



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#20-0254

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: March 2, 2021

TITLE: Public Hearing to Evaluate All Comments Received and Resolution Approving the Submittal of a Pre-Application to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for Grant Funding Through the Florida Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Program - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission convene a public hearing to evaluate all comments received during the comment period and approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a pre-application to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for grant funding in the amount of \$900,000 through the Florida Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) program.

Background

In April 2020, pursuant to passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated additional CDBG funds to the State of Florida to address issues related to the impacts of COVID-19. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity announced the availability of these additional funds for Small Cities and Entitlement Units of local government under the CDBG-CV program. The CDBG-CV program is designed to help local governments prepare for, prevent, or respond to the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The activities must be critical to their locality and primarily used for the benefit of low- and moderate-income residents.

The State of Florida's CDBG-CV allocation methodology uses a formula that acknowledges a baseline level of housing and community development needs and accounts for geographic differences in COVID impacts (both health and economic impacts). As an entitlement community, the City of Fort Lauderdale is eligible to request funds up to \$900,000.

To address the City's continuing COVID-19 recovery efforts, the Housing and Community Development division proposes submitting a pre-application to request use of the grant funding as noted the below:

Broadband Internet Access for low-income areas: \$600,000
Education Enrichment Activities: \$250,000
Administrative Costs: \$50,000

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- Goal 4: Build a thriving and inclusive community of neighborhoods.
- Objective: Create a continuum of education services and support

- The Business Development Area
- Goal 5: Build an attractive global and local economic community marketplace.
- Objective: Nurture and support existing local businesses

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Prosperous.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Public Notice for Comment Period
Exhibit 2 – Resolution

Prepared by: Rachel Williams, Housing and Community Development Manager

Charter Officer: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager