



The **City of Elizabeth** proposes the following substantial amendment to its Community Development Block Grant for Fiscal Years 2019.

The City of Elizabeth receives annual grant allocations from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). In response to the COVID outbreak, Congress has provided additional allocations to the City through the CDBG grant programs to address challenges the City may face in its response to COVID. While HUD has waived some of the program regulations that govern the use of CDBG when used to respond to COVID, the primary goal of assisting income-eligible and homeless persons remains.

Typically, the City is required to publish the proposed uses of CDBG funding in an Annual Action Plan and to adopt and follow a Citizen Participation Plan that provides for opportunities for residents to provide comments and input about the proposed uses of funds. In an effort to respond quickly to needs of the community, the City has opted to shorten its public participation process in regard to the programming of the COVID-related CDBG allocations.

The City of Elizabeth, New Jersey will allocate \$938,750 of CDBG-CV to the following uses more fully described below:

1. COVID Response – Low Mod Benefit	\$922,750
2. Planning and Administration	\$16,000
TOTAL	\$938,750

1	CDBG-CV Economic Development	
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$495,000
	Description	CDBG funds will support, economic development, (Technical Assistance, and Microenterprise), to address economic impacts to businesses, caused by the COVID outbreak.
	Target Date	June 30, 2021
	Goal	To be Determined
	Location	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Economic Development - Technical Assistance (570.203(c)) Economic Development – Microenterprise (570.201(o))

2	Project Name	CDBG-CV Homeless Prevention
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Homeless Prevention Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$443,438
	Description	CDBG-CV The City will provide funds for a Homeless Prevention (\$427,438) program that will provide short- or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to prevent homelessness related to COVID. Planning and administrative funds (\$16,000) will be used for general management, oversight and coordination of CDBG-CV funded activities.
	Target Date	June 30, 2021
	Goal	To be Determined
	Location	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Public Services (570.201(e)) CDBG Planning and Administration 570.205 and 570.206

The substantial amendment will be published on the City’s website (www.cityofelizabethnj.org), the Star Ledger and LA VOZ.

The City is seeking comments on the proposed use of COVID funds. The five (5) day public comment period will begin on, Friday, May 1st, 2020. The City will consider all comments received before 5:00 PM on May 5th, 2020 before submitting the proposal to HUD. The City will continue to accept comments from the public after its submittal and use public comments to guide and inform possible future amendments. The preferred method for submitting comments is to send them via email to: publiccomments@elizabethnj.org. Comments may also be submitted in writing to Ms. Victoria Rivera, Community Development Program Director, at 50 Winfield Scott Plaza, Elizabeth, NJ 07201 or via email at: vrivera@elizabethnj.org. All comments received will be considered prior to amendment implementation.

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