qualified clients are not turned away.

From: Marco Cruz <macruz@owbc-tx.org>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 9:12 AM
To: Sharla Mikeska <smikeska@owbc-tx.org>; Dori Yeater <development@owbc-tx.org>

Liz Alvarado

From: Liz Alvarado
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 3:22 PM
To: Liz Alvarado
Subject: FW: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

From: Erika Leos <Erika.Leos@Foundcom.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 4:05 PM
To: Liz Alvarado <ealvarado@roundrocktexas.gov>; Nicole McQuade <nmcquade@roundrocktexas.gov>
Subject: RE: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

For CDBG Public Hearing:

The purpose of our Tax Help in Round Rock program is to economically empower low- and moderate-income residents, many of whom constitute the working poor, that is, part-time and minimum wage workers. We provide low-income Round Rock residents with free, high-quality tax preparation services so they can avoid paying to file their taxes with paid tax preparation services that charge an average fee of \$250 per tax return. Additionally, this program increases the refunds returned to our Round Rock site clients by applying our specialized expertise in refundable tax credits that many of our filers qualify for, specifically the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). The IRS estimates that roughly one in five eligible taxpayers "miss out on claiming this valuable credit" (Newsweek, February 2025). By not claiming these refunds and by paying for tax preparation services, low-income Round Rock residents would be economically disempowered because of a heavily diminished or non-existent refund. Access to free tax preparation services with professional IRS-certified preparers helps LMI individuals and families in Round Rock maximize their refunds and increase their financial stability. Recipients of these refunds often use them to pay for basic necessities, such as rent, bills, childcare, and vehicle and home maintenance, all of which support the local economy.

FC's serves approximately 600 clients at the Round Rock site each tax season, which is partially funded (about 49%) by CDBG. In the 2025 tax season, we obtained a total of \$973,132 in tax refunds for our Round Rock site clients. Approximately 98% of our clients are LMI, complying with HUD's definition of a household being at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI).

Thank you!

Erika Leos

Erika Leos
Pronouns: she/her/ella
Director of Prosper Programs
Foundation Communities
512-610-7387 (office)

Liz Alvarado

From: Liz Alvarado
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 3:22 PM
To: Liz Alvarado
Subject: FW: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

From: Scott Lori <lori_c_scott@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 9:11 AM
To: Liz Alvarado <ealvarado@roundrocktexas.gov>
Subject: Re: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

Good morning! We have rodeo tickets tonight so I won't be able to attend.

The Serving Center assists 1,200 households every month with food and financial assistance. The food distribution programs increased by 8% last year and processed 1.8M lbs of food serving 28,800 households. CDBG funding has supported the pantry to purchase food from the Central Texas Food Bank. CDBG funding has also supported the housing assistance program for rental help for low-income working families.

Lori Scott
Executive Director
Round Rock Area Serving Center

P.O. Box 5006, 1099 E. Main Street, Round Rock, TX 78683
(512) 244-2431 fax (512) 255-0913 www.rrasc.org
Philippians 4:13

Liz Alvarado

From: Liz Alvarado
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 3:21 PM
To: Liz Alvarado
Subject: FW: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

From: Debbie Rippstein Bond <Debbie.Rippstein@tbch.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 8:48 AM
To: Liz Alvarado <ealvarado@roundrocktexas.gov>; Nicole McQuade <nmcquade@roundrocktexas.gov>
Subject: RE: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

Liz,

Thank you for this opportunity to share with the City Council. Unfortunately, I am out of town, as are several of my Program Directors. I do want to report how many we served last year and emphasize the growing need.

In 2025:

66 mothers called TBCH their home
127 children also called TBCH their home, as well as 30 young adults between the ages of 18 and 24.

We provided 12,583 hours of no-cost counseling to our community

We served 121 mother and their 217 children who are a part of our after-care program. This could have been a one-time food assistance, presents for birthdays and Christmas, or continued counseling for their family.

We are grateful for the 3733 volunteers who provided 10,206 hours of service on our campus.

Last year was a big year, celebrating 75 years of service to the Round Rock and Williamson County community. The need is great. That is why we intend to double our capacity over the next few years.

Your support can make the difference from being able to say “yes, we can help you now” instead of “we’ll put you on our waiting list. Last year, we had over 290 families who asked for housing. This does not count the hundreds of other inquiries that did not follow through with an application because the wait was too long.

We are grateful for the CBDG funds we have received in the past. I hope you will consider our request for a larger amount because we want to say YES to as many as possible.

Just as a reminder, we offer our Family Care Program for single parents with children, our Home Base for young adults aging out of foster care or on the verge of homelessness, and our Welcome Home Center that offers young adults a place to get their GED or get specialized training such as phlebotomy or CAN certifications. They also receive counseling, computer access, meals, and the opportunity to shower and wash their clothes.

We currently have three community counseling centers offering professional counseling to children, youth, families and senior adults.

I’m sorry I cannot be there in person, but I hope this information is helpful.

Gratefully,

Debbie

Debbie Rippstein Bond | President

Texas Baptist Children’s Home | 1101 N Mays St | Round Rock, TX 78664

Phone (512) 255-3682 | Fax (512) 388-2647

www.tbch.org

Embracing hearts. Empowering lives. Equipping champions.

Liz Alvarado

From: Liz Alvarado
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 3:19 PM
To: Liz Alvarado
Subject: FW: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting

Importance: High

From: Marissa Austin <marissa.austin@casawilco.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 9:04 AM
To: Liz Alvarado <ealvarado@roundrocktexas.gov>
Subject: RE: Needs Assessment Public Hearing tomorrow at 6pm-council chambers during council meeting
Importance: High

Hi Elizabeth,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments for the Needs Assessment public hearing. While I am unable to attend in person, I would be grateful if you would share the following with the Mayor and City Council on behalf of CASA of Williamson County.

CASA of Williamson County serves some of the most vulnerable children in our community, children who have been removed from their homes because of abuse or neglect and are now facing an uncertain future. In the middle of fear, loss, and instability, these children need someone whose only job is to speak up for them and ensure they are not forgotten. That is the role CASA plays.

Our trained, court appointed advocates stand beside children as they move through the child welfare system, helping them find safety, stability, and, ultimately, a loving and permanent home. For many of the children we serve, their CASA advocate is the one constant adult presence during one of the most difficult times in their lives.

For the upcoming program year, CASA is proposing to serve approximately 300 children in Williamson County, including an estimated 60 children who are residents of Round Rock. Nearly all of the children served through this project come from low income households. Funding from the City of Round Rock would help support two Advocate Supervisors, whose work ensures that children and volunteers receive the guidance, consistency, and support needed for each case.

Continued funding is so important because behind every number is a child who has experienced trauma and deserves the chance to feel safe, heard, and valued. Without CASA's advocacy, children can remain longer in foster care, face more placement changes, and move through the court process without the steady, individualized support they need. Our advocates help make sure each child's best interests remain at the center of every decision.

We are deeply grateful for the City of Round Rock's partnership and for your commitment to children and families in this community. Your support helps give hope to children who need it most.

Sincerely,

Marissa

Marissa A. Austin, M.A.

Chief Executive Officer

CASA of Williamson County, TX

2100 Scenic Drive, Suite 110

Georgetown, TX 78626

512.868.2822 Tel

512.868.2994 Fax

www.casawilco.org

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EXHIBIT
"A"

THE STAGES IN THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN PROCESS

Needs Assessment Public Hearings

The City will conduct two Needs Assessment Public Hearings during each Program Year. The purpose of each Needs Assessment Public Hearing is to obtain citizens' views, and respond to proposals and questions, regarding housing and community development needs and proposed activities. All proposals and questions must be submitted in writing at least five working days prior to the Needs Assessment Public Hearing. The first Needs Assessment Public Hearing will be held during the development of the Consolidated Plan, prior to the publication of the Consolidated Plan. The second Needs Assessment Public Hearing will be held at least ninety days after the publication of the Consolidated Plan but before the end of the Program Year.

General Information

Prior to the adoption of a Consolidated Plan, the City shall make available to the public, public agencies, and other interested parties HUD-provided data the City will be using to create the Consolidated Plan or Assessment of Fair Housing, an estimate of the amount of CDBG funds the City expects to receive, along with a description of the range of types of activities that can be funded with these resources and an estimate of the amount of these funds which will be used in ways that will benefit low and moderate income people. This information will be sent in writing to local institutions providing services to low- to moderate-income people.

Publication

At any time following the first Needs Assessment Public Hearing in a Program Year, the City will publish a summary of the proposed Consolidated Plan in the Round Rock Leader and shall make copies of the proposed Consolidated Plan available at the Round Rock Public Library, the Allen R. Baca Center, and City Hall, and shall provide a reasonable amount of copies when requested at no charge. The summary of the proposed Consolidated Plan shall describe the contents and purpose of the proposed Consolidated Plan and shall include a list of locations where the entire proposed Consolidated Plan may be reviewed.

Public Comment

The City will receive comments on the proposed Consolidated Plan for at least thirty days following publication of the summary of the proposed Consolidated Plan. The City will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing or verbally at public hearings when preparing a final Consolidated Plan.

City Council Hearing and Adoption

A public hearing regarding the proposed Consolidated Plan will be conducted by the City Council at least 30 days after publication of the summary of the proposed Consolidated Plan. The purpose of such public hearing shall be to consider the adoption of the proposed Consolidated Plan.

Disaster or Declaration of Emergency

In the event of a disaster or a declaration of emergency, public notice may be altered to the direction of HUD or accommodating the best possible effort from staff to meet the 15 day minimum requirement. A minimum of 5 days' notice shall be accommodated if unable to meet the fifteen 15 day minimum. Meetings, including the public hearing, will be facilitated by the most feasible means at the time (ex. virtual or call-in meetings in lieu of public gatherings). At a minimum, the meetings must still comply with the Open Meetings Act.

Substantial Amendments

A change to the City's planned or actual activities shall constitute a Substantial Amendment, as that term is used in 24 CFR § 91.105(c), to a Consolidated Plan if it meets all of the following criteria:

1. A change in the use of CDBG funds from one eligible activity to another;
2. A change in the location or beneficiaries of an activity;
3. A change in the scope of a project, such that the project costs increase or decrease by 25% or more; and
4. Such change is not listed as an Alternate Project, described below.

Prior to the adoption of a Substantial Amendment, the City shall:

1. Provide notice of such Substantial Amendment in conformance with Public Notice section or Disaster or Declaration of Emergency section of this Citizen Participation Plan, including a summary of the proposed Substantial Amendment;
2. Receive comments regarding the Substantial Amendment for a period of at least thirty days following publication of notice or at least five days in the event of a disaster or declaration of emergency; and
3. Consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing, or orally at public hearings, if any, in preparing the Substantial Amendment.

ANNUAL ACTION PLANS

An Annual Action Plan is adopted as part of every Consolidated Plan. In a year in which the City does not adopt a new Consolidated Plan, the City shall adopt a separate Annual Action Plan for such year in conformance with the procedures regarding the adoption of a Consolidated Plan.

Alternate Projects

The Annual Action Plan will include a list of alternate projects (each an "Alternate Project"). If, in the opinion of the City, a funded project is unreasonably delayed, experiences a significant increase in actual cost, becomes impracticable to complete, or if additional funds become available due to cost savings on a funded project, the City Council may select an Alternate Project from the relevant Annual Action Plan to effectively utilize CDBG funds.

ASSESSMENT OF FAIR HOUSING

The Assessment of Fair Housing (the "AFH") assesses local fair housing issues, concerns, and activities and sets priorities and goals to overcome historic patterns of segregation and promote housing choice. An AFH is conducted at least every five years. The AFH includes an analysis of past goals and priorities, a local knowledge section developed through the citizen participation process, analysis of HUD data, and identification of new goals and priorities.

Procedures for Development of the AFH

1. **Needs Assessment.** In depth data analysis of fair housing needs for the City on data provided by HUD, combined with local knowledge obtained through the community participation process.
2. **Public Hearing.** After the needs assessment is completed and provided to the public for comment and review, a public hearing will be held to discuss the proposed contents of the AFH. Notice of the public hearing will be given pursuant to this policy.
3. **Draft AFH.** After the needs assessment is completed and provided to the public for comment and review, the AFH will be drafted. The draft AFH will be provided to residents and stakeholders for comment and review for no fewer than 30 days.
4. **Final AFH.** The AFH with public comments included will be provided to HUD for approval.

AFH Revisions

Revisions to an AFH previously accepted by HUD must be revised and submitted to HUD for review under the following circumstances and in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 5.164:

1. A material change occurs. A material change is a change in circumstances in the jurisdiction of a program participant that affects the information on which the AFH is based to the extent that the analysis, fair housing contributing factors, or the priorities and goals of the AFH no longer reflect actual circumstances.
2. Upon HUD's written notification specifying a material change that requires the revision.
3. The timeframe for revision will be carried out in accordance with 24 CFR 5.164.

CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT

Every year, the City shall submit a CAPER within 90 days of the close of the Program Year. In general, the CAPER describes how funds were actually used and the extent to which these funds were used for activities that benefited low- and moderate-income people.

Public Notice and Public Hearing

Prior to the adoption of a CAPER, the City shall provide the public with notice of the availability of a proposed CAPER and the locations where such proposed CAPER may be reviewed. Following the publication of such notice, the public shall have the opportunity to submit comments regarding the CAPER for a period of fifteen days. The City shall consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing or verbally at public hearings when preparing the CAPER.

AMENDING THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

This Citizen Participation Plan can be changed only after any proposed changes have been approved by the City Council, the public has been notified of the intent to modify it, and the public has had fifteen days to review and comment on proposed changes. The Citizen Participation Plan will go back before City Council for approval. The City of Round Rock will document and report all public comments from citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties in preparing for its final submission. Public comments will be considered, when feasible and beneficial, prior to final approval by City Council.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Complaints regarding the Consolidated Plan, Substantial Amendments thereto, or the CAPER must be submitted to the City in writing. Written complaints from the public will receive a substantive written response within fifteen working days of receipt of the complaint.

DISPLACEMENT

Although the City does not anticipate that any persons will be displaced by activities using CDBG funds, federal regulations require that this Citizen Participation Plan set forth the City's plans to minimize displacement of persons and to assist persons displaced. To minimize the extent to which persons may be displaced by CDBG activities, the City will not include an activity that displaces persons in its Consolidated Plan unless such activity is specifically approved by the City's governing body as a separate agenda item. The City of Round Rock will compensate persons who are actually displaced as a result of the use of CDBG funds as required by law.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

City staff will provide limited technical assistance to organizations representative of low and moderate income people who are interested in submitting a proposal to obtain funding for an activity. All potential applicants for funding are encouraged to contact City staff for technical assistance before completing a proposal form.

CONTACT

Any written comment, request, or other written correspondence that may be provided to the City pursuant to this Citizen Participation Plan may be sent to:

City Clerk
City of Round Rock
221 E. Main St.
Round Rock, Texas 78664

Elizabeth Alvarado
CDBG Program Coordinator
ealvarado@roundrocktexas.gov
512-341-3328