

**City of Evansville, Indiana Substantial Amendments to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan - The following is a summary and draft language that amends the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan.**

**Background:**

The City of Evansville, Indiana's federal Consolidated Plan details the funding strategy for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership Program for the period from 2015 through 2019. 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'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:

- addition or deletion of an activity
- a change in location, scope, or beneficiary of an activity
- an increase or decrease in program funds of at least 20% for any activity whose total allocation is \$100,000 or more

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) that requires programming in the 2019 Annual Action Plan.

**Proposed Substantial Amendments:**

- The City is proposing the following amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan: Move \$300,000 of CDBG CV funds allocated to the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) to HOPE of Evansville, Inc. Emergency Housing Assistance.

**Analysis:**

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

- an increase or decrease in program funds of at least 20% for any activity whose total allocation is \$100,000 or more

**Public Process:**

The City is providing notice of a five-day public comment period as part of the HUD public participation exemption process. The comment period will start on Friday September 11, 2020 and end on Wednesday September 16, 2020 at 4:00 P.M. All comments received by Wednesday September 16, 2020 at 4:00 P.M will be considered by the City of Evansville prior to submission of its Substantial Amendment. Additionally, one public hearing will be held to provide opportunities for public comment:

- Monday, 9/28/20 – City Council consideration of Substantial Amendment adoption, Hearing/Adoption at 5:30 p.m. at the Civic Center in Room 301.
- (Please review Council Meeting agenda when available to confirm item number) You can also view the documents on our website. Comments may also be provided to (Kolbi Jackson) by email ([kkjackson@evansville.in.gov](mailto:kkjackson@evansville.in.gov)), phone (812-436-7808), or in writing addressed to: Department of Metropolitan Development, 306 Civic Center Complex, 1 NW MLK Jr. Blvd. Evansville, IN 47708.