

Department of Grants and Community Development

CDHS Quarterly Update | City of Atlanta



May 25, 2021



Agenda

- Overview and Structure
- Key Metrics Review
 - Timeliness of Expenditures
 - Program Outcomes
 - Compliance
- Other Important Updates



History of the Department

- Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms announced a plan to restructure how the City manages grants in July 2019.
- The Department was officially established in February 2020, through the adoption of legislation by the City Council.
- The Department brought together three offices with responsibilities related to grants management into one Department:
 - Office of Grants Management – Department of Finance
 - Office of Human Services – Executive Offices
 - Office of Housing and Community Development – City Planning

MISSION

Further affordable, equitable, and resilient communities throughout Atlanta.

VISION

The City of Atlanta has a vibrant culture, booming economy, and welcoming spirit. We seek to provide opportunities within this great City for all Atlantans to prosper. Our work is done through the investment of grant funds, seeking to serve our most vulnerable residents and strengthen our communities.



Shared Principles

Be Stewards – We commit to making data driven, strategic investments in our communities by leveraging our federal resources responsibly and thoughtfully. We commit to bring a high-level of professionalism and knowledge to our work, holding ourselves and one another accountable to ensuring collective success.

Serve One Another and Our Partners – We strive to provide positive, high-quality and responsive service to all internal and external stakeholders, understanding they are critical to accomplishing our collective goals

Earn Trust Every Day – We never compromise our integrity and believe in openness and transparency.

Seek to Continue Growing and Learning – We understand the necessity to be forward-looking and flexible as our profession adapts and search out ways to be on the leading edge.





Key Programs

1. HUD Entitlement Grants

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Home Investment Partnership program (HOME)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program

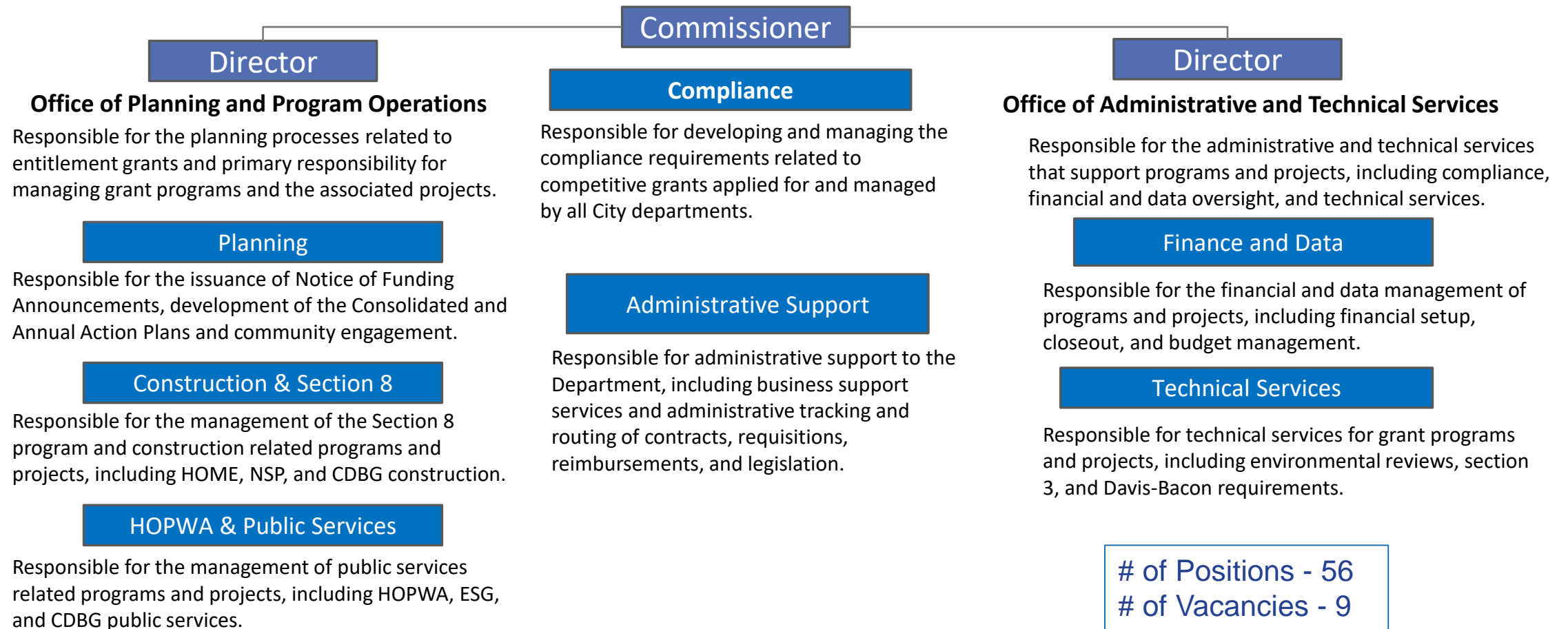
2. Section 8 (project-based rental assistance)

3. Federal Recovery Funds (Neighborhood Stabilization Program)

4. Competitive Grants (other federal grants, philanthropic grants)



Organizational Chart Overview





Department Top Priorities

- 1. Hire and train staff** – growing from a staff of 30 to 50 and ensure all staff have access to and receive training on regulatory requirements and procedures
- 2. Addressing historical compliance issues** – monitoring findings, special conditions, single audit findings
- 3. Improve the timely and compliant administration of grant agreements** - reimbursement processing and tracking, outcome tracking, contracting, and training for providers
- 4. Improve the notice of funding availability (NOFA) process and systems** – clearer applications, higher quality applicants, better evaluation and selection processes
- 5. Improve engagement and trust within the community** – better communications, well structured and utilized advisory councils



Department Metrics

The Department primarily measures success in three ways:

Program Outcomes: Achieving the desired outcomes established for our programs and within each project.

- Sample measure – actual vs. planned outcomes

Timeliness of Expenditures: Expending the funding we have been entrusted to administer in a timely manner and ensuring payments to our partners in a timely manner.

- Sample measure – timeliness ratio, days to pay invoices

Compliance: Ensuring compliance to grant program policies and eligibility.

- Sample measure - monitoring findings, monitoring's conducted



Timeliness of Expenditures

City of Atlanta HUD Grants 2017 – 2020 (including CARES COVID) Status Overview

Program	Award Amount	Drawn Amount	Balance to Draw	Awarded to Projects (of Balance to Draw)	#of Ongoing Projects
CDBG	\$32,303,466.00	\$11,155,566.43	\$21,147,899.57	\$16,937,900.57	139
HOWPA	\$95,300,842.00	\$21,638,438.50	\$73,662,403.50	\$66,507,207.50	44
HOME	\$7,742,466.00	\$0.00	\$7,742,466.00	\$5,809,170.08	12
ESG	\$15,862,154.00	\$1,673,497.30	\$14,188,656.70	\$14,188,656.70	36

- The City of Atlanta draws funds from HUD upon submission and review of complete eligible reimbursement request form services provider.
- The City of Atlanta provides funds to service providers in advance of drawing from HUD.
- Funds awarded to projects reflects funds that have been awarded via a NOFA and/or legislated and contracted.
- HUD grant balances are currently being reconciled with consulting support to address differences between the City's Oracle system and HUD'S IDIS system.



Timeliness of Expenditures

Reimbursement and Contracting Timeliness

- City of Atlanta targets payment of reimbursements within 30 days of receiving complete, eligible documentation – current challenges primarily related to the necessary back and forth required to receive complete, supporting documentation
- Updated reimbursement checklist, reviewed by HUD, finalized to further support and assist service providers in submissions
- Technical assistance being provided for service providers to support reimbursement submissions
- Contract templates updated by the law department to further simplify templated and included all HUD requirements



Program Outcomes – 2020

- **CDBG:** Provided services to 4,950 individuals and households through the following activities: acquisition, ADA and facility improvements, blight remediation, energy conservation, public services, affordable housing and economic development (small business loans)
- **ESG:** Served 980 households with the following services: emergency and transitional shelter operations, direct services for homeless individuals/households through essential services, homelessness prevention services/interventions and rapid re-housing
- **HOME:** Served 23 households with the following services: direct housing services for first-time homebuyer assistance, tenant-based rental assistance, and affordable rental housing opportunities
- **HOPWA:** Served 1,926 households with the following services: housing assistance; tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA), short-term rent, mortgage and utility (STRMU) assistance, housing facility operations, housing information, support services/resource identification



Program Outcomes – Rapid Rehousing

Housing Status	Chronic	Youth	Near Chronic/ Vulnerable	Total Served
Housed and receiving RRH Case Management	373	113	75	561
Housed and receiving supportive services with housing voucher	51	0	40	91
Enrolled Locating Housing & Receiving RRH Case Management	138	52	8	198
Total Served	562	165	123	850





Compliance

Special Conditions

- HUD placed special conditions on HOPWA funds based upon previous monitorings
 - Consolidated six conditions for FY14, FY15, FY17, FY18 & five conditions for FY19
- DGCD is successfully working with HUD to clear the consolidated special conditions
- Only **TWO** remaining special conditions
- Access to draw HOPWA funds

Progress Points

- Updated HOPWA Policies and Procedures submitted and awaiting approval
- Updated HOPWA Sponsor Manual submitted and awaiting approval
- Updated Internal Controls Policy submitted and awaiting approval
- Professional Development for Staff
- Technical Assistance for Providers and Subrecipients
- Ongoing Monitoring Plan of Service Providers



Other Important Updates

- FY21 HUD Grant Awards and Funding Recommendations
- HUD Monitoring of CDBG, HOME, and NSP
- RFQ for HOME Consultants



Questions?