

County of Cook, Illinois



Substantial Amendments to the 2019 Annual Action Plan

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SUMMARY

The Cook County Department of Planning and Development within the Bureau of Economic Development (the County) currently receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME funds and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds on an annual entitlement basis from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The County proposes new CDBG-CV funded activities below to better meet community development needs in suburban Cook County. This requires Substantial Amendments to the 2019 Annual Action Plans. This document, consisting of a narrative as well as required attachments, constitutes the formal Substantial Amendments to HUD. These amendments will advance the County's ongoing efforts to expend its CDBG-CV funds expeditiously.

SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT NARRATIVE

On March 27, 2020, the U.S. Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (H.R. 748), also known as the CARES Act. The bill allocates \$5 billion in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funding for grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic. Additionally, the CARES Act provides CDBG grantees with flexibilities to make it easier to use the CDBG-CV grants and authorizes the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to grant waivers and alternative requirements.

Cook County is proposing to amend the PY 2019 Annual Action Plan. The County is requesting approval to move \$3 million from the Emergency Assistance Hotel Shelter line item and add those funds to Acquisition and Rehabilitation for the Fixed-Site Shelter project.

Several hotels that were used for emergency shelter for the homeless during the pandemic will become models for permanent housing for the homeless. The new housing will provide safe living accommodations and intensive on-site support services to assist the homeless. Funds will also be used to convert more vacant or under-utilized properties into shelters and affordable housing for the homeless.

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| Initial Funding Year | 2019 |
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| CDBG Funding Recipients | Social Service Agencies, Shelter Providers, and Developers of Affordable Housing for the homeless. |
| Initial Funding Committed | \$16,018,096.00 |
| Proposed Change | Line-item changes to previous budget. |
| Administration and Planning | \$3,203,619.20 |
| Project Scope | To be determined based on use of funds identified above |
| Public Facilities | \$2,500,000.00 |
| Acquisition & Rehab for (Fixed Site Shelter) | \$6,314,476.80 |
| Emergency Assistance Hotel Shelter (Five Motels) | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Public Service | \$1,000,000.00 |

APPENDIX 1 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Public Comment Notice

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Public Comments and Cook County Responses

To be inserted upon conclusion of the 30-day public comment period.