



# Town of Brookline

Department of Planning and Community Development  
*Alison Steinfeld, Director*

## LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD!

Please help us understand Brookline's housing and community development needs by completing this survey. **There are 4 easy ways to do it!**

1. **Complete the survey online at:**  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLJZ5CH>

2. **Complete the survey on your smart device:**



3. **Download and print paper copies of the survey at the Town website under 'Hot Topics':**  
<https://www.brooklinema.gov/203/Planning-and-Community-Development-Depar>

4. **Please visit us at the Department of Planning and Community Development, Town Hall, 333 Washington St. and pick up a copy.**

Every five years, the Town of Brookline develops a Consolidated Plan which acts as a roadmap for how the Town will utilize its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and HOME Partnership Investment Program funds. These funds support projects and programs that primarily serve the Town's low- and moderate-income residents. It's important to hear from you so that the Town can identify the most important housing and community development needs in Brookline and to help develop strategies to address them! Please complete the survey by **September 30, 2019**. Completed copies of the survey can be dropped off at the Department of Planning and Community Development in Town Hall at 333 Washington Street.

**For further information on the Consolidated Plan process, please call 617-730-2130 or email [Ebates@brooklinema.gov](mailto:Ebates@brooklinema.gov)**



# TOWN OF BROOKLINE

## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

What is the purpose of this survey?

The Town of Brookline would like your input on the Town's most important housing and community development needs and priorities in order to inform the use of the Town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Programs funds in the future.

In existence since 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest-running programs administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CDBG funds have assisted thousands of cities, towns and counties throughout the country to address critical community needs, such as quality affordable housing, public facilities, infrastructure, job creation and public services that primarily serve low-and moderate-income residents and families. Since the program's beginning, Brookline has utilized CDBG funds to support many projects and programs that help make the Town a high-quality and inclusive place to live.

The Town of Brookline is also a member of the West Metro HOME Consortium. With the City of Newton as the lead member, the Consortium utilizes HOME funds each year to develop affordable housing in the participating municipalities.

Every five years, the Town of Brookline and West Metro HOME Consortium develop Consolidated Plans, documents required by HUD. The "Con Plan" acts as a roadmap for how the Town will prioritize the use of CDBG and HOME funds over the next five years. The Con Plan is informed through public input in various venues. The goal of this survey is to help the Town identify housing and community development needs in Brookline and to develop strategies to address the priority needs in the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan.

Please print and return the completed survey to the Department of Planning and Community Development in Town Hall at 333 Washington Street by September 30, 2019. If you would like to do the survey online, one is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLJZ5CH>.

**1. I have lived in Brookline:**

- Less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- Over 10 years
- I do not live in Brookline

**2. If you do not live in Brookline (check all that apply):**

- I work in Brookline
- I grew up in Brookline
- I travel into Brookline for recreational, shopping, business or cultural/leisure activities

**3. Please note your gender:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Please choose your age range**

- 17 or below
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-39
- 40-49
- 50-61
- 62 to 74
- 75 or over

**5. Which of the following best describes your Race/Ethnicity? (Check all that apply)**

- White/Caucasian
- Black/African American
- Asian
- Hispanic/Latino
- Other - please specify \_\_\_\_\_
- I do not wish to answer this question

**6. What language do you speak most often at home?**

- English
- Chinese
- French
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Hindi
- Spanish
- Portuguese
- Vietnamese
- Greek
- Polish
- German
- Arabic
- Hebrew
- Russian
- Persian
- Other - please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**7. If you speak a language other than English at home, how would you rate your English proficiency?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neutral
- Not good
- None
- Not Applicable

**8. How many people are in your household? (This includes yourself)**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 +

**9. What is your household gross annual income?**

This is defined as the combined total income before taxes of all the people who live in your home.

- Less than \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$200,000
- Greater than \$200,000

**10. What area of Brookline do you live near or associate most with?**

- Brookline Village
- Chestnut Hill
- Coolidge Corner
- Fisher Hill
- High Street Hill
- Longwood
- Putterham
- St. Mary's
- South Brookline
- Washington Square
- Other - please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Do you work in Brookline?**

- No
- Yes. If yes,
  - are there challenges that you face as an employee in Brookline? (Check all that apply)
    - Child care
    - Earning a living wage
    - Lack of public transportation services on a reliable schedule
    - Lack of parking close to my destination
    - Walkability issues (e.g. lack of or interrupted sidewalks)
    - Other – please specify

**12. Do you rent or own your current place of residence?**

- Own
- Rent (Market Rate)
- Rent (Subsidized)
- Rent (Using Section 8 Voucher)
- Other - please describe\_\_\_\_\_

**13. Are you currently on a waiting list for a subsidized (affordable) housing unit?**

- Yes
- No

**14. If you currently live in Brookline, how important is it to you to remain living in Brookline as you age?**

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Slightly important
- Not at all important
- Not Applicable

**The following section will allow you to rank the needs of the Town that you think should be funded through federal community development and housing funds using the following: (No Need, Low Need, Medium Need, High Need).**

**Affordable Housing/Development Programs**

The Town can provide funds for projects that address a variety of housing needs for low-and moderate-income people. Within the area of housing, please tell us how important each of the following is to you:

<i>Affordable Housing/Development Programs</i>	No Need	Low Need	Medium Need	High Need
Create affordable ownership housing for low-income residents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create affordable ownership housing for middle-income residents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create affordable rental housing for low-income residents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create affordable rental housing for middle-income residents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Create affordable housing with supportive services for persons with disabilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create affordable senior housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create affordable housing for families	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide education on housing discrimination and fair housing laws	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide first-time homebuyer education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### **Accessibility**

The Town can provide funds to make municipally owned buildings, community facilities and affordable housing accessible for people with limited mobility. Please tell us how important each of the following is to you.

<i>Accessibility</i>	No Need	Low Need	Medium Need	High Need
Access to curb cuts and sidewalks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to parks and open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to public buildings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to increased affordable, accessible housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breaking down language barriers to provide wider access to government resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### **Economic Development**

The Town may provide CDBG funds for projects that support businesses in creating or retaining jobs. Within the area of economic development, please tell us how important each of the following is to you.

<i>Economic Development</i>	No Need	Low Need	Medium Need	High Need
Physical improvements to encourage business/job growth (public infrastructure, building accessibility, energy efficiency, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Small business loan assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Technical assistance to businesses (financial management, strategic planning, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Job training	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support to microenterprise businesses (commercial entity that has 5 or fewer employees)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Public Infrastructure**

Please tell us what you think the greatest infrastructure needs are as they relate to public facilities

<i>Public Infrastructure</i>	No Need	Low Need	Medium Need	High Need
Community center facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Street lighting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park and open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Senior center facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sidewalks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Street tree plantings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water and sewer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Public/Social Services**

The Town may provide CDBG funds for public service projects that increase access for low-and moderate-income people to services that support job retention or creation, access to childcare, senior centers and family self-sufficiency. Please tell us how important each of the following is to you:

<i>Public/Social Services</i>	No Need	Low Need	Medium Need	High Need
Child services (Childcare, After school care, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Elder services (Adult day services, assistance in obtaining entitlements and social services etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family services (domestic violence assistance, parent education)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health/mental health services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Homelessness services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Job training and placement services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People with disabilities services (employment/training, day centers, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Substance abuse services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Veterans services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food pantries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth services (After school activities, mentoring, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Priority Program Areas**

Please rank the following priority program areas in order of importance from 1 through 5 (1,2,3,4,5) with number 1 representing the program area you deem most important down toward number 5 which will represent the program area you deem least important.

<i>Priority Program Area Rankings</i>	Ranking 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5
Accessibility	
Affordable Housing/Development Programs	
Economic Development	
Public/Social Services	
Public Infrastructure	

**Your Opinion**

In your opinion, what are the major unmet community needs that the Town of Brookline should focus on over the span of the next five years?

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