

**CITY OF DETROIT
HOUSING AND REVITALIZATION DEPARTMENT**

MICHAEL E. DUGGAN, MAYOR

**SUMMARY AND NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON
2019-2020 DRAFT ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Detroit, Housing and Revitalization Department (HRD) proposes to amend its U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2019-20 Annual Action Plan Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CV-1 funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) grant funds (Public Law 116-136).

In accordance with Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan requirements at 24 CFR Part 91 Subpart B and the City's Citizen Participation Plan, HRD has posted the changes to the Action Plan through this Substantial Amendment in order to provide opportunity for public comment. The CARES Act has now provided grantees with flexibilities that make it easier to use grant funds for fiscal years 2019-20 and 2020-21 for coronavirus response and authorizes HUD to grant waivers and alternative requirements. One of the requirements use a **5-day** public comment period for amendments.

A summary of the proposed changes are as follows:

CDBG-CV-1 Line item to be decreased:

• Administration and Planning	Total	\$ 636,000.00
• Neighborhood Cleanup		\$ 2,590,370.19
• Affordable Housing Development		<u>\$ 640.50</u>
	Total	\$ 3,227,010.69

CDBG-CV-1 Line items to be increased:

• Dynamo	\$	36,000.00
• Rental Market Study	\$	300,000.00
• Homelessness Strategy	\$	200,000.00
• HRC/FEC/CHN	\$	750,000.00
• St. Patrick Senior Center	\$	200,728.50
• Code Blue	\$	600,000.00
• United Community Housing Coalition	\$	500,000.00
• Community Home Supports/Sheltered Housing Placements	\$	300,000.00
• Accounting Aid Society	\$	<u>340,282.19</u>
	Total	3,227,010.69

The descriptions of the new activities are as follows:

Dynamo – Planning (HUD Matrix Code 20) - Contractual software services to deliver a tool to manage time-series data metrics that provide historical, current, and predictive analysis of investments in housing, neighborhood stabilization, and economic development. The system will use data on COVID response investments and other City data sources to understand the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on housing dynamics and the impact of the City's COVID response activities.

Rental Market Study – Planning (HUD Matrix Code 20) - Planning/market analysis on housing trends (including

rental rates, affordability, development costs) following housing disruptions caused by COVID-19 pandemic. Study will inform future investments in affordable housing, rental assistance programs, and other housing activities.

Homelessness Strategy - Planning (HUD Matrix Code 20) - The creation of a five-year strategic system improvement plan and governance structure plan for homelessness response and prevention. The COVID-19 pandemic revealed a system wide need to address deficiencies in the Detroit shelter system and barriers to permanent housing placements, and the need to equip the system to respond to challenges caused by the pandemic and other crises as they arise. This plan will align the City of Detroit, the Continuum of Care, and other stakeholders in the homelessness services and housing sectors to increase responsiveness and resilience of the homelessness system.

HRC/FEC/CHN (Housing Resource Center/Financial Empowerment Center/CHN Housing Partners) – Public Service Housing Info & Referral Services (HUD Matrix Code 05X) - Housing and financial counseling services will be delivered to low-income Detroit residents to reduce housing and financial instability caused by or exacerbated by Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns or illnesses that are now contributing to their inability to pay for housing, utilities, and food, and putting them at risk of homelessness. Counseling activities will be delivered to assist eligible households in reducing foreclosure (tax and mortgage), reducing eviction, managing debt, managing expenses, improving access to benefits, and improving housing stability. To mitigate housing stability and reduce the strain on housing and social service systems related to housing stability during and following the Covid-19 pandemic, CHN will use the funds to increase Detroit residents' ability to find, access, and enroll in housing counseling services and (2) improve housing counseling agencies' ability to manage counseling relationships, make referrals to housing programs and services identified as needs through the counseling activities, and support quality data management to support reporting and performance improved related to housing counseling services.

(Proposed Accomplishments: Housing 1,500 – 2,500 clients per year; Financial 600 – 800 per year)

St. Patrick Senior Center -Public Service Senior Services (HUD Matrix Code 05A) - St. Patrick Senior Center will continue to provide community-based services during the Covid-19 Pandemic to support seniors who are Detroit residents by providing services needed to assist them in meeting their basic needs. Wellness checks will be conducted to provide ongoing assistance to aid independence, provide prepared meals for seniors, provide emergency food care packages, provide hygiene and PPE kits, Grocery, and prescription delivery to fragile elderly and those medically at risk and isolated.

(Proposed Accomplishments: 8,500 people)

Code Blue - Homeless Program Services (HUD Matrix Code 03T) - Code Blue is defined as the escalation of an occurrence of housing uninhabitability to the City of Detroit's multi-departmental work group. Uninhabitable is defined as a place not meant for human habitation, which includes units or homes that do not have proper utilities (heat, water, electricity), units or homes affected by a building fire, or units or homes have been condemned by the City of Detroit's Buildings Safety, Environmental and Engineering Department (BSEED) for safety issues. COVID has greatly exacerbated these issues: Economic impacts have caused residents falling behind on rent, leading to an increase in evictions and displacements. Landlords have limited means, leading to a rental housing stock that is deteriorating to present clear personal safety issues. Fraudulent landlords are preying upon displaced individuals, and either "renting" homes that do not belong to them, leading to law enforcement action against the resident by the rightful landlord or placing families in clearly dangerous, dilapidated housing.

(Proposed Accomplishments: 300-500 families; 780 – 1,300 residents per year)

United Community Housing Coalition – Public Service Legal Services (HUD Matrix Code 05C) - This activity will serve households who are either at risk of or in the eviction process, must move out of their current unit, and have been impacted by COVID. These households need legal assistance to represent them in court as well as subsistence payments to assist with the housing move.

(Proposed Accomplishments: 393 households)

Community Home Supports/Sheltered Housing Placements – Homeless Public Services (HUD Matrix Code 03T) - The Sheltered Housing Placement Program (SHP) will provide housing search case management services to households in emergency shelters, ensuring that households can quickly lease-up in permanent housing. Households residing in congregate settings are at higher risk for contracting communicable diseases such as COVID-19. Therefore, this program seeks to reduce the length of time households are residing in emergency shelter settings which

helps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Case managers will help residents collect documentation necessary to obtain housing, conduct housing searches and outreach landlords, address barriers residents face in obtaining housing, assist in submitting rental applications, and provide other person-centered services to assist residents in lease-up as needed. The program will also provide limited financial assistance, including application fees and security deposits. (Proposed Accomplishments: 88 Households)

Accounting Aid Society – Public Services Legal Services (HUD Matrix Code 05C) - Accounting Aid Society prepared, completed, and filed tax returns; filed Covid-19 stimulus payment requests; including Federal and State Earned Income tax Credits provided tax guidance during the Covid-19 pandemic to low and moderate City of Detroit Residents. Accounting Aid Society ensured all low/moderate income residents received the Federal economic benefits afforded to all residents off the city of Detroit regardless of their economic ability to pay private tax companies. (Proposed Accomplishments: 5,000 People)

Citizens may submit comments by letter (at the address shown below), or by e-mail at ConPlanComments@detroitmi.gov up to 5 days after the posting of this ad on September 07, 2022.

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