

City of Evansville, Indiana Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan - The following is a summary of language that amends the 2023 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 the COVID-19 pandemic, 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 reasonable notice and the opportunity to comment is provided and no fewer than five days are provided for public comment on substantial amendments.

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 2023 Annual Action Plans in order to re-allocate and program funding established by the Community Development Block Grant: (See CDBG Budget.)

The City is proposing the following amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan in order to allocate and program supplemental funding established by the CARES Act: (See CDBG-CV Budget.)

Analysis:

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

- addition or deletion of an activity

Changes to the 2023 Annual Action Plan are a result of:

- ❖ A re-allocation of CDBG funds from CAPE OOR (Program Years/Action Plans 2020-2022) in the amount of \$207,303 and from the Windows Program (Program Years/Action Plans 2019-2022) in the amount of \$132,981 to Memorial CDC for the acquisition of an existing entertainment and food venue located at 927 Lincoln Ave and for the Memorial CDC Emergency Repair (ERP) Program.

- ❖ An allocation of CDBG-CV funds in the amount of \$250,000 to reposition approximately 5 WAPs (Wireless Access Points) as well as adding additional WAPs to expand the geographic reach of the free WIFI, with at least 500 MB to provide capacity for multiple users.

❖ **Public Process:**

The City is providing notice of a thirty-day public comment period as part of the HUD public participation process. The comment period will start on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 and end on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. All comments received by October 26, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. will be considered by the City of Evansville prior to submission of its Substantial Amendment.

Opportunities for public comment:

- You may view the documents on our website. Comments may be provided to Kolbi Jackson by email at kkjackson@evansville.in.gov, by phone at 812-436-7808, or in writing addressed to: Department of Metropolitan Development, 306 Civic Center Complex, 1 NW MLK Jr Blvd, Evansville, IN 47708.

CDBG Budget:

Allocations by Component/Planned Activities:	
CAPE OOR PY/AP 2020-2022	(207,303)
CAPE Windows PY/AP 2019-2022	(132,981)
Memorial CDC acquisition at 927 Lincoln Ave.	\$300,000
Memorial CDC ERP	\$40,284

CDBG-CV Budget:

Allocations by Component/Planned Activities:	
Evansville Promise Zone Public WIFI Project	\$250,000