

**Amendment To The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan
Amendment To The 2020 One-Year Action Plan
Amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan
Related To The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, And Economic Security Act (CARES)**

BACKGROUND

In December 2019, a new coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 was detected causing outbreaks of the coronavirus disease COVID-19 that has now spread globally. The first reported case in the United States was in January 2020 and by March 2020 the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic and the federal government declared a national emergency. Many states, including California, declared a state of emergency, and the City and County of Sacramento (City and County) established a shelter in place order. The City and County are impacted by this health crisis and people experiencing homelessness are amongst the most vulnerable.

Federal Relief

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), Public Law 116-136 was signed by the President of the United States. This made available \$5 billion in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds, and \$4 billion in Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (ESG-CV) to respond to the growing effects of the historic COVID-19 public health crisis. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) informed the County of Sacramento that CARES Act funding would be allocated to the jurisdiction based on the existing entitlement formulas for two programs. CARES Act funds have been allocated to the County of Sacramento in the following amounts: \$3,470,768 of CDBG-CV and \$1,747,452 of ESG-CV.

The CARES Act also authorized the HUD Secretary to grant waivers and alternative requirements related to the use of CDBG-CV funds, including the suspension of the 15 percent cap on funding for public services; reducing the public comment period for consolidated plan and action plan amendments to five days; and allowing the option of virtual hearings. All activities funded must still meet the eligibility and national objective requirements of the CDBG program. For the ESG-CV allocation, the waivers and alternative requirements for the use of ESG-CV funds, include the suspension of the 60 percent spending cap on emergency shelter and outreach activities; administrative cost cap is increased from 7.5 percent to 10 percent; funds are exempt from the dollar for dollar match requirements; funds are not subject to consultation and citizen participation requirements; grant recipients, including subrecipients, may deviate from applicable procurement standards; and supportive services are not required to receive assistance. SHRA has applied for and received waivers for the CDBG-CV and ESG-CV supplemental funds.

The City and County are committed to deploying federal, state, and local resources to help assist the homeless population, including providing funds to help move people safely into shelter, removing regulatory barriers, and helping to secure trailers and motels to provide immediate shelter. The County of Sacramento is part of the Sacramento COVID-19 Homelessness Response Team (Response Team), which is a part of a broader County and City emergency and public health response to COVID-19. This team is a collaborative effort between the City and County of Sacramento, Sacramento Steps Forward (SSF), and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) who all work closely with the homeless population.

The Sacramento Homelessness COVID-19 Response Team was tasked with developing an operational and funding plan that will allow the quick deployment of a number of local responses. The team developed a coordinated framework and action plan to help meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness during this current public health crisis.

The purpose of the Response Team is threefold:

1. Proactively address COVID-19 affecting the homeless and sheltered population.
2. Slow the spread of COVID-19 in the homeless population by supporting programs serving the homeless so they can stay open and safe for clients and workers.
3. Create and operationalize new capacity for shelters that can serve vulnerable and unhoused clients.

The Response Team developed a comprehensive operational and funding plan utilizing CDBG-CV, ESG-CV, as well as other local and state funds which was adopted by the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors on April 7, 2020. The plan and corresponding budget included CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding allocations.

Staff is requesting approval of a Substantial Amendment to the 2020 One-Year Action Plan as detailed in Exhibit 2 and requests authorization to submit the amended plan to HUD. The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2020 One-Year Action Plan was approved by Resolution 2019-0743 on October 22, 2019. The One-Year Action Plan amendment identifies proposed activities for the expenditure of CDBG and ESG to address the COVID-19 crisis. Newly funded activities consistent with the Response Team's recommendations and are scheduled to begin implementation as soon as agreements are executed (Exhibit 2).

An amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan is also proposed. The amendment includes updated language related to the CARES Act (Exhibit 3).

April 13, 2020

**Exhibit 1
County of Sacramento
Amendment to 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan**

This report formally amends the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan by allocating new CARES Act funding to the County of Sacramento activities listed below: Newly funded activities are scheduled to be begin implemented as soon as possible and will comply with federal regulations governing the timely expenditure of funds. Below is new language which will be incorporated into the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

SP-05 Overview

March 27, 2020, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), Public Law 116-136 was signed by the President of the United States. The CARES Act allocated to the City of Sacramento the following funding:

- \$3,470,768 of CDBG-CV,
- \$1,747,452 of ESG-CV

Strategic Goals

- Support disaster response and recovery activities in the event of local, state or national responses.

Disaster and response – Response to local, state, and national natural disasters is a priority. Existing and new funding may need to be allocated in such an event. A substantial action plan amendment undertaken to allocate funds and the Citizen Participation Plan will be followed. In the event HUD issues waivers of regulatory requirements, these will be evaluated and requested as necessary.

SP-45 Goals

Additional resources are added to:

3 - Public Services – CDBG-CV - \$3.8 million; ESG-CV \$1.3 million

5 – Administration - CDBG-CV - \$300,000; ESG-CV \$435,000

Exhibit 2

County of Sacramento Amendment to 2020 Action Plan and Previous Year's Action Plans

This report formally amends the 2020 Action Plan and previous years' Action Plans allocating 2020 CARES Act funding to activities listed below: Newly funded activities to be implemented as soon as possible and will comply with federal regulations governing the timely expenditure of funds.

2020 One-Year Action Plan Amendment			
Recommendation – Community Development Block Grant			
Activity Name	Amount	Source	CDBG Criteria
Homeless Activities (Public Services): Funds will be used to design, administer, and implement homeless programs including but not limited to housing and shelter, detoxification, medical and counseling services, and provision of food.	\$3,366,645	CDBG-CV	03C/LMC 03T/LMC
CDBG Planning and Administration: Administrative and Planning Services for CDBG Programs (3%)	\$104,123	CDBG-CV	21A
Total	\$3,470,768		

2020 One-Year Action Plan Amendment		
Recommendation – Emergency Solutions Grant	Amount	Fund
Emergency Shelters (Public Services): Funds to provide emergency housing/shelters, delivery, operations and maintenance of facilities and essential supportive services per ESG regulations.	\$1,695,028	ESG-CV
ESG Program Administration: Administrative services for the implementation of ESG-funded activities (3%)	\$52,424	ESG-CV
Total	\$1,747,452	

Exhibit 3

City and County of Sacramento Citizen Participation Plan Amendment for Disaster

The language below will be added to the current City and County of Sacramento Citizen Participation plan:

In event of a local, state, and national natural disaster existing and new funding may be allocated or re-allocated in an expedited timeframe. This will be done to streamline the allocation process and reduce delays in accessing grant funds. All required HUD notices, waivers, award letters or other communications will be followed. To achieve this minimum citizen participation requirement it will be applied per HUD notices, waivers, award letters or other HUD communication to the Consolidated Plan and/or substantially amended Action Plan(s).