

## General Questions

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year. Where appropriate, the jurisdiction should estimate the percentage of funds the jurisdiction plans to dedicate to target areas.
2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.
4. Identify the federal, state, and local resources expected to be made available to address the needs identified in the plan. Federal resources should include Section 8 funds made available to the jurisdiction, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds expected to be available to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan.

Program Year 3 Action Plan General Questions response:

### Geographic Distribution of Funding

In December 1998, a portion of the City received a ten-year federal designation as a Round II Empowerment Zone (EZ). The EZ consists of a 16 square mile area plus three developable sites adjacent to the Zone.

Per 2000 Census data, the Empowerment Zone contains approximately 44,237 residents and 23,487 housing units. The population of the Empowerment Zone is 42% minority, compared to a 20% minority population in the City as a whole. Median household income in the Zone is approximately 42% less than the citywide average (\$15,939 compared to \$27,492).

As part of its leverage commitment to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City of Knoxville pledged 90% of its CDBG and HOME funding during the EZ designation to affordable housing, neighborhood improvements, and economic development initiatives within the Zone.

During the first years of the Empowerment Zone designation, comprehensive revitalization efforts were undertaken in Mechanicsville and the Vestal Bicentennial Neighborhood. Work under the Five Points redevelopment plan has been underway for the past few years, with commercial development and infill housing still in progress.

A redevelopment plan was initiated for Lonsdale in Spring 2005, with City Council approval in November 2005. This is a focus area for commercial development, housing improvements, and other revitalization activities in 2007 and future years.

A redevelopment plan was approved for the Vestal Business District on January 16, 2007. This area will be the focus of commercial development and other improvements in 2007 and future years.