



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#20-0445

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

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: June 16, 2020

TITLE: Public Hearing Amending the Housing and Community Development Annual
Action Plans for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and the Consolidated Plan for 2015-
2019 in response to COVID-19 and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
Economic Security Act Waivers - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission convene a public hearing to receive public input and approve the substantial amendment to the Annual Action Plans for Fiscal years 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and Consolidated Plan for 2015-2019. This amendment will allow the City to reallocate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement funds in the amount of \$78,240.80, HOME Investment Partnerships entitlement funds in the amount of \$422,607.50, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS entitlement funds (HOPWAA) in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, as well as appropriate Community Development Block Grant Cares Act (CDBG-CV) funds of \$934,515.

Background

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) became law on March 27, 2020. This legislation responds to the COVID-19 outbreak and its impact on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses. Through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), CARES Act grant funds were allocated to local governments to prepare and respond to the impacts of COVID-19. The CARES Act provided a series of Statutory Waivers and Suspensions to allow municipalities to respond quickly to COVID-19.

In order to use CARES Act funds and reallocate grant funds in response to COVID-19, the City must notify HUD of its intent to utilize CDBG and HOME waivers and suspensions under the Act. The City must post a public notice for a minimum of five days before proceeding with the amendments to Annual Action Plans and Consolidated Plan.

The City's Housing and Community Development Division will amend the Annual Action Plans for Fiscal Years 2019-2020.

CDBG-CV \$934,515

- Program Administration: \$26,903
- Public Services (COVID-19 Homeless Initiative) \$507,612
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) COVID-19 Small Business Loans \$400,000 (This amount subject to be increased with any unspent funds from the COVID-19 Homeless Initiative but shall not exceed \$500,000.)

CDBG 2019-2020 Entitlement

Reallocate \$63,240.80 from residential rehabilitation and \$15,000 from CDBG project delivery for a total of \$78,240.80

This \$78,240.80 will provide technical assistance and training workshops for small businesses impacted by COVID-19 through the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, Inc. Alternatively, funds will also be provided to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) as emergency assistance to eligible small businesses in accordance with the CARES Act.

HOME Initiative Partnerships 2019-2020

The City proposes to reallocate Fiscal Year 2019-2020 HOME entitlement funds up to \$292,607.50 and use HOME program income in the amount of \$130,000, at total of \$422,607.50, to create a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program and to provide rent assistance to eligible families that reside in the City of Fort Lauderdale HOME assisted rental units that are still in the HOME affordability period. These funds will be awarded to HOPE South Florida, Inc.

Resource Impact

There will be no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund. The funding box showing funding availability will be displayed on the associated CAM 20-0406.

Strategic Connections

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

- Business Development Focus Area
- Goal 5: Build an attractive global and local economic community marketplace
- Objective: Nurture and support existing local businesses
- Objective: Create a responsive and proactive business climate to attract emerging industries.
- Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- Goal 4: Build a thriving and inclusive community of neighborhoods.

- Objective: Work with partners to reduce homelessness by promoting independence and self-worth through advocacy, housing and comprehensive services.
- Objective: Ensure a range of affordable housing options.
- Objective: Create a continuum of education services and support.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision Plan 2035: We are Here*.

Related CAM

20-0406

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Public Notice

Prepared by: Rachel Williams, Housing and Community Development

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