

DRAFT
2024-2028 LONG TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL I: To provide decent affordable housing for low- to moderate income persons residing in DeKalb County.

DECENT HOUSING OBJECTIVES

1. Leverage HOME funds to assist in the development of 400 units of rental housing that are affordable low-to-moderate income households. Rental development may be new construction, acquisition and rehabilitation, or rehabilitation of existing structures.
2. Support the efforts to improve detached, single-family units owned by seniors and disabled residents by providing special system repairs (up to \$14,000) for a minimum of 120 income eligible households through the Special Purpose Home Repair Program.
3. Spur the opportunities for homeownership among low-to-moderate income households through the allocation of funds to Community Development Housing Organizations (CHDOs) for the acquisition (or new construction, rehabilitation, and sale of 16 properties to eligible households.
4. Work with agencies to support efforts to stabilize neighborhoods, increase homeownership, and prevent foreclosures by supporting financial literacy classes, free or reduced fee legal services, and fair housing initiatives for low-to moderate income residents and senior citizens.
5. Collaborate with communities, developers, organizations, lenders, GA Department of Community Affairs, and County Departments to establish models for the development of affordable housing in close proximity to work centers.
6. Assist in the deconcentrating low-income housing through collaboration with communities, Housing Authorities, developers, lenders, investors, communities, and GA Department of Community and County Departments.
7. Support at-risk and homeless population needs determination by conducting studies, survey, and point-In-time counts of homeless and/or at-risk individuals. This determination will inform work toward the provision of appropriate housing and services.
8. Collaborate with providers and agencies to house at least 140 unsheltered individuals.

9. In collaboration with the Continuum of Care, agencies, developers, and owners, identify housing and supportive service programs to house a minimum of 625 homeless or at-risk households.
10. Contribute to the effort to immediately house homeless and/or at-risk households through the development of bridge housing and/or emergency shelters, along with the associated case management required to move households to permanent housing.
11. Refine the coordinated system for access to housing and services for the homeless and at-risk populations by supporting and face to face engagement by DeKalb Outreach Specialists and increasing Coordinated Entry access hours.
12. Collaborate with the DeKalb Sheriff and County jail to prevent homelessness among those who are released from jail.
13. Collaborate with agencies to seek additional funding for additional units to house domestic violence victims.
14. Collaborate with the DeKalb Regional Land Bank Authority to accomplish their primary mission of Affordable Housing, Blight Removal, and Economic Development.

GOAL II: To provide a suitable living environment, public facilities, infrastructure, and expanded community services, principally benefiting low- to moderate- income persons.

SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT OBJECTIVES

1. Work with County departments and municipalities within DeKalb County to assist with the construction, and/or redevelopment of public facilities, recreation centers or parks that primarily serve low to moderate income areas, persons, families, youth and senior citizens.
2. Partner with the Public Works Department to facilitate infrastructure improvements including accessible sidewalk installations in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, to encourage walkability, connection to trails and increased access for the elderly and physically challenged.
3. Collaborate with local housing authorities, affordable housing developers and non-profit groups to support Broadband access to narrow the digital divide for low- to moderate-income persons in DeKalb County.
4. Primarily through summer programs, provide opportunities for approximately 300 youth annually to participate in healthy educational activities that are recreationally based, build self-esteem, teach personal financial literacy, enable academic success, and enhance decision making skills.
5. Collaborate with non-profit agencies to expand the availability of quality affordable childcare and youth programs throughout DeKalb County.
6. Assist in the demolition of 200 dilapidated structures to arrest the spread of blighted conditions in low to moderate income areas as needed.
7. Collaborate with communities and County Departments to remediate blight in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, commission blight surveys of the areas, and implement remediation plans.
8. Continue to assist DeKalb County Seniors with minor home and systems repairs through the Special Purpose Home Repair Program.

GOAL III: To expand economic opportunities, increase and retain new and existing jobs, and revitalize economically depressed areas that principally serve low to moderate income persons.

EXPANDED ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES OBJECTIVES

1. Partner with Decide DeKalb, non-profit organizations and other DeKalb County economic development stakeholders to expand economic opportunities in order to attract businesses to the County, through community revitalization and blight removal that will make existing low-to-moderate income communities attractive for investment and job creation.
2. Partner with County stakeholders to revitalize economically depressed low to-moderate income areas by considering the use of HUD Section 108 Loan Program to finance the building of large-scale eligible Capital Improvement Projects and Economic Development projects.
3. Continue to collaborate with non-profit agencies and stakeholders to assist 250 small businesses create 150 new jobs. Tools for assistance may include Revolving Loan Fund Programs, Micro-Enterprise Assistance Training Programs, Business Incubators and other initiatives.
4. Encourage low-to-moderate income individuals to access job training and skills development from DeKalb County Workforce Development, Goodwill Industries, and the Georgia Labor Department.
5. Continue to collaborate with the Decide DeKalb, the Development Group, DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, and other stakeholders to develop innovative incentives for small businesses, implementing LCI's, reversing deteriorating economic trends in identified neighborhoods, and creating innovative economic redevelopment plans for major corridors in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods. Priorities will include corridors with existing LCI's and other improvement plans.