Proposed Amendment to the PY2020 Action Plan

CDBG-CV and HOME program

Pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, signed on March 27, 2020, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated \$954,256 and \$799,909 from the first and third round respectively, for a total of \$1,754,165 of CDBG-CV funds to Mobile Urban County. These funds are specifically to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus. Funds are to be spent within six years of the date of the grant agreement between the County and HUD with 80% being spent within the first three years.

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.105(c)(2) of the federal regulations relative to citizen participation for Community Planning and Development Programs the County provides a period of not less than thirty (30) days, to receive comments, written or oral, on the substantial amendment prior to its adoption. However, HUD has provided a waiver to this requirement under Federal Notice Docket No. FR-6218-N-01 to reduce this period to five (5) days due to the emergency nature of the associated pandemic. The 5-day public comment will commence beginning October 5, 2020 and end 5 p.m. October 9, 2020. Written comments are to be sent to Director of Grants Management, Mobile County Commission, 205 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36644. Summary of comments and views will be attached to the substantial amendment of the Action Plan. The Public Hearing will be at the Mobile County Commission conference to be held at 10:00 a.m. on October 8, 2020, in the auditorium, located on the ground floor of the Mobile Government Plaza, at 205 Government Street in Mobile, Alabama. Due to continued COVID-19 related issues, all interested citizens may participate virtually by viewing the live stream of the hearing (inclusive of closed captions in English) at https://www.mobilecountyal.gov/government/livestreaming/. The County Commission will consider adopting the amendment at the Mobile County Commission meeting at 9:30 a.m. on October 13, 2020.

The public hearing will be accessible to all. Those requiring special assistance/accommodations for disabilities, for non-English speaking persons or related services should contact the Grants Department at (251) 574-5086 at least three days in advance of the meeting. Mobile County Commission does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, sex, national origin, religion or disabilities and is an equal opportunity employer.

Spanish translation and/or clarification will be provided upon request, please email Nayyer Mahdi at nayyer.mahdi@mobilecountyal.gov or call 251-574-5086. La traduccion y/o la clarificacion Espanola seran dados si hay solicitad. Email por favor Nayyer Mahdi at nayyer.mahdi@mobilecountyal.gov o llamar 251-574-5086.

CDBG-CV:

Proposed activities to be funded with the CDBG-CV funds:

Food Banks - \$500,000.

The County proposes to fund food banks, community kitchens, and food pantries to distribute food to persons impacted with economic hardship due to Covid19. Funding includes activity delivery costs.

An estimate 57,000 low/moderate income persons will be served.

Legal Services/Mortgage/Rental/Utility Assistance - \$ 620,000

The County proposes to fund agencies to provide emergency payments —mortgage/ rent/utility on behalf of individuals or families, for the purposes of preventing evictions or foreclosures. Activity includes legal assistance with housing cases, foreclosures, eviction defense, domestic violence issues which can lead to homelessness, unemployment, and assistance with identifying and applying for other benefits. Funding includes activity delivery costs An estimate of 400 low/moderate income households will be served.

Public Service - \$283,332

Funds will be used for activities to be identified in the future.

Administration – \$\$350,833

Provides funding for overall program administration, including (but not limited to) planning, implementing, reporting, staff costs.

HOME:

The HOME program requires a set- aside of 15% of the annual HOME allocation to a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO). HUD has provided a waiver for the CHDO set-aside for the regular annual HOME program. That amount was \$87,124, the County proposes to delete the 15% set aside to a CHDO and add that amount to the Rental Housing Program. Program Income and Recaptured funds of HOME funds, in the amount of \$564,906 and \$30,000 respectively for a total of \$594,906, are added to the regular HOME Program budget. The amounts for program income and recaptured funds were inadvertently not budgeted with the regular PY2020 HOME award of \$580,826 in the original Action Plan. 10% of program income will be allocated to program administration as is allowed by the HOME program. Please note these HOME funds and activities are not related to the CARES Act.

The proposed amended HOME Budget is:

Rental Housing Program - Acquisition/Development/Construction - \$1,061,160 A minimum of 4 units constructed and 4 low/moderate households served.

HOME Program Administration - \$ 114,572