

**SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD 2019
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT PROGRAM**

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires all entitlement communities receiving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, such as the City of Lakewood, to prepare and submit a Consolidated Plan every five years to establish a unified, strategic vision for economic development, housing and community development actions. The Consolidated Plan encompasses the analysis of local community needs and coordinates appropriate responses to those needs and priorities. The Lakewood City Council adopted the 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan (“Consolidated Plan”) on April 6, 2015.

The Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified in the Consolidated Plan. The City must submit an Annual Action Plan to HUD by no later than April 15 of each year during the five-year period (unless otherwise specified by HUD). The Lakewood City Council adopted the 2019 Action Plan (“Action Plan”) on April 8, 2019 and submitted the document to HUD before the required deadline date.

Per the City’s Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), a Substantial Amendment to a Consolidated Plan and Action Plan is required when a “substantial” change is proposed as it relates to funding priorities, proposed activities, goals and objectives. This substantial amendment to the Action Plan is necessary because the City has been allocated new CDBG funding through the March 27, 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Recovery Act (CARES Act) that it wishes to allocate to activities that assist with immediate and long-term aid and recovery efforts for Lakewood residents impacted by the Coronavirus.

B. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the CARES Act, an expedited public participation process is permitted in order to make funding available as soon as possible and provide reasonable and timely citizen input during the period in which the city is impacted by the Coronavirus. Therefore, the following amended policies will be followed during this time:

1. Virtual public meetings are permitted for the purpose of approving and/or amending Consolidated Plan/Action Plans
2. A minimum five-day public comment period can be utilized for amending Consolidated Plan/Action Plans.

A Notice of Public Hearing and 7-day public review period was published in the Denver Post and on the City’s website on April 16, 2020, informing the public of the proposed Substantial Amendment and inviting public review and comments. On May 11, 2020, the Lakewood City Council will hold a public hearing regarding the Substantial Amendment. The public review period will begin on Thursday, April 16, 2020 and will end on April 23, 2020. Due to the closure of City offices and libraries, Citizens are able to review copies of the Substantial Amendment online at the City of Lakewood website.

C. 2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT DETAILS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The City is proposing to allocate \$533,236 in new CDBG-COVID funding to activities that assist with immediate and longer-term needs for low- and moderate-income people impacted by the Coronavirus. CDBG-eligible activities to prevent, prepare for and respond to Coronavirus within our community include but are not limited to assistance with emergency housing, motel vouchers, limited rental and mortgage assistance, eviction prevention, case management, low-income resident services, physical and mental health assistance, COVID-19 testing, personal protective equipment, deposit and moving costs, food access, utilities, transportation, employment, child-care and self-sufficiency programming.

The programming of the additional funds is intended to be broad in scope to allow for quick and nimble response and assistance to anticipated and unanticipated needs as the crisis unfolds within the community. The City will work closely with a variety of community partners to assess the immediate and longer-term needs of those impacted by the Coronavirus and ensure the funds assist those most in need as efficiently as possible.

All proposed activities will meet one or more of the following objectives:

- Benefit low- and moderate-income people
- Address an urgent community need

The following Table outlines the activity budgets that are being modified to reprogram funds to the proposed activity described in this Substantial Amendment:

Table 1: Proposed Activity Budget Modifications

Program Year/ Activity Title	Existing Budget	New Budget	Difference
<i>Increase Funding/Programming</i>			
2019 CDBG-eligible COVID response funding through CARES Act	\$0	\$533,236	\$533,236
Subtotal			\$533,236

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

All public comments received during the 7-day public review period or at the public hearing will be incorporated into the overall Substantial Amendment submitted to HUD.