ANNUAL ACTION PLAN SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT

For

Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Fiscal Year 2019-2020 County of Santa Barbara

Introduction

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awards Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds annually to County of Santa Barbara Urban County Partnership for the development of viable urban communities, for providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. The County Community Services Department (CSD), Division of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is the lead agency for the CDBG Urban County Partnership, which includes the County and the cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, and Solvang.

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, on March 27, 2020, the United States Congress enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide economic relief and assistance. The CARES Act included special allocations of CDBG funds, known as CDBG-CV.

Santa Barbara County has been awarded \$1,165,366 in CDBG-CV Round 3, (CDBG CV3), funds through the U.S. Department of Urban Development (HUD) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. Of this amount \$42,597.67 will be added to CDBG-CV1 funds to complete the emergency rent assistance program that was included in a prior 2019 Action Plan Amendment allocating the first round of CDBG-CV (CDBG-CV1), \$899,695.13 will be awarded for Microenterprise and Small Business Assistance Programs, and \$233,073.20 will be retained by the County to cover costs for program administration.

Santa Barbara County, Community Services Department, Division of Housing and Community Development (HCD) oversees HUD CDBG entitlement funding and, as program administrator, intends to utilize the CDBG-CV3 funding to provide financial assistance to eligible microenterprise and small businesses in Santa Barbara County whose income and operations have been impacted by COVID 19 and to assist businesses in retaining or creating jobs.

HUD requires that the proposed uses of federal funds be included in an Action Plan or substantial amendment to an Action Plan and made available to the public for input prior to the public hearing at which the County Board of Supervisors (Board) approves the Action Plan and funding awards. The CARES Act and related suspensions and waivers provide a 5-day expedited public comment period when amending a 2019 or 2020 Annual Action Plan to include activities approved under the CARES Act.

Public Comment Period

A public notice was published in local newspapers and on the County's website at www.countyofsb.org/housing five (5) days prior to the scheduled public hearing to be held at the time and location noted below. This substantial Action Plan amendment also was available for public review on the County's website at www.countyofsb.org/housing.

Administrative Public Hearing

The public may provide comments on this substantial Action Plan amendment at the County Administrative Public Hearing on April 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. *via* videoconference/teleconference, pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88616995079?pwd=dmozbzlDcitPNlc2TjN4WjM2bEZCdz09

or join by phone at 1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 886 1699 5079; Passcode: 529961

Written comments may be submitted in advance to County CSD by mail to, 123 E. Anapamu St, Suite 202, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, or e-mailed to HCD@co.santa-barbara.ca.us. Written comments must be received by 5pm. on April 5, 2021.

County Board of Supervisors Hearing

The public also is invited to address the Board directly during the Board of Supervisors' public hearing by email or phone. Follow the directions posted at https://www.countyofsb.org/ceo/cob.sbc. The Board will consider all public comments and take action on HCD recommendations to approve the substantial Action Plan Amendment at a public hearing on April 6, 2021. Board meetings begin at 9am.

PUBLIC COMMENTS