

**In The Matter Of:**  
*Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 Consolidated  
Annual Performance and Evaluation Report*

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*Transcript of Hearing  
May 22, 2025*

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*Lesofski Court Reporting, Inc.  
7 West Sixth Avenue, Suite 2C  
Helena, MT 59601  
406-443-2010*

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE  
2024-2025 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND  
EVALUATION REPORT

May 22, 2025  
2:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom

HOLLY FOX  
LESOFSKI COURT REPORTING  
7 WEST SIXTH AVENUE, SUITE 2C  
HELENA, MT 59601  
(406) 443-2010

1           The following proceedings were had and  
2 testimony taken:

3  
4                           \* \* \* \* \*

5  
6           MS. GOLDICH: Okay. Good afternoon,  
7 everyone. Welcome to the public hearing for the  
8 2024-2025 Consolidated Annual Performance and  
9 Evaluation Report, or the CAPER. My name is Rosie  
10 Goldich and I am the CDBG coordinator here at  
11 Department of Commerce Community MT division. Today  
12 we will be reviewing the 2024-2025 CAPER and  
13 receiving public comments.

14          First, a couple of housekeeping notes. We will  
15 be taking comments at the end of this presentation.  
16 Please hold your comments until then. While making  
17 a comment, please state and spell your name and then  
18 any organization that you're representing today.  
19 Please take a moment to ensure that you are muted  
20 before we begin.

21          Also, this presentation is being recorded. A  
22 transcript, recording, and the slides will be  
23 available on our website, along with the draft  
24 2024-2025 CAPER.

25          The State of Montana, through the departments of

1 commerce and public health and human services,  
2 develops a five-year plan to guide policy and  
3 investment for housing, economic, and other  
4 community development projects. This five-year  
5 plan, also known as the Consolidated Plan for  
6 Housing and Community Development, is required by  
7 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
8 to assess Montana's needs and current conditions, as  
9 well as to determine priorities and allocate HUD  
10 funding.

11 The perspectives and opinions shared by the  
12 participants of this hearing will help Commerce and  
13 DPHHS to edit and finalize the draft 2024-2025  
14 CAPER, which falls under the 2020-2024 consolidated  
15 plan. We hope that, with your input, we can ensure  
16 housing and community development needs across  
17 Montana are identified and addressed.

18 As previously stated, the 2024-2025 CAPER is a  
19 part of the 2020-2024 consolidated plan. The  
20 objectives of Montana's consolidated plan include,  
21 one, provide decent housing; two, provide a suitable  
22 living environment; and, three, to expand economic  
23 opportunities. The goals of Montana's consolidated  
24 plan are: Goal One, preserve and construct  
25 affordable housing; two, plan for communities;

1 three, improve and sustain public infrastructure;  
2 four, revitalize local economies; and five, to  
3 reduce homelessness.

4 There are four programs between the Department  
5 of Commerce and DPHHS that are included in the  
6 consolidated plan. The community Development Block  
7 Grants, or CDBG, program includes housing,  
8 containing rental and single family rehabilitation;  
9 public and community facilities; economic  
10 development; and planning. The HOME Investment  
11 Partnerships program includes rental development,  
12 single family development and rental rehabilitation,  
13 and homebuyer assistance. The Housing Trust Fund,  
14 or HTF, includes rental development and rental  
15 rehabilitation. Last, the Emergency Solutions  
16 Grant, or ESG, covers emergency shelter,  
17 homelessness prevention, and rapid rehousing.

18 There are three main consolidated plan  
19 documents. The first is the five-year Consolidated  
20 Plan for Housing and Community Development, or con  
21 plan. Consolidated plans are strategic plans that  
22 guide housing and community investment. The second  
23 is the annual action plan, or AAP. AAPs are  
24 prepared each year of the consolidated plan and  
25 outline specific activities, goals, and objectives

1 for the given program year. Third is the CAPER, the  
2 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation  
3 Report. CAPERs are annual reports that detail use  
4 of funds and progress towards meeting goals and  
5 objectives for the AAPs. The 2024-2025 CAPER covers  
6 the program year of April 1, 2024, through March 31,  
7 2025.

8 For the 2024-2025 program year, CDBG was  
9 allocated \$6,172,506. 1,150,000 of that total  
10 allocation was allotted for the goal of preserving  
11 and constructing affordable housing. 600,000 was  
12 allotted for planning for communities. \$2,587,331  
13 was allotted towards improving and sustaining vital  
14 public infrastructure. \$1,000,050 was allotted for  
15 revitalizing local economies, and \$500,000 was  
16 allotted for reducing homelessness. \$285,175 was  
17 for administrative costs.

18 HOME received an allocation of \$3 million, of  
19 which \$2,700,000 was for the goal of preserving and  
20 constructing affordable housing. \$300,000 was  
21 allocated towards administrative costs.

22 ESG received an allocation of \$744,418, which --  
23 of which \$684,864.56 was allotted for the goal of  
24 reducing homelessness. \$59,553.44 was allocated to  
25 administrative costs.

1       HTF received an allocation of \$3,143,833.37, of  
2       which \$2,080,350 was allotted for the goal of  
3       preserving and constructing affordable housing, and  
4       \$750,000.37 was for reducing homelessness. \$313,483  
5       was directed towards administrative costs.

6       In the program year 2024-2025, \$12,179,156 was  
7       awarded across the five goals of the consolidated  
8       plan. To preserve and construct affordable housing,  
9       \$1,552,000 was awarded from HOME and \$1,933,200 was  
10      awarded from HTF. To plan for communities, \$870,247  
11      was awarded from CDBG. To improve and sustain vital  
12      public infrastructure, \$3,400,000 was awarded from  
13      CDBG. To revitalize local economies, \$525,000 was  
14      awarded from CDBG. To reduce homelessness, \$744,418  
15      was awarded from ESG and \$3,154,291 was awarded from  
16      Home ARP.

17      Over the program year of 2024-2025 we awarded  
18      several awards from the four main programs under the  
19      consolidated plan. First, for CDBG, 31 projects  
20      were awarded for a total of \$4,796,247. Of that,  
21      five projects were awarded under public and  
22      community facilities for a total of \$3,400,000.  
23      Economic development awarded one project of  
24      \$525,000. And planning awarded 24 projects totaling  
25      \$870,247.

1       For HOME, three projects were awarded for a  
2       total of \$1,552,000. That included two rental  
3       rehabilitations and one new rental construction.

4       Under Home ARP two projects were awarded for a  
5       total of \$3,154,291. These two projects included  
6       one new construction of permanent supportive housing  
7       and one acquisition and rehabilitation project.

8       Under HTF, two projects were awarded for a total  
9       of \$1,933,200. This included two new construction  
10      projects.

11      Under ESG, \$744,418 were awarded to nine of the  
12      10 HRDC via formula grants.

13      In the program year 2024-2025, these are the  
14      expenditures for that program year. Under the goal  
15      of preserving and constructing affordable housing,  
16      CDBG expended \$412,723.53. CDBG CV expended  
17      \$923,605.41. HOME expended \$5,854,795.44. Home  
18      ARP and ESG had no expenditures. And HTF expended  
19      \$4,667,366.12.

20      For the goal of planning for communities, CDBG  
21      expended \$805,778.58.

22      For the goal of improving and sustaining vital  
23      public infrastructure, CDBG expended \$5,383,976.50  
24      and CDBG CV expended \$894,763.12.

25      For revitalizing local economies, CDBG expended



1     \$868,198.15.

2             For reducing homelessness, CDBG expended  
3     \$783,284.79. CDBG CV expended \$1,270,719.62. HOME  
4     expended \$1,216,252.82. Home ARP expended  
5     \$1,618,499.86. ESG expended \$686,264. And HTF  
6     expended \$1,372,000.

7             Here are some of the outcome highlights under  
8     the five goals of the consolidated plan. For the  
9     complete list, please visit the draft 2024-2025  
10    CAPER on our website. Under "Preserve and Construct  
11    Affordable Housing," 18 rental units were  
12    constructed, 31 rental units were rehabilitated, and  
13    14 homebuyers were assisted with direct financial  
14    assistance. For the goal of Planning for  
15    Communities, 33 local were assisted with planning  
16    activities. For the goal of improving and  
17    sustaining public infrastructure, 18,869 individuals  
18    benefited from public and/or community facilities  
19    improvements. For the goal of revitalizing local  
20    economies, 20 jobs were either created or retained.  
21    For the goal of reducing homelessness,  
22    246 households received tenant-based rental  
23    assistance, 771 homeless persons received overnight  
24    shelter, and 324 persons assisted with homelessness  
25    prevention activities.

1           In 2024 to -- in the program year of 2024-2025,  
2       several projects were monitored. For project  
3       completion monitoring, 10 CDBG projects were  
4       monitored, three HOME projects were monitored, and  
5       two HTF project were monitored. For construction  
6       project progress monitoring, four HOME projects and  
7       is five HTF projects were monitored. For period of  
8       affordability monitoring, 31 HOME projects and  
9       13 HTF projects were monitored. For ESG, all eight  
10      ESG subrecipients were monitored with virtual visits  
11      and desk monitoring.

12           For the complete 2024-2025 draft CAPER, please  
13      visit our website at  
14      [commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/documents](https://commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/documents). You  
15      can also read the CAPER at several repositories  
16      throughout the state. The list of repositories is  
17      at  
18      [commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/list-of-re](https://commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/list-of-repositories)  
19      [positories](https://commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/list-of-repositories). And you can also receive the CAPER by  
20      request.

21           If you wish to have contact information for the  
22      Department of Commerce regarding the 2024-2025  
23      CAPER, you can visit us at 301 South Park Avenue in  
24      Helena, Montana, ZIP code 59601 or our P.O. Box at  
25      P.O. Box 200523 in Helena, Montana, ZIP code

1 59620-0523. The Community Montana division  
2 administrator is Galen Steffens and the Montana  
3 housing division administrator is Cheryl Cohen. You  
4 can call us by phone at (406)841-2770, TDD at  
5 (406)841-2702, by fax at (406) 841-2771, via email  
6 at docconplan@mt.gov, or on our website at  
7 commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan.

8 If you wish to contact someone at DPHHS  
9 regarding the 2024-2025 CAPER, you can visit them at  
10 1400 Carter Drive in Helena, Montana, at 59601.  
11 Their P.O. Box is P.O. Box 202956 in Helena,  
12 Montana, ZIP code 59620-2956. The administrator is  
13 Gene Hermanson. The bureau chief is Sara Loewen.  
14 You can call them (406)447-4265. Their fax number  
15 is (406)447-4287. And you can visit their website  
16 at dphhs.mt.gov.

17 We are now receiving comments regarding the  
18 draft 2024-2025 CAPER. If you have a comment and  
19 are joining via webinar, please raise your hand so  
20 we can unmute you. If you are joining via phone,  
21 please press star-9 to indicate you have a comment  
22 and then press star-6 to unmute and remute yourself.  
23 Please -- when you providing comments, please state  
24 and spell your name. Please state the organization  
25 you represent, if applicable.

1           Written comments should be addressed to the  
2           address or email below and will be accepted until  
3           5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 6, 2025, for the draft  
4           2024-2025 CAPER. The address below is the Montana  
5           Department of Commerce Community MT division,  
6           Attention: Con Plan, P.O. Box 200523 in Helena,  
7           Montana, 59620-0523 or to the email, which is  
8           docconplan@mt.gov.

9           And we are now receiving comments. Does anyone  
10          have a comment? Please raise your hand.

11          Okay. I'm not seeing any hands raised.

12          Okay. If no one has a comment that they wish to  
13          share at this time, written comments will be  
14          received through 5:00 p.m. MST on -- by Friday,  
15          June 6, 2025. Once again, you can submit those  
16          comments -- you can send them in the mail to the  
17          address below, which is P.O. Box 200523, Helena,  
18          Montana 59620-0523. Or you can email them to  
19          docconplan@mt.gov.

20          So if no one has any comments, thank you all for  
21          joining today.

22                       (Proceeding concluded at 2:22 p.m.)

23                               -----

24

25

STATE OF MONTANA )  
 )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF LEWIS AND CLARK )

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and seal on this 28th day of May, 2025.

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Min-U-Script® Lesofski Court Reporting, Inc./406-443-2010 (2) end - prepared

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