

**2020 CDBG-CV
2020 APP & CPP AMENDMENTS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF MUSKEGON HEIGHTS
Planning & Community Development Department
2020 “DRAFT” Annual Action Plan Amendment
AND
Citizen’s Participation Plan Amendment

**SUMMARY AND NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT TO AMEND BOTH THE 2020-21 DRAFT
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (AAP) & THE CITY’S CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN (CPP)**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Muskegon Heights, Planning & Community Development Department (**PCDD**) proposes to amend its U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**) 2020-21 Annual Action Plan (**AAP**) and its Citizen’s Participation Plan (**CPP**) to add, accept and modify requirements to accept Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (**CARES**) Act grant funds, per Public Law(s) 116 - 136. The CARES Act provides supplemental funding known as Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (**CDBG-CV**) funds to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The City of Muskegon Heights has been allocated two awards (CV-1 and CV-3) of CARES Act funding for a combined total of \$324,781 of CDBG-CV funds. Eligible activities for funding use include: Public Services, Housing, Public Improvements & Facilities, Acquisition, Economic Development, and Services Delivery.

In accordance with Plan requirements (24 CFR Part 91) the City has amended its AAP and its CPP accordingly and as required. Amendments will provide opportunity for public comment(s) based on flexibility waivers granted by HUD which waive in-person public meetings to comply with federal, state and/or local social distancing requirements, and to provide for expedited processes for reasonable response to declared disasters and emergencies, including terrorism and infectious diseases; and provide for CARES Act waivers and reallocation of funding. The City will conduct a five (5) day public comment period commencing April 21, 2021 and concluding April 26, 2021.

INFORMATION AND PUBLIC REVIEW

The following notice provides a summary of the 2020-21 Draft AAP amendment and the City’s CPP amendment. For more information involving this process, please visit our website at www.cityofmuskegonheights.org or via email at ccook@muskegonheights.org or call 231-733-8830.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CORONAVIRUS (CDBG-CV) RESOURCES

The City will be amending its 2020-21 Annual Action Plan (AAP) to include/receive the following CARES Act grant funds as ascribed below:

Funding Source(s)	Allocation(s)
CDBG CV-1	\$260,496
CDBG CV-3	\$64,285
CDBG-CV Grand Total	\$324,781

DRAFT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (AAP) FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Listed below are the 2020-21 proposed recommendations by program categories and use of its CDBG-CV grand total funds as ascribed above and allocated below:

(CDBG-CV) 2020 FUNDS	
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-CV	
Activity Categories	Allocation(s)
PUBLIC SERVICES	\$100,000
HOUSING	\$84,825
PUBLIC FACILITIES / IMPROVEMENTS	\$75,000
SERVICE DELIVERY	\$64,956
CDBG-CV Grand Total	\$324,781

Important Note: As mentioned, these are Draft Amendments. Recommendations are Subject to Change. Change(s) may include Amounts Allocated, Addition or Deletion of Projects and/or Activities. In Addition, HUD may Set Conditions as to the Use of these Funds.

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CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN (CPP) AMENDMENTS

Per 91.105 Citizen Participation Plan (CPP); Local Governments, the following Addendum is being added in response to COVID-19 Disaster Declaration Coronavirus Health Crisis of 2020 Pandemic involving the CPP and as referenced below:

Per federal regulations at 24 CFR 91.105, the City must adopt a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that sets forth its policies and procedures for citizen participation and gives its citizens “Reasonable Notice and Opportunity to Comment” on the management and use of federal grant funds received from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD). When a change in federal regulations or programs require changes in the CPP and community input, the CPP may need to be amended/revise.

As a result of the unprecedented Coronavirus health crisis of 2020 and its impact on the U.S. economy, Congress approved the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act per Public Law 116 - 136 and made available supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus (CV grants). The CARES Act also provides the City with the flexibility to make it easier to use CARES Act grant funds and fiscal years 2020 and 2021 grants for expeditious Coronavirus response by authorizing HUD to grant waivers and alternative requirements for specified periods as noted below:

Due to the need for expediting distribution of new funding under the CARES Act, and national/local recommended social distancing guidelines and stay at home orders, HUD has authorized grantees such as the City to amend its CPP to establish expedited procedures and waive in-person public meetings.

The CPP is hereby amended to include the following changes:

- In response to the Covid-19 Disaster Declaration, in a Memorandum issued March 31, 2020, HUD has waived the 30-day minimum for the required public comment period. It now allows for a 5-day comment period on substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan/Action Plans through the end of the City’s 2020 program year. The City will shorten its public comment period from 30 to 5 days. If the City wishes to make further amendments to prior plans following the 2020 program year, the City can do so during the development of FY 2021 Annual Action Plan.
- Includes virtual hearings as an allowed citizen participation method for public meetings and focus groups. If virtual hearings are used, real-time responses must be facilitated and accommodations, for persons with disabilities and/or with limited English proficiency, will be made available to the greatest extent possible with reasonable notice.
- Updates include the types of declared disasters or emergency events to include terrorism and infectious diseases, such as the recent Coronavirus 19 (COVID-19) pandemic, that may necessitate expedited substantial amendments.
- Includes by reference provisions relative to Consolidated Plan citizen participation, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) waivers made available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.
- Provides details on possible actions, including reprogramming of funding, addition of funding to related activities, changes in scope of activities, and types of possible activities that may be undertaken in response to the declared disasters or emergency events such as COVID-19 pandemic.
- Makes minor edits that do not change the current intent and policies of the CPP.

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CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN (CPP): GENERAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

The City will provide appropriate auxiliary aides and services that are necessary to afford individuals with hearing and vision impairments an equal opportunity to access and participate in such hearings, whenever possible. These may include effective methods that make aurally delivered information available to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, and visually delivered materials available to individuals who are blind or have low vision. The type of auxiliary aid or service necessary to ensure effective communication will vary in accordance with the method of communication used by the individual; the nature, length, and complexity of the communication involved; and the context in which the communication is taking place. In determining what types of auxiliary aids and services are necessary, a public entity shall give primary consideration to the requests of individuals with disabilities. To be effective, auxiliary aids and services must be provided in accessible formats, in a timely manner, and in such a way as to protect the privacy and independence of the individual with a disability.