

Public Notification

Substantial Amendment to the City of Chicago's 2020 Consolidated Plan

As a result of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act, the City of Chicago ("City") received \$72,021,623 additional federal grant funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") to provide assistance for the response and recovery efforts as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The City receives an annual allocation of funding from HUD for the following programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Funds (HOME), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AHIV/AIDS (HOPWA), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). However, as a result of COVID-19, HUD awarded the City additional funding in the amount of funding reflects \$46,770,307 million in CDBG funding, \$1,538,323 in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AHIV/AIDS (HOPWA) funding, and \$23,712,993 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding.

The amended funding requires Substantial Amendments to the City's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan. This document, consisting of a narrative as well as required attachments, constitutes the formal Substantial Amendments to HUD. Each of these amendments will further the City's effort to provide assistance to people and communities impacted by COVID-19 as well as comply with HUD's regulatory requirements in administering the programs.

Background

In December 2019, a new coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 was detected causing outbreaks of the coronavirus disease COVID-19 that has now spread globally. The first reported case in the United States was in January 2020 and by March 2020 the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic and the federal government declared a national emergency. Many states, including Illinois, declared a state of emergency, and the City of Chicago established a shelter in place order.

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), Public Law 116-136 was signed by the President of the United States. This made available \$5 billion in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds, and \$4 billion in Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (ESG-CV) to respond to the growing effects of the historic COVID-19 public health crisis. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) informed the City of Chicago that CARES Act funding would be allocated to the jurisdiction based on the existing entitlement formulas for three programs. CARES Act funds have been allocated to the City of Chicago in the following amounts: \$46,770,307 of CDBG-CV, \$23,712,993 of ESG-CV, and \$1,538,323 in HOPWA-CV.

The CARES Act also authorized the HUD Secretary to grant waivers and alternative requirements related to the use of CDBG-CV funds, including the suspension of the 15 percent cap on funding for public services; reducing the public comment period for consolidated plan and action plan amendments to five days; and allowing the option of virtual hearings. All activities funded must still meet the eligibility and national objective requirements of the CDBG program.

For the ESG-CV allocation, the waivers and alternative requirements for the use of ESG-CV funds, include the suspension of the 60 percent spending cap on emergency shelter and outreach activities; administrative cost cap is increased from 7.5 percent to 10 percent; funds are exempt from the dollar for dollar match requirements; funds are not subject to consultation and citizen participation requirements; grant recipients, including subrecipients, may deviate from applicable procurement standards; and supportive services are

not required to receive assistance. The City of Chicago has applied for and received waivers for the CDBG-CV and ESG-CV supplemental funds.

An amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan is also proposed. The amendment includes updated language related to the CARES Act.

Citizen Participation Process

The City of Chicago released this document, outlining the CARES Act Funding allocations on June 10, 2020 at 10am. The City will hold a public hearing on June 12, 2020 at 10am via Zoom. Comments will be accepted through June 15, 2020 and will be included in the Consolidated Plan appendix.

Zoom details:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/96987523987?pwd=QlkwY0hBS01hSFVNUINuWHINU2tDQT09> Password: 828028

Telephone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782
or +1 346 248 7799 Webinar ID: 969 8752 3987 Password: 828028

Projects funded through CARES Act Funding

To prevent, prepare or respond to the impact of COVID-19

| CDBG-CV-1 | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Project Name | CV-DFSS-05W: Human Services/Emergency Food Assistance |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$1,575,000 |
| Description | <p>The Chicago Department Family and Support Services' Emergency Food Assistance for At-Risk Populations program seeks to increase the availability and accessibility of healthy and fresh food options to assist those economically impacted by COVID-19, low-income and at-risk residents to meet their nutritional needs.</p> <p>This Program will be facilitated in partnership with a contracted delegate agency through an established network of approximately 100 food pantries located throughout the City and located within a five-mile radius of our six Community Service Centers and locations concentrated in food insecure and food desert areas.</p> |
| Proposed Outcomes | 138,980 persons will be assisted with this program. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-2 | |
| Project Name | CV-DFSS-05Z Homeless Services |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$7,389,270 |
| Description | Sustain a decompressed shelter network to follow social distancing, operating temporary facilities to replace roughly 700 beds lost in the DFSS supported shelter system. Will also help fund outreach and drop-in center services. |
| Proposed Outcomes | Will provide 799 beds, and serve 1000 households and 1000 persons. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-3 | |
| Project Name | CV-DFSS - 05A: Home Delivered Meals for Older Adults |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$1,560,211 |
| Description | The Home Delivered Meals (HDM) program provides nutritious meals to older persons aged 60 years and older in the City of Chicago who are frail and/or homebound because of illness or incapacitating disability or are otherwise isolated. The HDM program is designed to promote the general health and well-being of older adults by reducing hunger and food insecurity and delaying the onset of adverse health conditions that lead to premature institutional (nursing home) placements. |
| Proposed Outcomes | 624 older adults to be served by the Home Delivered Meals program. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-4 | |
| Project Name | CV-DFSS-05G: Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline |
| Target Area | Citywide |

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| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$207,000 |
| Description | COVID-19 had a direct impact on the increased volume of calls and texts to the Illinois DV Hotline. The stay-at-home order and economic crisis that occurred shortly thereafter subjected victims to abusive behavior without opportunity to flee or abide by safety planning tools available to them pre-COVID. The increased calls necessitated increased personnel to address the high volume of calls during the weekday shift. Further, VIRAs will require to adapt their safety planning assistance and ability to provide trauma-informed care post-COVID which will necessitate training opportunities and technical assistance |
| Proposed Outcomes | 3,000 persons will be served with this funding. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-5 | |
| Project Name | CV-DFSS-05H: Workforce Support to Serve Additional Job Seekers |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$4,484,226 |
| Description | Post COVID-19 there will be a high demand of job seekers seeking employment. To assist in meeting the demand for the numerous individuals seeking to become gainfully employed, DFSS Workforce Division is seeking additional funding to support community-based organizations contracted to provide workforce services to the city's most vulnerable population. The vulnerable population includes individuals who are low income, limited in English proficiency, experiencing and or at risk of homelessness, returning citizens, veterans and persons with disabilities. |
| Proposed Outcomes | DFSS estimates that 2,000 persons will be served with this funding |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-6 | |
| Project Name | CV-DPD-03P: Community Health Public Facilities |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$11,000,000 |
| Description | Renovate vacant, highly visible buildings into community hubs. They will address social determinants of health through a rich array of services and resources for the entire family. It will be a community and economic development engine where minority-owned businesses will thrive, sustained by thousands of customers, both residents and people who work for neighborhood employers. |
| Proposed Outcomes | 104,000 combined persons will be served by the two public facilities. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-7 | |
| Project Name | CV-CDPH-05W:LINK Up IL /LINK Match |
| Target Area | Citywide |

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| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$555,293 |
| Description | Funding will provide farmers markets and other food retailers funding for Link Match (formerly known as the Double Value Coupon program) for Link Card (Illinois' SNAP program, formerly known as "food stamps") shoppers along with training and technical assistance to support implementing these programs. Recipients can utilize the SNAP's Double Value Coupon incentive, which provides a spending match for the amount the recipient spends on fresh fruits and vegetables at the market. The program doubles the value of federal nutrition (SNAP or food stamps) benefits spent at participating farmers markets and other food retailers, increasing access to affordable fresh fruits and vegetables while supporting local farmers. |
| Proposed outcomes | This additional investment in LINK Up will impact approximately 18,000 additional persons. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-8 | |
| Project Name | CV-CDPH-05I: Expanded street outreach |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$10,000,000 |
| Description | Emerging data suggests that many of the communities in Chicago that are experiencing the highest levels of interpersonal and structural violence, are also disproportionately suffering high rates of COVID transmission and especially, COVID involved deaths. Street Outreach programs can build relationships in communities, intervene in violence, and connect high-need individuals with services and supports. This funding would fill identified gaps in communities with existing street outreach infrastructure and allow the launch of new street outreach programs in identified high-need communities without current infrastructure. |
| Proposed Outcomes | Estimated 1575 people will be assisted. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| CDBG-CV-9 | |
| Project Name | CV-CDPH-05O: COVID Related Mental Health Services |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$10,000,000 |
| Description | This project will fund six different mental health programs within CDPH. The first will fund a network of public and nonprofit care centers that will be selected via RFP. The second will provide services for persons living with serious mental illness and co-occurring disorders. The third will fund 40 community and neighborhood level projects that promote community building, social connection, and healing in communities impacted by COVID19. The fourth is a coordinated city-wide suicide prevention strategy that will build citywide awareness |

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| | about suicide prevention and risk. The fifth establishes a program to build, train, and support a network of community health workers to promote mental/emotional health and healing among persons most impacted by Covid19. The sixth and final program funds behavioral health teams (BHTs) to provide behavioral health services at homeless shelters across Chicago. |
| Proposed Outcomes | 19,000 combined persons will be served by these six programs. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| HOPWA CV-1 | |
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA-COVID-19 Supportive Services |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$500,000 |
| Description | Provide housing assistance and supportive services to persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or unstably housed. |
| Proposed Outcomes | Provide supportive services to 500 clients/people living with HIV/AIDS and their families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness in the Chicago EMSA. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| HOPWA CV-2 | |
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA COVID-19: Leasing |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$692,173 |
| Description | Assist persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families to identify, locate and obtain safe, decent and affordable housing and lodging at hotels, motels, or other locations to quarantine HOPWA-eligible persons and/or their household members during the COVID pandemic in the Chicago EMSA. |
| Proposed Outcomes | Provide 70 COVID-19 Quarantined and 45 for clients awaiting permanent housing to HOPWA-eligible persons |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| HOPWA CV-3 | |
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA COVID-19: Operating Costs for Housing Facilities |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$300,000 |
| Description | Assist persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families to access and receive additional essential resources needed to reduce the risk of homelessness and being unstably housed in the Chicago EMSA. |
| Needs | Provide essential furnishings, maintenance, equipment, and supplies that support the operation of housing facilities that provide services to HOPWA eligible households. Eligible supplies include cleaning and disinfection supplies. Gloves and masks may be purchased subject to the regulatory requirement that payments of health services for any items or service may only be made as a last resort. |
| Proposed Outcomes | Provide 1,200 clients HOPWA-eligible persons and their household essential needs and supplies during the COVID pandemic in the Chicago EMSA. |
| Location Description | Citywide |

| HOPWA CV-4 | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA COVID-19: Administration |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$46,150 |
| Description | Funds will be used for the administrative oversight of the Cares Act COVID 19 Award. |
| Needs | Support the CDPH administrative work of administering this supplemental award. |
| Proposed Outcomes | Maintain administrative and fiscal oversight of the COVID 19 funds/the HOPWA Program, which serve persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Chicago EMSA. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| ESG-CV* | |
| Project Name | DFSS:ESG-CV |
| Target Area | Citywide |
| Goals Supported | Mitigating impact from the COVID-19 Crisis |
| Needs Addressed | COVID-19 Crisis |
| Funding | \$23,712,993 |
| Description | <p>Homeless Prevention - \$5,383,640: Funding will support rental assistance to Chicago residents economically impacted by COVID-19 and as a result are at risk of homelessness program costs and staffing increases, along with increasing staff at the Homeless Prevention Call Center, and creating a pilot diversion team.</p> <p>Rapid Rehousing - \$15,658,054: Funding will support rental subsidies, case management and housing navigation, and move-in fees to house 1,250 households. Funds will support the Expedited Housing Initiative (EHI), developed in collaboration with the Chicago Continuum of Care. EHI utilizes housing as an effective public health intervention to ensure homeless Chicagoans at high risk of serious illness due to COVID-19 can maintain their health in their own home.</p> <p>Homeless Management and Information System (HMIS) - \$300,000: Funding will support administrative support for additional HMIS users, the tracking of outcomes for the COVID-19 response, and HMIS related technical assistance. DFSS opened temporary shelters to decompress the current shelter system. These facilities need assistance in using HMIS and tracking the data and outcomes of the COVID response. In addition, our current homeless providers will need technical assistance in capturing the data and outcomes of the COVID-19 response.</p> <p>Shelter - \$702,147: Funding will support staffing, supplies, and operational costs for shelters to sustain a decompressed shelter system to follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention social distancing requirements.</p> <p>Administration - \$1,669,152: Funding will support administrative costs for the rental assistance program and rapid rehousing program.</p> |
| Proposed Outcomes | 1,750 households will be served and 9,000 persons will be assisted. |
| Location Description | Citywide |

*This acts as a notification of ESG – CARES Act Funding

Changes to the Current Consolidated Plan/2020 Action Plan

The following programs within the Department of Housing will be adjusted in the 2020 Consolidated Plan. With rising construction costs, it is becoming increasingly difficult to develop affordable rental and for-sale units cost effectively. The result is the production of fewer affordable units in the face of increasing demand. Acquisition of distressed properties and vacant land allows the City to better control the costs of associated affordable housing development and better leverage private capital to fund developments. In Pullman, the costs of acquisition and rehab prohibited the affordable development of housing for years, but with an acquisition subsidy, 30 affordable homeownership units will be possible. Similarly, in Woodlawn, with ever increasing land values, acquisition of high demand vacant land will allow the City to cost effectively ensure the parcels are used to develop critical affordable and mixed-income housing.

The decrease in allotment from the Developer Services project to the City's Troubled Building's Initiative (TBI) is a result of a sharp spike in the number of court appointed receiverships - from a relatively consistent level of around 35-45 annually appointments, up until August of 2019, to up to 70+ and has held there through the end of March 2020.

It should be noted that within a receivership, costs vary greatly, and the program is currently inundated, with a large amount of active receiverships that are expensive. Considering the above, a substantial infusion of funds, would be needed to continued delivery of the affordable housing outcomes expected under the TBI program.

| Adjustment | | Original Project |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Project Name | DOH-14b: Multi-unit / Developer Services | DOH-14b: Multi-unit / Developer Services |
| Needs Addressed | Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing |
| Funding | \$6,213,538 | \$9,013,538 |
| Description | Support construction or rehab of developments to provide permanent affordable rental housing. | |
| Proposed outcomes | It is estimated that 50 Household Housing Unit through Rental units rehabilitated | |
| Adjustment | | Original Project |
| Project Name | DOH-14B: Multi-Unit/ Troubled Buildings Initiative | DOH-14B: Multi-Unit / Troubled Buildings Initiative |
| Funding | \$3,525,000 | \$2,515,000 |
| Description | Stabilize, preserve and reclaim units in buildings with over 4 units by utilizing the housing court system and receivers, if necessary, to correct dangerous and hazardous conditions and assist developers with the acquisition and redevelopment of buildings and acquisition of vacant land for future development of housing, both for low/mod income residents. | |
| Proposed outcomes | It is estimated that 1,000 Household Housing Units will be assisted through Rental units rehabilitated. | |
| Adjustment | | Original Project |
| Project Name | DOH-14A: Single-Unit / Troubled Buildings Initiative | DOH-14A: Single-Unit / Troubled Buildings Initiative |
| Funding | \$2,640,000 | \$1,740,000 |
| Description | Stabilize, preserve and reclaim units in buildings between 1-4 units by utilizing the housing court system and receivers, if necessary, to correct dangerous and hazardous conditions and assist developers with the acquisition and redevelopment of buildings for low/mod income residents. | |
| Proposed outcomes | It is estimated that 250 Household Housing Units will be assisted through Rental units rehabilitated. | |
| New Project | | |

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| Project Name | DOH-14g: Multi-unit/Developer Services - Acquisition |
| Target Area | Low to Moderate Census Tracts |
| Goals Supported | Retain and Preserve Affordable Housing |
| Needs Addressed | Affordable Housing |
| Funding | \$900,000 |
| Description | Acquisition of 30 homes – Seventeen (17) homes 51% will be sold to low-moderate owner occupant buyers at or below 80% AMI, and 17 sold to households at 120% AMI or below |
| Target Date | 12/31/2020 |
| Proposed outcomes | Seventeen (17) households at or below 80% AMI |
| Location Description | Pullman Community Area |
| National Objective Met | Low to Moderate Housing (LMH) |

The City is reallocating HOPWA funds due to carryover funds in the federal reimbursement system (IDIS):

| Adjustment | | Original Project |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA: Facility Based Housing Assistance | DPH-HOPWA: Facility Based Housing Assistance |
| Funding | \$6,450,584 | \$4,639,000 |
| Budget Explanation | Reallocation of carryover funds. | |
| Description | Provide resources to develop and operate community residence and other supportive housing | |
| Proposed outcomes | It is estimated that 470 Housing Units will be assisted through HIV/AIDS Housing Operations. | |
| Adjustment | | Original Project |
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA: Tenant-Based Rental Assistance | DPH-HOPWA: Tenant-Based Rental Assistance |
| Funding | \$4,384,419 | \$2,753,000 |
| Budget Explanation | Reallocation of carryover funds. | |
| Description | Provide long -term rental subsidies to low-income individuals with HIV/AIDS to maintain permanent quality housing in the Chicago EMSA. | |
| Proposed outcomes | Provide 45 clients with HOPWA housing subsidy and any supportive services required by themselves and their family members in the Chicago EMSA. | |
| Adjustment | | Original Project |
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA: Housing Information Services | DPH-HOPWA: Housing Information Services |
| Funding | \$2,527,426 | \$2,066,658 |
| Budget Explanation | Reallocation of carryover funds. | |
| Description | Assist persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families to identify, locate and obtain safe, decent and affordable housing. | |
| Proposed outcomes | It is estimated that 385 persons will be assisted through public service activities other than Low/Moderate income housing benefit. | |
| Adjustment | | Original Project |
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA: Administration | DPH-HOPWA: Administration |
| Funding | \$1,032,571 | \$709,300 |

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| Budget Explanation | Reallocation of carryover funds. | |
| Description | Administration of the HOPWA Grant | Administration of the HOPWA Grant |
| Adjustment | Original Project | |
| Project Name | DPH-HOPWA: Facility-Based Housing Development | DPH-HOPWA: Facility-Based Housing Development |
| Funding | \$2,800,000 | \$2,500,000 |
| Budget Explanation | Reallocation of carryover funds. | |
| Description | Expenditures associated with leasing a building, general housing operations (e.g., maintenance, security, insurance, utilities, furnishings, equipment, supplies), and the provision of project-based rental assistance. | |
| Proposed outcomes | It is estimated that 200 rental household housing units will be rehabilitated. | |

City of Chicago Citizen Participation Plan

Introduction

The purpose of the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is to adopt policies and procedures for public engagement as a prelude to the allocation and expenditures of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds. The policies outlined in this plan build on extensive community engagement and public processes already in practice by the City of Chicago.

HUD requires several planning documents be developed by grantees to aid in the process of identifying affordable housing and community development priority needs, and to assist with establishing goals and strategies to address those needs. The Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) and Analysis of Impediments (AI) identifies local and regional fair housing issues and sets goals for improving fair housing choice and access to opportunity. The Consolidated Plan is designed to analyze housing and community development market conditions, which form the basis for data-driven, place-based investment decisions. The planning process serves as the framework for a community-wide dialogue to identify priorities that align with anticipated financial resources. The Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans, which provide a summary of actions, projects, and specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and goals identified by the Consolidated Plan. The City reports annually on accomplishments and progress toward the Consolidated Plan and AFH goals in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The City of Chicago believes that citizen participation and planning are central to the success of community development efforts. The City is committed to involving its residents in making decisions about how to invest in the future of its neighborhoods. Within the planning process laid out below, citizens can make significant contributions to further enhance the ongoing collaboration between City government and key community-based partners.

To be most effective, citizen participation and consultation must be an ongoing process. To that end, this Citizen Participation Plan outlines opportunities for citizen engagement at all stages of the funding process including the development and any revisions, the Consolidated Plan (ConPlan) and any substantial amendments, Annual Action Plans, and performance reporting done through the CAPER.

The CPP is available to the public and strives to be an open and participatory process.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, additional funding has been made available by the CARES Act. The Act provides added flexibility for three of HUD's annual entitlement grants including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV), the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV), and the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS Grant (HOPWA-CV). In addition, the CARES Act authorizes the Secretary to grant waivers and alternative requirements of statutes and regulations the Secretary administers in connection with the use of these funds. Waivers and alternative requirements can be granted when necessary to expedite and facilitate the use of funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

HUD recognizes the efforts to contain COVID-19 require limiting public gatherings, such as those often used to obtain citizen participation, and that there is a need to respond quickly to the growing spread and effects of COVID-19. Therefore, in a memorandum dated March 31, 2020, HUD has waived 24 CFR 91.105(c)(2) and (k), 24 CFR 91.115(c)(2) and (i) and 24 CFR 91.401 to allow the City to determine what constitutes reasonable notice and opportunity to comment given their circumstances. The City and HUD has determined that 5 days constitutes reasonable notice and opportunity to comment given the

circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. The waiver is in effect through the end of the 2020 program year. The City will hold a virtual Zoom public hearing on the amendments, and any public comment received during the hearing and/or throughout public comment period will be added to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

This section takes precedence to the following sections in regard to allocation of CARES Act funding.

Administrative Responsibilities and Contact Information

The City’s Office of Budget & Management (OBM) is the lead department responsible for coordinating the development of the ConPlan and Annual Action Plan. OBM is also responsible for providing guidance and policy direction for the implementation of eligible programs that support the overall strategy for community revitalization. The City’s Departments of Finance, and Fleet & Facilities Management provide administrative resources to the lead departments responsible for administering entitlement funds.

| Agency Role | Name | Department/Agency |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| CDBG Administrator | City of Chicago | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Planning and Development (DPD) • Department of Housing (DOH) • Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) • Department of Buildings (DOB) • Department of Public Health (DPH) • Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) • Commission on Human Relations (CHR) • Department of Transportation (CDOT) |
| HOME Administrator | City of Chicago | DPD/DOH |
| HOPWA Administrator | City of Chicago | DPH |
| ESG Administrator | City of Chicago | DFSS |

Public Contact Information

Questions or comments regarding the ConPlan or the Annual Action Plans may be directed to:

City of Chicago - Office of Budget & Management
 121 North LaSalle Street, Room 604
 Chicago, IL 60602
 (312)744-5226
Grantsupport@cityofchicago.org

Participation by Low and Moderate-Income and other Disadvantaged Persons

It is the policy of the City of Chicago to provide equitable access and encourage meaningful participation from all residents in the city. This includes low- and moderate-income persons, particularly those living in blighted or high poverty neighborhoods, and areas where CDBG funds are proposed to be used in the Consolidated Plan and Assessment for Fair Housing. For purposes of CDBG funding, a resident is considered low-income if their family income equals 50% or less of area median income (AMI), as estimated annually by HUD. A person is considered moderate-income if their family income is between 50% and 80% of area median income. Predominately low-to moderate-income neighborhoods are defined as any neighborhood where at least 51% of the residents have incomes equal to or below 80% of the AMI for any given year. The determination of whether a neighborhood meets the low-to moderate income

definition is made by the city at the time a project of area-wide benefit is funded based on current data provided by HUD.

The City also actively encourages participation of minorities or people of color, non-English speaking persons, and persons with differing abilities. Actions to encourage participation shall include widespread outreach and public relations efforts, conducting hearings and meetings in target neighborhoods, translation of notices and other vital documents in languages other than English and language assistance as needed, and providing document in formats accessible to persons with disabilities upon request. The Mayor's Communication Office assesses needs for language translation, but assistance shall also be available upon request.

Participation by Relevant Stakeholders

The City will actively encourage participation of local and regional institutions in the process of developing the Consolidated Plan. Such organizations include but are not limited to the following; Chicago Continuum of Care; business and civic organizations; developers and service providers; philanthropic organizations; and community-based, faith-based and other nonprofit organizations.

The City has a strong history of collaboration with the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) and Cook County. In 2019, The City began working with regional partners, including the Cook County government, Chicago Housing Authority, and other local jurisdictions ("Regional Partners") to do an analysis of the housing market and develop an assessment of fair housing.

Outreach Techniques

The citizen participation and stakeholder consultation process are key components of the development of the ConPlan, Annual Action Plans and CAPER. The City strives to ensure that the ConPlan planning process includes opportunities for public participation, such as:

- public hearings;
- public comment periods;
- Surveys
- transparency and freedom of access to the proposed ConPlan and Annual Action Plan, CAPER; and
- consultation with public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, and fair housing services for children, veterans, youth, elderly, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, and their families.

City of Chicago Budget Process

Each year, the City prepares an annual budget that accounts for all revenue from taxes and other sources, such as those referenced in the ConPlan and Annual Action Plans and sets forth a plan for how the City intends to utilize those resources over the course of the following year.

Preliminary entitlement grant budget materials go to funding Departments at the end of May. The Preliminary Budget is released in August, and the Final Budget is developed by Departments and OBM. Mayoral budget recommendations are submitted to the City Council and the Draft Action Plan is made available to the public in mid-October. A second Public Hearing is held on the Draft Action Plan in late October. The thirty-day timeline for submitting written comments on the Draft Action Plan to the City ends in November. The Action Plan is submitted to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in December. The current Consolidated Plan year ends December 31. January 1 is the beginning of the new Consolidated Plan year.

In the Fall, the Mayor's Office and Office of Budget and Management (OBM) present a balanced budget to City Council. The City Council then holds committee and public hearings on the Mayor's proposed

budget and may propose amendments to it. These hearings include opportunities for the public to provide comments on the proposed use of CDBG, ESG, HOME, and HOPWA funds. Once the proposed budget, as amended, is approved by the City Council, it becomes the Annual Appropriation Ordinance. In addition, the ConPlan and/or Action Plan is submitted to HUD for final approval after Citizen input outlined in this document.

Consolidated Plan/Action Plan

Prior to adoption of a Consolidated Plan, the City shall make available to residents and stakeholders:

1. The total amount of assistance the city expects to receive from the various HUD funding authorizations;
2. The range of activities that may be undertaken with these funds;
3. The estimated amount of funding that will benefit persons of low-to moderate-income;
4. Plans to minimize displacement of persons, including specifying the type and level of assistance that will be made to any persons displaced; and
5. When and how this information will be made available to the public.

At least 30 calendar days before the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan is submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City shall publish a summary of the contents of the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan on the City website and inform all citizens of the locations where complete copies of the document will be available, including on the City's website. The City will also provide a reasonable number of free copies of the Plan to citizens and groups that request it.

As described in the Public Comment and Hearings section below, the City will conduct at least two public meetings at separate times of the year during the development of the Consolidated Plan. The City shall also provide information on how to submit comments and input on the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan. The City will consider any comments or views of residents received in writing or orally at the public hearings when preparing the final Consolidated Plan/Action Plan. A summary of any comments or views, including any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why, shall be attached to the plan.

Performance Reports

Each year a performance report is submitted to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by the City of Chicago. The City shall invite and encourage all citizens and stakeholder organizations to assess and submit comments on all aspects of performance in meeting Consolidated Plan goals and objectives, including the performance of the City of Chicago's grantees and contractors. The City will provide notice on the City of Chicago Office of Budget and Management website and provide citizens the opportunity to comment on the performance report for a period of not less than 15 calendar days prior to its submission to HUD. All comments received in writing or orally will be considered in preparing the final Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). A summary of all comments or views shall be submitted as part of the report to HUD. The City will provide copies of the performance report at the City's office and on its website.

Amending the Consolidated Plan

Recognizing that changes during the year may be necessary to the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan after approval, the Citizen Participation Plan allows for "substantial amendments" to plans. These "substantial amendments" apply to changes in all entitlement funding allocations.

Citizens are provided with reasonable notice and the opportunity to comment on proposed substantial changes in the CDBG program. Substantial changes are defined according to the following criteria:

1. Increasing or decreasing funding levels for a given project by 51% or more of the previously adopted amount.
2. A new program or project not previously identified in the Consolidated Plan.

This list represents the City's criteria for determining what constitutes a substantial amendment and are subject to the City's citizen participation process.

Substantial changes shall be posted on the City's website for review and comment prior to adoption by the City of Chicago at a public hearing. A public comment period of not less than 30 calendar days shall be allowed prior to implementation of substantial amendments, which will align with the process set forth in the Public Comment and Hearings section below. The City will consider any comments or views of residents received in writing or orally at the public hearings prior to adoption of substantial amendments. A summary of any comments or views, including any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why, shall be attached to the substantial amendment.

Public Hearings

Prior to publishing the Assessment of Fair Housing and the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan for citizen comment, or submission of an application for Section 108 Loan Guarantee Assistance, the City shall conduct at least two public hearing at separate times of the year to obtain citizens views on fair housing strategies, community development and housing needs, proposed projects, and program performance. A digest of comments and proposals received from citizens shall be compiled by the City. Following publication of summaries of the AFH and Consolidated Plan/Action Plan, the City will receive comments for a period of 30 calendar days. These comments will be considered prior to implementation of the plans.

All public hearings shall provide residents with reasonable and timely access to the meetings as described in the section above and consistent with accessibility and reasonable accommodation requirements found in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and with regulations found at 24 CFR Part 8 and 28 CFR Parts 35 and 36. The City will consider any comments or views of residents received in writing or orally at the public hearings when preparing a final or revised/amended plan. A summary of any comments or views, including those not accepted and the reasons why, shall be attached to the final or revised/amended plan.

Participation by Non-English-Speaking Citizens

In the event a significant number of non-English speaking citizens are expected to attend any of the public hearings scheduled in furtherance of this Plan, or participate in a survey or other activities, the City will arrange to provide language assistance to ensure meaningful access and participation of interested parties. For assistance, please contact City staff:

City of Chicago - Office of Budget & Management
121 North LaSalle Street, Room 604
Chicago, IL 60602
(312)744-5226
GrantSupport@cityofchicago.org

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance to groups' representative of persons of low-income, and very low-income is provided for in the budget formation process. Technical assistance is also provided to committees mentioned above by OBM and the departments regularly, as well as by other agencies as needed. Each department conducts technical assistance workshops and provides materials on policies and procedures for their programs.

Reasonable and Timely Access

All hearings carried out in furtherance of this Plan, or in the event of an amendment, will be held at times

and locations convenient to beneficiaries and allow for broad participation from all community members, and reasonable opportunity to comment on all plans will be provided for the entirety of the public comment period. Budget Hearings conducted in the City Council Chambers are posted on the City Clerk website for review.

Citizens must be given timely and adequate notice of all hearings and public meetings. Notices of all public hearings shall be widely advertised on the City's website, social media and through various partner agencies and officials, not less than 5 calendar days prior to each public hearing. All notices of public hearings shall indicate the location, date and time of the meeting; and shall indicate the topics to be considered. All meetings will be held in accessible locations to ensure the attendance of people with a disability are not hindered by architectural barriers. Accommodations will be made for those with hearing or visual challenges, and who need information in a language other than English.

Access to Records

The City provides widespread access to records through the consultations, meetings and other communications during the budget process described above. Timely access to information and records relating to both the Action Plan and Five-Year Consolidated Plan are available, given a reasonable timeframe. The City will make available the Action Plan as adopted, any amendments, and its annual performance report, to afford citizens a reasonable opportunity to review the documents.

Copies of all planning documents, including the following federal reports: City's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), will be available to the public upon request. Community members will have the opportunity to review and comment on applicable federal reports in draft form prior to final adoption. These documents will be made available at public libraries, public housing authorities, certain neighborhood centers, at Chicago Office of Budget and Management, and on the Budget Office web site (www.cityofchicago.org/budget.) In addition, upon request, federal reports will be provided in a form accessible to persons with disabilities.

Comments/Complaints

The City welcomes comments and suggestions on how to improve the Five-Year Consolidated Plan planning process. Comments and Complaints may be directed to:

City of Chicago - Office of Budget & Management
121 North LaSalle Street, Room 604
Chicago, IL 60602
(312)744-5226
GrantSupport@cityofchicago.org