



Community Services Department

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SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND 2020-2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

BACKGROUND

Due to the spread of the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has implemented the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) to combat the spread and effects of COVID-19. Through the CARES Act, the City of Redondo Beach received \$168,393 in CDBG-CV1 funds and has been informed that the City will receive an additional \$453,481 in CDBG-CV3 funds. HUD has also released waivers and suspensions to certain Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) requirements. However, the City is aware and understands that such waivers do not apply to environmental, fair housing, labor, and nondiscrimination regulations. In order to receive and allocate CDBG-CV3 funds, the City is required to amend their 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan.

The City would also like to amend the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan to allocate \$30,000 from “Unallocated Funds” to Swami House Intl. Swami House Intl. to assist with housing the homeless.

These amendments will not only adapt to the current health and safety circumstances but will also allow the City to maximize the use of these funds in an expedited manner.

The CARES Act was approved and enacted on March 27, 2020 due to the spread of COVID-19. HUD recognized the impacts of such pandemic and will be providing the City with additional CDBG-CV funds to assist affected residents and City Staff. The City previously received \$168,393 in CDBG-CV1 funds from HUD and has been informed that the City will receive \$453,481 in CDBG-CV3 funds. In addition, HUD has granted the City with waivers and suspensions to certain Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The purpose of these waivers is to maximize the available amount of funds that may be used for those impacted by COVID-19.

The primary purpose of the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CARES Act CDBG-CV funding is for those activities carried out to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.

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As required by Title I of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, the City of Redondo Beach has an approved Annual Action Plan for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 fiscal years. These Plans outline the activities and expected allocation for that year. The City also has a Citizen Participation Plan which outlines procedures for citizen participation in the planning process of the Consolidated Plan, particularly to those living in slum and blighted areas and/or areas to be affected by the proposed funds.

AMENDMENT TO 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

At the October 6, 2020 City Council meeting, members of the City Council approved the allocation of the CDBG-CV3 funds in the amount of \$453,481. Through the CARES Act, the City will allocate an additional \$453,481 in CDBG-CV3 funds to assist businesses, residents and City staff to respond, prepare for and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Proposed activities with the expected amount are listed below:

- *Homeless Assistance*
Creation and management of temporary emergency shelters for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including operations, security, food, maintenance, furnishings, utilities, and human services for counseling, housing navigation, etc.
 - Amount Allocation: \$300,000
- *Economic Development Activities*
Mitigation of economic disruptions caused by stay at home orders and social distancing requirements by providing short-term assistance to small businesses for retention of jobs held by low and moderate-income persons. Funds could be used for rent assistance, utility assistance or purchase of materials or construction assistance required to reopen. Funds were allocated to the Artesia/Aviation Commercial Corridor, Riviera Village Association and Citywide Businesses.
 - Amount Allocation: \$110,000
- *Planning and Administrative Costs*
HUD has also recognized increased costs and services to combat an infectious disease will also lead to increased administrative costs. Therefore, the City will allocate additional funds for increased planning and administrative costs.
 - Amount Allocation: \$43,381

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These eligible activities are allowed under the CARES Act and will support the City of Redondo Beach combat the impacts of COVID-19.

AMENDMENT TO THE 2020-2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

The City would like to reallocate \$30,000 from “Unallocated Funds” to fund a new activity to assist the homeless. This activity will provide for up to five individuals to be housed in decent and safe housing.

On May 5, 2020, City Council approved the allocation of \$286,252 in CDBG funds. These funds were allocated to public service agencies, housing rehabilitation programs and fund a public improvement project (park improvement, curb ramps and ADA improvements). This amendment will add the ability to assist the homeless by providing living quarters offered by Swami House Intl.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Through the CARES Act, the City has amended their Citizen Participation Plan to expedite funding procedures. The City will reduce the 30-day public comment period to 5-days, as allowed by HUD. This will provide a reasonable opportunity to comment while expediting procedures for utilization of CDBG-CV funds. The City will also implement a reasonable 5-day public notice period to allow local participation in the planning process. The City recognizes the importance of protecting the health of residents and City Staff thus will modify local participation procedures to facilitate social distancing.

In-person hearings are not required. The City will meet public hearing requirements via virtual public hearings if health authorities of the state or City jurisdiction recommend social distancing due to health specific reasons; if the City provides reasonable notice of virtual hearings and access by City’s certifications; if reasonable opportunity to comment is provided; if responses are provided in a timely manner; and if the public has access to all inquiries and responses.

The City recognizes the importance of citizen participation and will continue to encourage residents to engage in the stated processes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City of Redondo Beach will incorporate all comments during the 5-day comment period.