

# County of Cook, Illinois



## Substantial Amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan

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Cook County Board of Commissioners**

*Prepared by:*

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Bureau of Economic Development**

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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) funding on an annual entitlement basis from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD has made special allocations of Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. The County proposes an initial allocation of the CDBG-CV funding into proposed uses to meet COVID-19 response needs in suburban Cook County. This requires a Substantial Amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan, and this document constitutes the formal Substantial Amendment to HUD.*

## SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT DETAIL

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 funding for grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (CDBG-CV). Additionally, the CARES Act provides CDBG grantees with flexibilities that 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.

The CARES Act also eliminates the 15 percent cap on the amount of grant funds that can be used for public services activities. Therefore, the cap in 24 CFR 470.201(e) has no effect on CDBG-CV grants and no effect on Program Year (PY) 2019 and PY 2020 CDBG grants used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

Cook County has received \$16,018,096 in CDBG-CV funding into two different allocations. A substantial amendment to the PY 2019 Annual Action Plan is required to add this funding. A 30-day public comment period is normally required for substantial amendments. However, HUD has waived the 30-day comment period requirement for substantial amendments in 24 CFR 91.105(c)(2), provided that no less than five (5) days are provided for public comments on each substantial amendment. This waiver is in effect through the end of PY 2020.

Cook County is proposing to amend the PY 2019 Annual Action Plan to allocate \$16,018,096 in CDBG-CV funds by adding the following activities:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Emergency Assistance	\$ 6,018,096
Fixed Site Shelter	\$ 2,500,000
Food Assistance	\$ 1,000,000
Homeless Services	\$ 3,500,000
Legal Aid Services	\$ 1,500,000
Other Social Services	\$ 500,000
Administrative Costs	\$ 1,000,000
<b>Total CDBG-CV Allocations</b>	<b>\$ 16,018,096</b>

## APPENDIX 1 - STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

### ***Public Comment Notice***

See attached.

### ***Public Comments and Cook County Responses***

To be inserted upon conclusion of the HUD-required five (5) day public comment period.

### ***Economic Development Advisory Council (EDAC) Approval***

The amendment above is being presented to EDAC for approval in December 2020. Related documentation will be inserted upon conclusion of the EDAC approval.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE**

### ***Draft Substantial Amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan***

The Cook County Department of Planning and Development (CCDPD) within the Bureau of Economic Development currently receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding on an annual entitlement basis from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The County is accepting public comments regarding its Draft Substantial Amendment to its 2019 Annual Action Plan, which proposes new activities funded by CDBG Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 in suburban Cook County.

### **Applicable Public Comment Period: 7 Days – *December 21, 2020 - December 28, 2020***

### **Public Comment Opportunities**

An important part of the process of developing a Substantial Amendment is to promote citizen participation and solicit input. The Draft may be reviewed on-line at the Cook County website during the applicable public comment period specified above at this link:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/public-notices-planning-and-development-0>

All interested parties are encouraged to provide written comments. Written comments for the Draft Substantial Amendment are being accepted during the applicable public comment period specified above and must be received by 4 p.m. on the last day of the aforementioned public comment period in order to receive consideration. Written comments must be directed to Dominic Tocci, Deputy Director, Cook County Department of Planning and Development, 69 West Washington, Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60602, [dominic.tocci@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:dominic.tocci@cookcountyil.gov).

Due to limited access to County facilities during COVID-19, the draft Substantial Amendment will not be available for review at the CCDPD office. Interested parties may contact Dominic Tocci at 312-603-1048 to discuss alternative options to view the draft amendment.