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May 26, 2020



PUBLIC NOTICE

**CITY OF KENT
Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Services
Human Services Division**

CARES ACT FUNDING (CDBG-CV)

**Notice of Public Hearing Regarding the First Amendments to the 2019
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan and the 2020-
2024 Community Participation Plan**

On March 27, 2020, the U.S. Congress passed The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (H.R. 748), also known as the CARES Act. The bill allocates \$670,541 in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to the City of Kent (hereinafter referred to as "the City") for grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (CDBG-CV).

In order to respond quickly to the immediate needs faced by our community, the CARES Act provides that the City may amend their Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) to establish expedited procedures to amend the 2019 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development. Amendments to the CPP and 2019 Annual Action Plan may run concurrently.

These expedited procedures must include notice and reasonable opportunity to comment of no less than five (5) days, which the City is providing on these amendments to the Annual Action Plan and the CPP.

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.105 of the federal regulations relative to citizen participation for Community Planning and Development Programs and applicable waivers made available to those requirements through the CARES Act, the City of Kent hereby amends the Plans to reflect the following changes:

2019 Annual Action Plan Amendment:

This is an amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan to allow the City to receive and administer \$670,541 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) made available through the CARES Act. This funding, known as CDBG-CV, is to be used for eligible activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. Subrecipients receiving these funds will be directed to assist low/moderate-income persons, and it is estimated that over 80% of funds will be used to benefit low/moderate-income persons.

The City is proposing to allocate its CDBG-CV funds as follows:

| ACTIVITY | Estimated Amount | SUBRECIPIENT(S) |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Public Services ¹ | \$436,433.00 | TBD ² |
| Micro-enterprise Assistance | \$100,000.00 | TBD |
| Planning & Administrative ³ | \$134,108.00 | City of Kent |
| TOTAL: | \$670,541.00 | |

This amendment also allocates a total of \$234,948 in unspent FY 2018 CDBG funds and CDBG funds awarded prior to 2015 (FYs 2003-2014) to eligible activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.⁴ The CARES Act eliminates the 15 percent cap on the amount of grant funds that can be used for public services activities. Therefore, the cap in 24 CFR 470.201(e) has no effect on FY 2019 and FY 2020 CDBG public service grants used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

The City is proposing to allocate its unspent prior year funds as follows:

| ACTIVITY | Estimated Amount | SUBRECIPIENT(S) |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Public Services: rent assistance & emergency grants | \$184,948.00 (FYs 2003-2014) | TBD ⁵ |
| Public Services: rent assistance & emergency grants | \$ 50,000.00 (FY 2018) | TBD |
| TOTAL Reallocated to Public Services: | \$234,948.00 | |

Amendment to the 2020-2024 Community Participation Plan

¹ City of Kent public service activities may address the following needs: services for the unhoused, healthcare, rent and utility assistance, food assistance, emergency assistance payments, financial literacy/management services, legal services, trauma counseling, childcare services, and COVID-related supplies.

² Subrecipients will be selected via an application process and those selected will be posted on City of Kent website: <https://www.kentwa.gov/city-hall/human-social-services>.

³ Up to 20% may be used for P & A; the City is using the full amount allowed by federal regulation.

⁴ FY 2018 funds were originally allocated to a Community-Inspired Capital Project and the FYs 2003-2014 funds were awarded to various projects.

⁵ Subrecipients will be selected via an application process and those selected will be posted on City of Kent website: <https://www.kentwa.gov/city-hall/human-social-services>.

The City is proposing to amend the CPP as follows:

- Allow for a five-day expedited public comment period under exigent circumstances;
- Allow virtual public hearings under exigent circumstances;
- Expand definition of those encouraged to participate in public comment;
- Revise the definition of "substantial amendment";
- Allow for seven (7) calendar days' notice prior to scheduling a public hearing;
- Allow for electronic copies of documents requested by the public if City offices are closed due to an emergency; and
- Decrease the number of days for non-English speakers or hearing-impaired residents to arrange for interpretation services.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROCESS

All interested persons are invited to comment on these amendments at the public hearing and during the five-day comment period.

DATE/TIME OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, June 4, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

You may join the virtual public hearing by clicking on this link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://cityofkent.zoom.us/j/3570914624>

Community members wishing to submit written comments during the public comment period may email them to Dinah Wilson, Senior CDBG Coordinator, no later than 5:00 pm on June 4, 2020: drwilson@kentwa.gov.

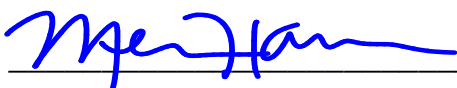
A draft copy of the First Amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan and Community Participation Plan can be found on the City's web site at the following address:

<http://www.kentwa.gov/residents/human-social-services>.

ADA Information:

This notice is available in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities upon request. Reasonable accommodations at the public hearing such as alternate formats for printed material are available for individuals with disabilities with a minimum of three (3) days advance notice. Please e-mail Dinah at drwilson@kentwa.gov.

Merina Hanson, Housing and Human Services Manager
Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Services, Human Services Division



Signature

5/26/2020

_____ Date