

NYSHCR CDBG Grant Proposal - Broome County Housing Study

A number of agencies within Broome County play a role or have a stake in the implementation of housing related projects and programs. Some of these agencies have conducted targeted assessments on housing issues pertaining to their role in this area. These include market assessments, social services oriented assessments, and targeted program strategies. While these efforts provide significant information to help guide housing related efforts in Broome County, the lack of a comprehensive housing study makes it difficult to prioritize community based housing efforts and coordinate the efforts of the varying stakeholders. In addition, a more comprehensive analysis would contribute significantly to efforts to assess impacts on vulnerable populations and housing stock to stresses including flooding, pandemics, environmental issues, and infrastructure deficiencies, among others.

Broome County Planning is proposing to apply for a grant through the CDBG grant program via the NYS Office of Homes and Community Renewal for development of comprehensive Broome County Housing Study. The focus will be development of a land use and community needs based plan to guide implementation of housing related programs and implementation projects, and to provide information contributing to other planning processes including county-wide and local comprehensive planning, hazard mitigation planning, economic development plans and others. Integration of mapping and analysis of existing and projected demographic and housing data, will help us to better assess our priorities now and into the future and assist local municipalities in doing the same.

The major objectives of the study are as follows:

- Understand the geographical distribution of housing and how we compare within the region
- Analyze housing stock conditions, along with costs and affordability
- Inventory and map housing with a focus on identified community priorities (affordable housing, senior housing, student housing, and others to be identified)
- Assessment of hazard vulnerable populations and housing stock (including flooding, pandemic, environmental, etc)
- Identification of priority needs areas
- Evaluation of land use policies related to housing needs
- Identify strategies for enhancing the quality, resiliency, efficiency of existing housing stock, and compatibility with universal design principles.
- Assessment of existing community services (i.e transit, broadband, food access, etc) and needs gaps in identified priority housing areas
- Assess roles of various stakeholders in housing initiatives and implementation projects, and identify partnership and funding opportunities