

## City of Rockford

### Summary of 2019 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act – CARES ACT (Public Law 116-136), signed by President Trump March 27, 2020, is providing the City with \$1,277,632 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-CV, and \$636,693 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)-CV. Besides the maximum allowable administration expense, the City proposes to use CDBG-CV funds to address the economic impacts to businesses related to social distancing by expanding the City's Economic Development Microenterprise Loan Program. Uses of the ESG-CV funds include Homeless Prevention Rental Assistance and Housing Stabilization & Case Management, Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance and Housing Stabilization & Case Management, and administration.

The CARES Act included suspensions and waivers to CPD funding to establish and implement expedited procedures. They allowed for reasonable notices, 5-day public comment periods, virtual Public Hearings, and for the City to complete a Substantial Amendment and revise their Citizen Participation Plan concurrently. COVID-19 related costs are eligible for CDBG-CV and ESG-CV if they were eligible for CDBG and ESG regardless of the date of expenditure. ESG-CV funds are not subject to consultation and the City's Citizen Participation Plan as long as the intended use of the ESG-CV funds are public. In addition, the Secretary was authorized to provide additional waivers as necessary for 2019, 2020 and CPD funds, including CDBG, ESG, and HOME.

One virtual public hearing is being held on Saturday, April 25, 2020 to explain how the City proposes to use CDBG-CV. Access to a video of the hearing along with a copy of the amendment, including the amended Citizen Participation Plan, comments, and comment responses will be available daily on the City's website from Saturday, April 25th to Thursday, April 30th, the 5 day citizen comment period. ESG-CV funds are not subject to consultation and the Citizen Participation Plan. However, as required, the details of the ESG-CV funds will be made available on the City's website along with the items mentioned above.

#### Use of CDBG-CV:

Approximately 60 businesses will benefit from the CDBG-CV. The City intends to budget the maximum amount allowed for administration to address the pandemic, and the remaining funds will be added to the already existing budget for Economic Development Rehabilitation & Development Assistance (Project 11) in the Annual Action Plan. The description of the project was not changed. It states the following:

*Assistance for qualified expenses for development of commercial or industrial property, including design work, mechanical systems, building materials, site readiness, and equipment. Expands the micro-enterprise loan program.*

The planned activities of the project was not changed. It states the following:

*Assistance for qualified expenses for development of commercial or industrial property, including design work, mechanical systems, building materials, site readiness, and equipment. Expands the micro-enterprise loan program.*