

CITY OF GARY, INDIANA
NOTICE OF SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
CDBG CARES Act (CDBG-CV)
APRIL 6, 2022

Background:

The City of Gary's federal Consolidated Plan details the funding strategy for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Grant for the period between 2016 and 2020. The Annual Action Plan details each year, within the 5-year Consolidated Plan, and outlines the implementation of annual funding, which is developed through significant public input, analyses, and planning.

The City of Gary's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) describes the efforts that the City will take to encourage its residents to participate in developing these plans. It also provides requirements for public process when a "substantial amendment" to the Annual Action Plan is proposed. The following changes constitute a substantial amendment and require public notice as described in the CPP:

- A significant change to an activity's funding priorities or procedures for distribution of funds
- Funding of a new activity not previously described in the Annual Action Plan
- Substantial change in the scope, purpose, location or beneficiary of an activity
- Increases by the greater of 10% change of the total allocation of the City for the year

However, due to COVID-19, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has issued guidance that waives the Citizen Participation Plan requirements for entitlement recipients, provided that (1) no fewer than five days are provided for public comment and that (2) reasonable notice and the opportunity to comment is provided.

Additionally, HUD has awarded supplemental funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) or CDBG-CV that requires programming in the 2019 Annual Action Plan.

Proposed Substantial Amendments:

The City of Gary is proposing the following amendments to the 2019 Annual Action Plan to its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funding established by the CARES Act in the amount of \$2,367,193 to add activities not originally identified.

Reprogramming CDBG-CV activities

In order to be responsive to the needs of the City of Gary in preparing, preventing, and responding to coronavirus and its impact on people at risk of and experiencing homelessness, the City of Gary will routinely reevaluate our funding decisions throughout the period of performance. Consistent with the terms of all subrecipient grant agreements or contracts, the City of Gary intends to reprogram CDBG-CV funding between selected activities or to include additional activities if/when necessary, based on infection control needs and response efforts related to preventing, preparing and responding to COVID-19.

Analysis

This proposal qualifies as a substantial amendment because it meets the criteria below:

- A significant change to an activity's funding priorities or procedures for distribution of funds
- Funding of a new activity not previously described in the Annual Action Plan

Changes to the 2019 Annual Action Plan are primarily a result of:

1. Canceling both Edgewater Health projects at their request.
2. Adding new Public Service activities not previously described in the Annual Action Plan in the amount of \$755,489.96 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funding made available under the CARES Act.

Amend Project No. 54 CDBG-CV PUBLIC SERVICES

On pages 74-77 of the approved 2019 Annual Action Plan, amend the CDBG CARES (CDBG-CV) Grant Project No. 54 Funding to \$1,906,907.76, add new projects by the Food Bank of NWI and GEO Academies, and cancel the Edgewater Health projects, as follows:

54	Project Name	CV-PUBLIC SERVICES
	Target Area	CITYWIDE
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$1,906,907.76
	Description	The City will utilize CDBG-CV funds to support programs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 emergency. CDBG-CV funds will be used to support Public Services programs that will provide meal delivery; provide food and other household necessities; provide PPE equipment, additional cleaning products, utility and mortgage assistance, COVID-19 testing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, food locker system for homeless persons, and school cleaning and disinfecting.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated 81,850 extremely low to low income persons will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	5718 W. 9th Ave., Gary, IN 46406; 220 W. 5th Ave., Gary, IN 46402; 501 S. Lake St., Gary, IN 46403; 3953 Broadway, Gary, IN 46409; 1145 W. 5th Ave., Gary, IN 46402; 940 Broadway, Gary, IN 46402; 401 Broadway, Gary, IN 46402; 1100 W. 6th Ave., Gary, IN 46402; 724 Washington St., Gary, IN 46402; and 1440 E. 35 th Ave., Gary, IN 46409
Planned Activities	<p>Church of God in Christ, Inc. Food Pantry - \$9,800 Prevent the spread of COVID-19 by providing food and other household necessities. Estimated 200 persons will benefit. LMC 05W Food Banks 24 CFR 570.201(e)</p> <p>Food Bank of NWI - \$70,000 Prevent the spread of COVID-19 by providing food/groceries, to an estimated 1,812 senior/disabled residents of 5 Gary locations and also to an estimated 20 victims (women/children) of domestic violence in the care Gary Commission for Women to help sustain them during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond. LMC - Presumed Benefit 05W Food Banks 24 CFR 570.201(e)</p> <p>Gary Public Library PPE Equipment/Supplies - \$27,697 Prevent the spread of COVID-19 by providing PPE and cleaning supplies to the three (3) library branches in the City of Gary. Estimated 76,600 persons will benefit. LMA 05Z Other Public Services 24 CFR 570.201(e)</p> <p>Meals on Wheels of NWI - \$317,101 Prevent and respond to COVID-19 by delivering meals through 12/31/2021 to 903 Gary seniors, disabled, and vulnerable residents to allow them to stay in their homes; for PPE to provide this service; for partial equipment cost to produce frozen meals for supplemental nutrition on weekends; for hazard pay; and for a wellness check and socialization program for clients due to the COVID-19 pandemic. LMC - Presumed Benefit 05Z Other Public Services 24 CFR 570.201(e)</p>	

Gary Health Department - \$476,820 Outreach Program to prevent, prepare, and respond to COVID-19 by providing testing to an estimated 800 low to moderate income persons, administering vaccines to an estimated 300 persons, providing incentives to encourage vaccinations, providing public health education and surveillance, providing community outreach services that will decrease the barriers of transportation to receive care, and provide equipment, supplies, and materials necessary to carry out the services. LMC 05M Health Services 24 CFR 570.201(e)

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Gary, Inc. - \$150,000 Community Outreach Utility Assistance Program to prevent homelessness due to COVID-19 by providing utility assistance to an estimated 100 eligible low to moderate income Gary households who reside in the City of Gary Corporate City Limits. Funds will assist with up to 6 consecutive months of utility payments to the utility company (NIPSCO, American Water, Gary Sanitary District). Households must be residing in the property, have had difficulty paying their utilities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic through job loss, reduction of job hours, closure of employer, etc. Eligible applicants must provide proof of income before and after the COVID-19 related financial hardship, proof of job loss, reduction of job hours, closure of employer business, proof of past due utility bills that occurred after March 6, 2020, and cannot have accepted any other emergency utility assistance funding for the same period being requested. LMH – 05Q Subsistence Payments 24 CFR 570.207(b)(4)

City of Gary Community Development - \$100,000 Mortgage Assistance Program to prevent homelessness due to COVID-19 by providing mortgage assistance, up to a maximum of \$10,000, to an estimated 10 eligible low to moderate income households to alleviate the housing burden to those that have lost their employment income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds will assist with up to 3 consecutive months of mortgage payments to financial institutions. Households requesting assistance must reside in their property, have had difficulty paying their mortgage as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic through job loss, reduction of job hours, closure of employer, etc. and the property must be located in the City of Gary Corporate City Limits. Eligible applicants must provide proof of income before and after the COVID-19 related financial hardship, provide proof of mortgage arrearage that occurred after March 6, 2020, and cannot have accepted any other emergency mortgage assistance funding for the same period being requested, such as Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHCDA) mortgage relief. LMH – 05Q Subsistence Payments 24 CFR 570.207(b)(4)

Food Bank of NWI - \$624,680 Refrigerated food locker system to respond to COVID-19 by providing the homeless with food and nutrition while on the streets. The food locker system will be filled with sandwiches, chips, fruit, snacks and water on site at Edgewater Behavioral Health Services located at 1100 W. 6th Ave. in Gary which is centrally located and easily accessible. Individuals will use a one-time code to enter the locker to receive food. The Food Bank of NWI project will also use funds for travel costs of staff to support the provision of essential services such as case management. An estimated 200 homeless persons will be provided services. LMC - Presumed Benefit 05W Food Banks 24 CFR 570.201(e)

GEO Academies - \$130,809.96 Deep cleaning and sanitization to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at 21st Century Charter Jr. High and High School located at 724 Washington St. and 1440 E. 35th Ave., Gary. An estimated 1,260 low to moderate income students will benefit. LMC - 05Z Other Public Services 24 CFR 570.201(e)

Public Process

The City of Gary Department of Community Development is providing notice of a Five-Day Public Comment Period as part of the HUD Public Participation Exemption Process and one Virtual Public Hearing will be held to provide opportunities for public comment:

- April 6, 2022, City of Gary consideration of CDBG-CV Substantial Amendments adoption, 4:30 p.m., Virtual Zoom Public Hearing, which can be found here: <https://gary.gov/public-notices/>
- You can also view the document on our website at <https://gary.gov/community-development/consolidated-plansannual-action-planscapers/> by clicking on 2019 Annual Action Plan and then Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) Cares Act Funding Substantial Amendments

The City encourages public participation in its Virtual Zoom Public Hearing. To participate in the Virtual Zoom Public Hearing:

1. Topic: PUBLIC HEARING - SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT - CDBG-CV FUNDS

Date/Time: Apr 6, 2022 04:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89146740672>

Meeting ID: 891 4674 0672

One tap mobile

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 720 707 2699 US (Denver)

Meeting ID: 891 4674 0672

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89146740672>

- 2. Written Questions/Comments:** Written questions/comments will be accepted prior to or after the Virtual Zoom Public Hearing and may also be submitted within the 5-Day Public Review and Comment Period after the date of the Virtual Zoom Public Hearing. You may also request that your written comments/questions be read into the record at the appropriate time during the meeting. Time limits will be enforced. Therefore, written comments that are read into the record must be limited to 3 minutes. Such requests must be received by Community Development at least 48 hours in advance of the Public Hearing. Comments/questions will be incorporated into the final document and submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and urban Development (HUD). Questions/Comments may be submitted as follows:

- Via email: Ms. Thalia Moore: thmoore@gary.gov
Please indicate: PUBLIC HEARING-SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT-CDBG-CV FUNDS in the subject line.
- Via Telephone: Ms. Thalia Moore (219) 881-5075
- Via US Mail: Ms. Thalia Moore
Department of Community Development
PUBLIC HEARING-SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT-CDBG-CV
401 Broadway, Suite 300
Gary, IN 46402

- 3. Request to Speak:** If you are interested in speaking, please contact Ms. Thalia Moore to complete the Request to Speak form no later than Noon, April 1, 2022, to be placed on the participant list. Please note that the City anticipates to address any questions during the meeting. For such questions/ comments, there is no need to submit a request to speak.
- 4. Special Accommodations:** Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or activity of the City of Gary, Indiana, should contact Ms. Moore at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. The City of Gary, Indiana, will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally. In the City of Gary, Indiana, these aids and services include: qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing or vision impairments.

For additional information or assistance, please contact Ms. Thalia Moore in Community Development (thmoore@gary.gov /219-881-5075) **prior to** the Public Hearing.

