# COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

# **Pinellas County**

# Staff Report

File #: 20-848A, Version: 1

## Subject:

Resolution approving a substantial amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan and an amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan for the purpose of receiving Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus Response funds.

#### **Recommended Action:**

Adopt a resolution approving a substantial amendment to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan and an amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan for the purpose of receiving Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus Response funds and authorize submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

- The Substantial Amendment to the FY 2019-2020 Action Plan contains the application for CDBG Coronavirus Response funds (CDBG-CV) and ESG Corona Virus Response funds (ESG-CV).
- The County will receive \$1,481,969.00 in CDBG-CV funds to be used to fund activities that
  mitigate the impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) on low- and moderate-income
  residents.
- The County may use up to 20% of the CDBG-CV allocation for planning and administration costs.
- The County will receive \$739,117.00 in ESG-CV funds to be used to fund activities that
  mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on individuals and families who are homeless or receiving
  homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness
  prevention activities.
- The County may use up to 10% of the ESG-CV CV allocation for planning and administration costs.
- The Substantial Amendment to the FY 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan allows the County to receive CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds and identifies the types of activities the County will undertake to respond to COVID-19.
- Notice of funding availability was published on May 11, 2020 with an applications submittal deadline of 5:00 p.m. on May 22, 2020.
- Eligible applicants are non-profit organizations implementing public service programs in Pinellas County that benefit low and moderate income residents consistent with the objectives of the CARES Act. Applicants must document an increase in services directly related to the COVID-19 crisis or have a new project for directly addressing increased community need related to the COVID-19 crisis.
- Projects that provide food assistance and distribution or healthcare and testing are prioritized.
- Eligible CDBG-CV activities include, but are not limited to:
  - Job training to expand the pool of health care workers and technicians that are available to treat disease within a community.
  - Provide testing, diagnosis or other services at a fixed or mobile location.
  - Increase the capacity and availability of targeted health services for infectious disease

response within existing health facilities.

- Provide equipment, supplies, and materials necessary to carry-out a public service.
- Deliver meals on wheels to quarantined individuals or individuals that need to maintain social distancing due to medical vulnerabilities.
- Provide another public service that assists persons directly affected by COVID-19.
- Eligible ESG-CV activities include the following homeless assistance activities:
  - Street outreach
  - Emergency shelter provision
  - Homelessness prevention
  - Rapid re-housing
- The Amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan allows the County to use expedited citizen participation processes related to disasters and emergency declarations, including COVID-19.

## Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

- 2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community
- 2.2 Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need
- 2.4 Support programs that seek to prevent and remedy the causes of homelessness and move individuals and families from homelessness to permanent housing

Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

- 4.2 Invest in communities that need the most
- 4.4 Invest in infrastructure to meet current and future needs

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

- 5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach
- 5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources
- 5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support

#### Summary:

The purpose of the Substantial Amendment to the FY 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan is to fulfill the application requirements for CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding. The County will receive CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on low- and moderate-income and homeless residents and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities.

The purpose of the Amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan is to allow for the use of expedited citizen participation processes related to disasters and emergency declarations, including COVID-19 and update information relating to encouraging citizen participation by low- and moderate-income and minority households to ensure the Plan remains in compliance with 24 CFR 91.105.

Public notice of the proposed amendments was posted on the Community Development Division website on May 11, 2020. A five-day public comment period was also held from May 11, 2020 to May 15, 2020, soliciting citizen comment on the amendments.

### **Background Information:**

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) (Public Law

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116-136), approved \$5 billion in supplemental CDBG and \$4 billion in supplemental ESG funding for grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

On April 29, 2020, notification was received identifying the County's CDBG-CV and ESG-CV allocations.

# Fiscal Impact:

Pinellas County will receive a special allocation of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds. The County will receive the following allocations in Fiscal Year 2020.

\$1,481,969.00 CDBG-CV \$ 739,117.00 ESG-CV

\$2,221,086.00 Total CARES Act Funds

# **Staff Member Responsible:**

Brian Lowack, Assistant to the County Administrator

#### Partners:

N/A

#### Attachments:

Resolution

FY 2019-2020 Action Plan Substantial Amendment Strikethrough Version FY 2019-2020 Action Plan Substantial Amendment Clean Version

Citizen Participation Plan Amendment Strikethrough Version

Citizen Participation Plan Amendment Clean Version

**Public Notice of Amendments** 

Notice of Funding Availability

CDBG-CV SF-424

ESG-CV SF-424

Certifications