

**THE PROPOSED CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT
TO THE 2015-2020 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
AND THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW JUNE 9, 2020**

<p>Jurisdiction: City of Carson, California</p>	<p>CDBG Contact Person: Keith Bennett</p>
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Summary

The City of Carson proposes to amend its 2015-2020 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan to allocate newly-awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, enacted by the United States Congress on March 25, 2020 and signed by the President on March 27, 2020.

Amendment of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan is necessary because the proposed revision would result in an increase or decrease of an activity allocation in excess of \$300,000, and represents a new activity or activities not previously identified in the Five-year Consolidated Plan. Under the City’s CDBG Citizen Participation Plan, a change in an activity meeting both those criteria requires a Substantial Amendment to a Five-Year Consolidated Plan and an Annual Action Plan.

Fiscal Impact

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has notified the City of Carson that it will receive a total of \$472,890 in a supplemental appropriation of CDBG funds under the CARES Act. The primary stipulation associated with this CARES Act CDBG funding (referred to as CDBG-CV) is that it be used to prevent, prepare, and respond to the effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This is funding that had not previously been budgeted.

New Activities and Funding Allocations

The City proposes to allocate the \$472,890 in CDBG-CV funding to the following programs:

Business Assistance Program: The City proposes to allocate \$113,493 to a program to assist small Carson businesses who have suffered negative impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible expenses would include such items as rent, working capital, and utilities, as well as physical improvements to the interior of the businesses to enable them to comply with post-pandemic health and safety regulations. This allocation would provide additional funding to a program that the City established with an allocation of \$193,236 in CDBG funding included in the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan presently in the process of being submitted to HUD.

Emergency Rental Assistance: The City proposes to allocate \$264,819 to a program of emergency rental assistance to low- and moderate-income Carson residents facing imminent threat of eviction as a result of loss of income related to the pandemic, as well as to senior residents similarly in peril of eviction. (Under HUD regulations, seniors are presumed to be of low and moderate income.) Assistance to eligible households would be provided for a maximum of three months, and the maximum monthly assistance would be \$1,000.

Planning and Administration: Per CDBG regulations, a maximum of 20% of allocated funds may be used for program planning and administration purposes. That 20% maximum totals \$94,578.

Eligibility

The activities to which funding would be allocated under the proposed Substantial Amendment constitute eligible uses of CDBG funds as permitted under 24 CFR 570.201 (e) and 24 CFR 570.201 (f) (2) (iii).

Activities to Be Affected by the Change

Activity	Current Allocation	Revised Allocation
Assistance to local businesses	\$0	\$113,493
Emergency rental assistance	\$0	\$264,819
Planning and administration	\$0	\$ 94,578

Impact on 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan Goals and Objectives

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan included a goal of Maintain and Promote Neighborhood Preservation, which included within it a goal outcome indicator of seven neighborhood-serving businesses with exterior façade improvements over the five-year period (two within the current year's Annual Action Plan). However, due to difficulties in generating program interest, that particular program has fallen short of these targets. The proposed business assistance program is not limited to neighborhood-serving businesses and covers a broader list of improvements, thus it

is anticipated that this program will provide assistance to a minimum of 10 business entities (potentially 25 when combined with the aforementioned 2020-2010 CDBG funding).

With regard to the Annual Action Plan and Five-Year Consolidated Plan goal of Provide Decent Affordable Housing, the City's focus has heretofore been on the preservation of affordable owner-occupied housing through rehabilitation. The proposed new emergency rental assistance program shifts the focus to the stock of affordable rental housing units in the city, and establishes a new target as reflected in a goal outcome indicator of 75 household units assisted.

Public Comment

HUD has provided for a waiver of the normal 30-day public review and comment period for Substantial Amendments in the case of CARES Act supplemental allocations. That waiver provided for a five-day public review and comment period for CARES Act Substantial Amendments. In accordance with this waiver, the City of Carson issued a Notice of Public Hearing on June 4, 2020 that a Public Hearing would be held on this Substantial Amendment by the Carson City Council on June 16, 2020. That Notice of Public Hearing stated that this Substantial Amendment would be available for public review and comment for a period beginning June 9, 2020 and ending June 15, 2020.

Public comments regarding the proposed CDBG Substantial Amendment during the aforementioned public review and comment period are pending.

Attachments: Notice of Public Hearing

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT
TO THE 2015-2020 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
AND 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Carson, California will conduct a public hearing on a proposed Substantial Amendment to the City's 2015-2020 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan. Said public hearing will take place during a regular meeting of the City Council to be held at the following date, time and place:

DATE: Tuesday, June 16, 2020
TIME: 6:00 P. M., or as soon thereafter as is practicable
PLACE: Council Chambers, Carson City Hall
701 East Carson Street
Carson, California 90745

Due to the current Coronavirus public health emergency, no members of the public are being permitted entry into the Council Chambers during this public hearing. To facilitate public participation, however, this hearing will be available by livestream on the City's website (<http://ci.carson.ca.us>), and broadcast on cable television channels 35 (Spectrum) and 99 (AT&T). Members of the public wishing to provide comment for this public hearing may do so as follows:

- **E-mail:** Comments may be e-mailed to cityclerk@carson.ca.us no later than 3:00 P. M. on the date of the meeting. Please identify the Agenda Item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.
- **Box outside of City Hall:** Hand-written comments may be provided by placing them in a box for that purpose located in front of City Hall (701 East Carson Street) no later than 3:00 P. M. on the date of the meeting. Please identify the Agenda Item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.
- **Telephone prior to meeting:** Comments may be recorded at (310) 952-1720 no later than 3:00 P. M. on the date of the Council meeting. Please identify the Agenda Item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.
- **Telephone during meeting:** Call the main City Hall telephone number, (310) 830-7600, during the public comments portion of the Council meeting. You will be placed into a holding queue in the order in which your call is received (comments are limited to three minutes).

The proposed Substantial Amendment is to allocate newly-awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, enacted by the United States Congress on March 25, 2020 and signed by the President on March 27, 2020. Amendment of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan is necessary because the proposed revision would result in an increase or decrease of an activity allocation in excess of \$300,000, and represents a new activity not previously identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Under the City's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan, a change in an activity meeting both those criteria requires a Substantial Amendment to a Five-Year Consolidated Plan and an Annual Action Plan.

The detailed Substantial Amendment will be available for public review and comment for a period that commences on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 and closes Monday, June 15, 2020, at the Office of the City Clerk and the Community Development Department, both located in Carson City Hall, 701 East Carson Street, Carson, California 90745. The proposed Substantial Amendment will also be made available on the City's website: <http://ci.carson.ca.us> . To obtain a copy of the proposed Substantial Amendment, contact Keith Bennett in the City's Community Development Department at (310) 830-7600, extension 1319, or via e-mail at kbennett@carson.ca.us .

A summary of all public comments received during the public comment period, as well as at the public hearing, will be incorporated into the final document prior to its submission to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Dated: This 4th day of June, 2020.

Donesia L. Gause Aldana, MMC
City Clerk